

Tips for Academic Success

Finding the Right Place to Study

Your study space is an important starting block for your review process. Although many feel the key is finding a quiet place, others find it easier to concentrate with a little background noise. This handout should help you identify a location that fits your personality and learning style.

Create The Right Atmosphere

In order to study most effectively create a peaceful environment so you can focus. This can be done at home or in your residence hall by:

- Studying at a desk or table
- Reviewing away from your phone or computer
- Turning off the internet, unless you need it
- Turning off the TV, radio, or Mp3 player
- Choosing a space that is well lit



Establish Regular Study Hours

Create a schedule, and post it above your desk, as well as in your planner, on your door, and input it in your phone so that the schedule reminds you and your friends that you mean business. If you struggle to set aside time, try setting up standing weekly tutoring appointments to add structure to your study schedule.

Create A Realistic Study Schedule

Organize your study time into two-to-four-hour time blocks. Within these time blocks, study for at least 50 minutes before taking a brief 5-to-10 minute break. Afterwards, reward your efforts by relaxing or doing something you enjoy with friends.

Respect and Protect Your Study Time



If friends or family members tend to interrupt your study time, set some guidelines for them. They will take their cues from you regarding your study schedule. If you easily abandon your schedule when any invitation or request comes your way, your friends and family won't hesitate to interrupt your study schedule. However, if you protect your study time, then those who care about your success will do the same.

Create A List Of Places To Study On Campus

If you plan to study on campus, make it a quiet place. You may convince yourself that studying at the coffee shop really works well for you. Guess what, it's not true! Your mind can only concentrate on one idea at a time. When you study in a social setting, your mind is actually bouncing back and forth between your books and what's going on around you!

Check out the back for a list of popular study locations!

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Popular Study Locations

CWRU's unique setting in University Circle offers students a wide variety of excellent locations to study both on and off campus. Listed below are just a few of our favorites.

Building / Area	Room / Area	Capacity	Space description
Bingham	Basement Lounge	40+	Relaxing area engineering students gather to study, work on projects together, and rest on between classes. Public student access to building generally till 6pm on weekdays.
Carlton Commons	Lobby area	100+	Open space to study in sitting areas and study rooms.
Kelvin Smith Library	Cramelot Café	50-60	Relaxing area to grab coffee or a quick snack while studying. Bon Appetit food vendor.
Leutner	Basement sitting area	30-50	Open area with fireplace, tables, and sitting areas to hangout or do homework.
Nord	Atrium	100+	Students on the quad can come here and grab a bite to eat at Einstein Bagels or hangout in any of the seating areas or tables.
Peter B. Lewis	PBL Café	50-60	Relaxing area to grab coffee or a quick snack while studying. Bon Appetit food vendor. Limited evening access for non-business majors.
Sears	Atrium	25+	Students may hangout out in this area waiting for class or after going to grab it.
Thwing Center	Atrium	150	Atrium of Thwing Center, where students can socialize, study, relax, meet, and hold events.
TVUC	Atrium	200	Atrium of TVUC, where students can meet and socialize and occasionally hold events. There's also a Bon Appetit food court.
Village Starbucks	Café area	30	Students tend to grab their coffee, hang out, and do homework.
Wade Commons	Pioneer Room	60	Often used for studying, group-work, or for meeting with friends. Events may also be held in this space.
Wade Commons	Red Cat Room	66	Often used for studying, group-work, or for meeting with friends. Events may also be held in this space.

Have other great locations? Let us know!