



Tips for Success in Hybrid Courses

Hybrid courses include both face-to-face classroom and online or remote learning elements. You may find many benefits to taking hybrid courses, including greater convenience due to the split between face-to-face and online class time, varied methods of participation that can support different learning needs, and enhanced connections with your instructor and other students outside of the traditional classroom. But, if you are new to hybrid learning, you may need to incorporate some new learning strategies. Check out these tips for success in hybrid courses.

Embrace the Hybrid Model: Actively look for the value in both face-to-face and virtual interactions in the course, and engage in both to optimize your learning.

Be Prepared: Make sure you have the technology you need, including a laptop or tablet, internet access, and headphones, and become familiar with D2L, SDState's course management system.

Tap into your Motivation: Hybrid courses provide flexibility, but also require you to be self-directed. Identify strategies that will motivate you to work independently and to invest time in the course outside of scheduled class time.

Know what's Expected: Read the course syllabus and review the course schedule and login to D2L at least three times per week to view updates and evaluate your progress.

Go to Class: Know when you are supposed to attend class in person vs. when you are supposed to participate virtually. Attend or participate every time you are expected to do so.

Be Organized: Schedule time to complete your out-of-class work and find a distraction-free environment for homework and studying. Log all deadlines and exams in your planner, along with dates you are expected to be in class.

Communicate: Get to know your professor and other students and ask questions when you have them. Reach out to your instructor, tutors, or other campus resources if you need help understanding course material or instructions, and set up Zoom study sessions with classmates so you can help each other.

Dig into your Assignments: Work on assignments and course activities right away rather than saving them until the last minute. Complete and submit your assignments before the deadline to avoid a late submission in case you experience technology problems.

Use your Course Resources: If your instructor is recording lectures or posting information in D2L, review that information and update your notes, even if you participated in the live lecture. Those additional resources offer a level of support that isn't typically available in face-to-face courses.

Engage: Whether you are connecting with the course in person or virtually, participate! Respond to discussion questions, ask questions of your own, and connect with other students in the class. Being engaged will help you learn the material and will be more fun!