BIOL 121 Success Tips from Students

Study new material and review old material every day – don’t wait until the last minute.

Study using Quizlet online flashcards – take the Tests and play the games on Quizlet (Learn, Scatter, etc.).

Study at least 2-3 hours every day, with more studying several days before test.

Watch and listen to podcasts on iTunes U – take notes from podcasts so you can really listen during lecture; pause and replay videos to make sure you fully grasp a concept.

Use index card to rewrite items down as you read them: helps with repetition of information.

Color code index cards for lecture and lab exams: link colors to a certain topic or item.

Organize concepts on index card in alphabetical order.

Use index card to help with spelling on Lab Exams.

Form a study group with classmates – go over information from previous class; listen to peers explain concepts in a different way, with different examples; makes you accountable. Study in Anatomy Study Room in the Learning Center.

Read your lecture Powerpoint notes multiple times.

Read the text, listen to the podcasts, take additional & more detailed notes, study Quizlets, and write what I needed help with on my index card.

Use Anatomy Drill and Practice on website – great for visual learners.

Listen to Professor Swatski’s stories during lecture and lab to better understand the concepts.

Take the time to really study the models during lab – find all of the structures listed in the Lab Guide.

Read the textbook chapters and the chapter reviews at the end of each chapter.

Read the textbook chapters and watch the podcasts before coming to class – helps you follow along during class since you are not hearing/seeing it for the first time.

Re-write notes after class; re-write most challenging material on index cards.

Re-write chapter worksheet questions and answers.

Write out all of the questions that I got wrong on the Quizlet tests.

Focus on one chapter each day in the weeks before the exam, and then review all the chapters as a final review the several days before the exam.
Manage your time so you don’t feel as stressed out – make time for your family, friends, pets, work, exercise, and yourself.

Spend time studying diagrams in textbook, reading captions, labels, etc.

Pay attention to mnemonics and phrases to help you remember concepts.

Study vocab using the “Learn” mode (reading the definition and typing the vocab word) – helped keep me engaged in material.

Attend every lecture and lab – it holds you accountable and keeps you on track.

Listen to audio of Quizlet vocab words during commute.

Use Quizlet on breaks at work, lunches, etc.

Type out all of my class notes and study from them.

Take pictures of models to get a better view of challenging areas.

Re-draw and/or copy diagrams from lecture and lab to help remember things more easily.