Sensing Learners

Sensing learners best understand concepts through well established methods; they love learning details, memorizing facts, and completing hands-on work (Felder & Soloman, n.d., p. 6).

Sensing learners grasp concepts well when they can make real-world applications! Ask yourself how your course material will apply to your future field and calling.

Study Habits Overview

1. **Create practical connections with concepts** – Your goal is to figure out how the concepts apply in practice. Ask your professor for specific examples of concepts and procedures or search for examples in your course materials (Felder & Soloman, n.d., p. 2).

2. **Study well alone or in groups** – Sensing learners enjoy hands-on work whether writing a poem for an English course or working together with others to complete laboratory work. If possible, practice the skills you're learning or brainstorm about how you could apply them.

3. **Plan a study routine** – Sensing learners prefer to study methodically; lean into this by designing your study sessions. Keep a list of upcoming assignments, give each study session a specific goal, and determine where and when you will complete these sessions.

Brainstorming: Cube Method

Sensing learners are most interested in facts and what is true. They prefer to create an "orderly sequence of details" (Dewar, 2000). Arrange the facts about your subject in an organized way to help generate ideas for your paper through the Cube Method. This method has 6 specific goals: 1 for each side of the cube, as described by Old Dominion University (2022):

1. **Describe:** List the facts, main ideas, and sources for your topic.
2. **Compare:** Note the similarities and differences between the items on the list.
3. **Categorize:** Arrange these ideas and sources into sections based on their similarities.
4. **Analyze:** Break these ideas down further.
5. **Apply:** Relate these concepts to a situation that you are familiar with.
6. **Argue:** Craft a logical argument for or against these ideas based on your research.

Note-taking: Charting

The charting method creates a clear organizational structure for your reading and lectures and offers an efficient way to take notes.

1. Determine the main sections in the chapter first or note the main concepts that your professor plans to discuss.
2. Create separate sections in your notes for each one. Make a column or draw a box to highlight these different sections.
3. Write the main idea at the top of the section.
4. List out all the relevant facts and details for each main topic.
5. Review and summarize your notes during your study sessions.

Test-Taking: Active Repetition

Sensing learners appreciate repetition and following the same study patterns. Use this strength by studying through active repetition. Active repetition includes reading, speaking, and writing.

1. First, simply read the main ideas from your notes.
2. Then, place your notes aside and state this main idea aloud.
3. Without checking, write down this concept as well.
4. Then, double-check your work. Complete this process until you can speak and write the main idea three times in a row successfully.
5. Go through all the main concepts in your notes in this way.