Tips for Academic Success

Chemistry 105/106



SI Leader Tips for Studying for Chemistry 105 / 106

Academic Resources has asked our Supplemental Instruction (SI) leaders to share their best strategies for doing well with particular courses. Here are their recommendations for Chemistry 105/106.

- CHEMISTRY 105/106 are not memorization courses. The material builds on itself and becomes increasingly complex. Understand the chemistry behind problems in case a Why explanation is required for an exam question.
- Do all of the practice problems given to you so you can become familiar with how questions will appear on the exam.
- Simply glancing at the problems or using the book to figure them out will not suffice. Be able to go through every problem and solve it in an efficient manner. Try timing yourself to simulate actual exam environment!
- Know the theoretical basis for all of the problems. Test problems, which are often variations of "standard" homework problems, require an in-depth knowledge of the concepts.
- Attend all of the lectures. Lectures are sequential in nature. You will need to understand the previous course content to get the most understanding out of each class.
- Learn the material a little bit at a time; consistency is key. Doing two chemistry problems each day will benefit you far more than cramming. SI sessions will help you stay current with course material. However, SI sessions are not a substitute for attending class. You will need both: classes and SI sessions.
- Go to office hours. Professors are typically friendly and enjoy talking about their discipline with students.
- Use the available resources outside of class including talking to professors during office hours, attending SI sessions, or working with a tutor.

