

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Thinking about your academic strengths, weaknesses, and learning styles, how much have you thought about each of the following. (N = 395, asked of students in randomizing group 1) STREN.x

	Not At All	A Little	Some-what	Quite a Bit	A Lot	Quite A Lot	A Great Deal
The strategies that help you learn the best.	3%	12%	29%	22%	17%	8%	9%
Your academic strengths and weaknesses.	1%	9%	25%	26%	18%	12%	10%
The extent to which others have academic difficulties similar to your own.	12%	21%	30%	17%	11%	5%	5%

The following statements have to do with the way you studied for classes and important exams during this past year. When you studied for an important course or exam, to what extent did you... (Asked of students in randomizing group 2. The first six questions were included in online and phone versions of the survey, N = 207. Questions 7 -10 were included in the online version only, N = 167) STUDY.x

	Not At All	A Little	Some-what	Quite a Bit	A Lot	Quite A Lot	A Great Deal
...practice saying the material to yourself over and over?	21%	22%	16%	14%	14%	7%	5%
...read your notes and the course readings over and over?	6%	12%	16%	23%	18%	13%	11%
...make lists of important terms for the course and memorize the lists?	8%	11%	23%	16%	21%	12%	9%
...try to understand material by making connections between the readings and what you hear in class?	1%	10%	19%	20%	24%	15%	9%
...try to relate ideas to those in other courses whenever possible?	7%	13%	22%	15%	19%	14%	9%
...try to relate the material from the readings to what you already knew?	3%	7%	13%	22%	26%	16%	14%
...write brief summaries of the main ideas from readings and things you learned in class?	30%	30%	17%	6%	11%	4%	2%
...outline the material from the readings and your class notes to help you organize your thoughts?	24%	18%	23%	10%	12%	8%	6%
...go through the readings and your class notes and try to find the most important ideas?	6%	8%	15%	20%	23%	19%	9%
...make charts, diagrams, or tables to help you organize course material?	31%	31%	15%	10%	4%	4%	5%

The next set of questions has to do with the various ways that people learn material. Thinking back over the past academic year at Western, to what extent do you ... (Asked of students in randomizing group 3. The first five questions were included in online and phone versions of the survey, N = 204. Questions 6 -10 were included in the online version only, N = 178) LEARN.x

	Not At All	A Little	Some-what	Quite a Bit	A Lot	Quite A Lot	A Great Deal
...find yourself trying to decide if there is good evidence to support a theory, interpretation, or conclusion presented in class or in something you read?.	6%	14%	30%	24%	16%	6%	3%
...treat course material as just a starting point and try to form your own ideas about it?	5%	15%	30%	22%	19%	3%	4%
...find yourself thinking about possible alternatives to assertions or conclusions that you read or hear in a class?	4%	13%	25%	27%	18%	7%	5%
...ask yourself questions to make sure you understand the material you have been reading or studying in a class?	4%	12%	31%	26%	18%	5%	4%
...go back and try to understand the meaning of concepts from class or reading that you don't understand well?	3%	11%	29%	27%	18%	7%	7%
...try to change the way you study and prepare in order to fit with course requirements and an instructor's teacher style?	5%	15%	23%	22%	17%	12%	7%
...try to think through a topic and decide what you are supposed to learn from it rather than just reading it over when studying?	5%	14%	28%	22%	15%	10%	7%
...try to explain the material to a classmate or friend as a way of studying?	7%	18%	21%	18%	21%	9%	6%
...work with others from a class to complete your individual assignments?	14%	25%	22%	14%	14%	7%	4%

...set aside time to discuss the course material with a group of students from a class as a way of studying for a course?	30%	24%	18%	13%	9%	3%	3%

To what extent would you agree or disagree that each of the following is a true or accurate statement about the kind of person you are? (Asked of students in randomizing group 4. The first five questions were included in online and phone versions of the survey, N = 222. Questions 6 -9 were included in the online version only, N = 190) PERS.x

	1 Strongly Disagree	2	3	4 Neither Agree Nor Disagree	5	6	7 Strongly Agree
When a course is difficult, I tend to give up or only study the easy parts.	32%	35%	14%	11%	7%		2%
I work hard to do well in a class even if I do not like what we are doing.	1%	5%	13%	11%	30%	22%	17%
If I study correctly, then I know I will learn the material in my courses.	3%	1%	14%	17%	24%	26%	15%
It is my own fault if I do not learn the material in a course.	3%	9%	16%	23%	17%	21%	12%
If I don't understand material, it's usually because I don't try hard enough.	6%	10%	18%	22%	19%	16%	9%
I'm confident I can do well on assignments and tests in my courses.	2%	2%	9%	14%	34%	21%	19%
I'm confident that I can understand the most complex material presented in the courses I take.	5%	4%	15%	18%	25%	18%	14%
I'm certain I can master the skills being taught in my classes.	2%	4%	11%	22%	32%	19%	11%
I always expect that I will do very well in my classes.	1%	5%	13%	21%	30%	18%	12%

ACADEMIC PRIORITIES

To what extent would you say each of the following statements accurately describes your approach and your work in academic courses? (Asked of students in randomizing groups 2 & 3. The first four questions were included in online and phone versions of the survey, N = 411. Questions 5 & 6 were included in the online version only, N = 345) PRIORITY.x

	Not At All	A Little	Some-what	Quite a Bit	A Lot	Quite A Lot	A Great Deal
I prefer material that really challenges me so I can learn new things.	1%	6%	28%	21%	25%	11%	8%
It is important to me that I get better grades than most other students.	7%	14%	23%	20%	14%	14%	9%
The most satisfying thing for me in a course is trying to understand the content as thoroughly as possible regardless of what grade I get.	4%	21%	28%	18%	14%	8%	6%
The most important thing for me right now is my overall grade point average, so my main concern in my classes is getting good grades.	4%	14%	21%	17%	19%	15%	9%
When I have the opportunity, I choose course assignments so that I can learn, even if they do not guarantee a good grade.	9%	20%	31%	21%	9%	6%	5%
I want to do well in my classes because it is important to show my ability to my family, friends, employer, or others.	5%	12%	18%	23%	12%	15%	15%