

Generation Z Study Preferences

Content

As the generation of students at Clemson University is changing, the environment of the classroom and studying outside the classroom must also change to stay updated with the changing generation. Students need to be offered enough resources and assistance when it comes to studying course material outside of class. Most students want or require more than their own written notes, and sometimes are uncertain of what to study and how to best do so.



What Students Said

"For me it's most helpful when they [professors] upload their PowerPoints to Canvas and then I can use that as a resource later on to go back to study because I learn best by writing out my own study guide."

"For classes that are heavy in vocabulary, I definitely use Quizlet just because it is so easy to take your work with you, and it's a good way for them to stick."

"I think it's really helpful when a teacher posts past tests so you can see what kind of questions they ask, what material they find really important, and just so you can get a feel for what's coming on test day."

"Normally, I like when they [professors] give practice questions in class, as well as going to office hours for help one-on-one."

"I like when they [professors] give videos to show you how to do things; it's easier to understand what they're talking about than just seeing it on a board."

How to Improve?

Make the content of exams clear to students, whether this is done verbally or through a written outline or study guide. Let students know if there are multiple parts to the exam, the format, and the expectations of each section.

For more math-based classes, students have expressed how helpful practice problems, old exams, and examples are in preparation for the exam.

Professors can give students methods of studying based on different learning preferences. If time allows, hold a review session; while not all students will take advantage, it is helpful for some.