

# What's Your Learning Style?

Different people have different learning styles - ways of processing and retaining information. We learn using a combination of styles, but knowing what your major learning style is can be helpful in developing effective study strategies.

## ARE YOU A **VISUAL** LEARNER?

Do you need to SEE information to learn it? Do you learn best by READING and WATCHING?

Strategies that might be effective for you:

- copy class notes over
- condense important information on flashcards and drill
- convert written notes to diagrams, mind maps, charts, timelines, etc.
- visualize pictures in your mind as you read
- create a strong visual image by using different colors to mark your textbooks
- try to see information in as many ways and as many times as possible

## ARE YOU AN **AUDITORY** LEARNER?

Do you need to HEAR information to learn it? Do you learn best by LISTENING to an explanation?

Strategies that might be effective for you:

- tape record lectures and listen to them again
- use flash cards, but recite questions and answers aloud
- study with a partner who can ask you questions
- add rhythms or tunes to your learning
- read notes aloud
- try to hear information as many times as possible

## ARE YOU A **TACTILE** LEARNER?

Do you learn best by doing HANDS-ON learning, as in lab classes?

- try to "handle" information in as many different ways as possible
- if given a choice, choose a project over a paper or oral report
- use a word processor to create study guides for yourself
- concentrate on taking notes in class, especially if you find you have trouble listening
- build a model of something that has many parts to remember

## IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR LEARNING STYLE IS. . .

Come to the Academic Support Center and ask to take the ***Learning Styles Inventory***, a computerized tool that will tell you how you learn. It only takes 15 minutes, and the Academic Support Center staff will be happy to help you interpret your scores.