**How Do You Study for Exams?**

*A Note from Your Teacher*

I’m interested in learning more about how you study for exams in general, and how you’re studying for them in this course. My goal is to teach in ways that support your efforts to study, that help you learn the material, and do well on the exams. I can do that better if I’m not guessing about how you study. So please be honest. The goal here is not to impress me with how much you’re studying, but to help me understand your exam preparation process. Thanks for taking the time to answer these questions. I will be talking to the class about what I learn.

**Tell me about your study habits in this course:**

When do you start studying in earnest for an upcoming exam in this course?

How much time you devote to studying for an exam in this course? In your hardest course?

If the goal is getting an A on an exam in this course, how long would you estimate you will need study?

Briefly describe how you study for exams in this course.

When you’re studying and you discover something you really don’t understand, what do you do?

How do you decide what you need to know for the exam?

When you go into an exam in this course, how confident are you that you’ve studied the right things?

Do you multi-task when you’re studying for exams in this course? If so, what else are you doing while you are studying?

What study strategies are working best for you in this course?

Are there any instructional strategies being used in the course that help you prepare for exams?

Are there any aspects of my teaching or how the course is organized that make it difficult to prepare for the tests?

**Select the best answer(s):**

How much time do you spend studying for an exam in this course?

□ less than one hour □ 2-5 hours □ 5-10 hours □ 10-15 hours □ more than 15 hours

How much time do you spend studying for an exam in your hardest course?

□ less than one hour □ 2-5 hours □ 5-10 hours □ 10-15 hours □ more than 15 hours

If you want to get an A on an exam in this course, how long would you have to study?

□ less than one hour □ 2-5 hours □ 5-10 hours □ 10-15 hours □ more than 15 hours

How do you study for exams in this course? [check those that apply]

\_\_ go over, as in reread, my notes

 \_\_ recopy my notes

 \_\_ read the text for the first time

 \_\_ reread the text, focusing on important parts of it

 \_\_ memorize important definitions and facts

 \_\_ test myself with questions I think might be on the exam

 \_\_ use flash cards to test my understanding

 \_\_ study with a classmate(s) by discussing content you think will be on the exam

 \_\_ other (please describe)

If you multi-task when you’re studying for exams in this course, what else do you do while you’re studying? [check those that apply]

 \_\_ listen to music

 \_\_ check social media

\_\_ surf the web

 \_\_ shop online

 \_\_ text friends

 \_\_ check email

 \_\_ talk with those nearby

 \_\_ eat

 \_\_ watch TV

 \_\_ work

 \_\_ other (please describe)

How important are the study skills you’re using in this course for your success as a professional?

□ not at all important □ somewhat important □ very important

When you came into the first exam in this course, rate how confident were you that you’d studied the right material for the exam?

□ not at all confident □ somewhat confident □ highly confident

Rate the effectiveness of the study strategies you are using in this course

□ highly ineffective □ somewhat effective □ highly effective

Rate how motivated you are to improve your use of study strategies in this course

□ not at all motivated □ somewhat motivated □ highly motivated

Are the instructional strategies being used in the course supporting your efforts to prepare for the exams?

□ not at all supportive □ somewhat supportive □ very supportive

**Tell me about how you study for exams in general**

Do you study for exams between exams? How much? By doing what?

In general, what study strategies do you rely on when preparing for exams?

What exam study skills do you need to develop or do you need to use more effectively?

How would you characterize your time management skills when it comes to studying for exams?

Is performance on exams a function of your natural ability or the result of being well-prepared for the exam? Which is more important?

How important are study skills for your success as a professional?

Do you prepare for exams by working with others? How often? If so, what do you when you study with others? If you don’t study with others, is that a strategy you should be using?