Study Tips

Collegiate life is much different than high school and so is the studying requirement that goes along with it! Reading requirements are longer and denser, essays and papers are more frequent and studio critiques are more critically engaged. Students will have to adapt their study techniques to succeed in this new college setting. This sheet will provide a map of where to start.

Study Sessions
-To avoid cramming on the day before a test, start studying and reviewing notes at the beginning of the semester, and after each class.
-Figure out which time of day you work best and schedule study time like you would schedule a shift at a job.
-Develop a habit of studying at the same time, or place, each day.
-Working in a clean, clutter free environment can promote more focus.

Study Prep
-Take great notes in class, so when you refer back to them before a test you can clearly understand the material.
-Organize notes by subject or class, keep them all in one place.
-Create a code for annotating (highlighting, underlining, circling) your notes when studying to signal a hierarchy of importance.

Essay Writing
-Start early! It is better to start your essay right after the prompt is given out, this way you have time to write, re-write and edit on your own or with a tutor.
-Time management can be used to structure your writing. Start with brainstorming one week, and then move on to structure the next and so on.
-Brainstorm all ideas possible with a mind map on paper so you can refer back to it.
-Refine your thoughts to a thesis, your main argument.
-Write a rough draft, get all of your thoughts and ideas on paper.

Places to study at SFAI