7 Tips for Making the Most out of Lecture Recordings

### Attend
- Students who regularly attend lectures tend to get better grades. Use lecture recordings as a supplement, not a replacement, for live lectures.
- Take advantage of the opportunity to connect with your peers and develop community.
- Access lecture recordings to revisit sections of the lecture that you didn’t understand or you want to recheck your lecture notes.

### Pre-read
- Check the syllabus for learning outcomes (objectives).
- Spend 10 minutes looking at the recording headings and sub-headings. Browse through the slides and pay attention to key terms and concepts. Listen to the introduction and conclusion or wrap-up.
- Notes diagrams, images, and charts. Visuals often provide a significant information in a condensed format.

### Create Questions
- Learning from recordings effectively must be an active activity. One good way of active reading is to ask and answer questions.
- Create questions from section headings and sub-headings, key words, learning outcomes, and review questions (if provided).
- Spike your curiosity. Consider what you already know about the topics. How topics connect with prior course material, with your other classes, and even with world current events.

### Make Notes
- Note-making encourages active learning and creates useful records for exam preparation.
- Take notes as you would for traditional in-person lectures. Aim to make note of key ideas, terms and concepts, and summarize lecture material.
- A structured approach to note-taking you may want to consider is the Cornell Method of Note Taking.
Online Learning Strategies

**Review**
- Spend 10-15 minutes after watching a recording to make a point-form list or summary of what you learned without looking at your notes. Review your notes afterwards to check for accuracy and completeness.
- Create some quiz questions. Aim to produce the top 10 questions and swap them with your peers.

**Ask for help**
- Refer to your textbook and other readings, look in course discussion forums or conduct an online search to answer any questions you may have.
- Create a study group to talk with your peers about challenging course material.
- Strive to get at least one other perspective on course material.
- It’s fine to ask your instructor for help even if you have a lecture recording. Approach your professor with respect, provide details for your question.

**Do not..**
- Do not binge-watch recordings. Break recordings into smaller segments. Fatigue will prevent you from getting the most out of each recording.
- If you can’t attend a lecture for valid reasons, aim to watch missed the recording within one week’s time.
- Do not multi-task. Don’t watch recordings while doing housework, driving, or browsing social media. Splitting your focus with other tasks will prevent you effective learning.
- Set up a comfortable space in your home and away from distractions. Don’t try to watch recordings in a popular, busy area of your home.
- Do not cut corners. Watch recordings at normal speed and to take thorough notes. Plan to spend at least as much time-on-task for recordings as you would spend on traditional in-class lectures.

**Works Consulted:**
Lecture capture: Practical recommendations for students and lecturers. Preprint: [https://osf.io/esd2q/](https://osf.io/esd2q/). Emily Nordmann1, Carolina E. Kuepper-Tetzl2, Louise Robson3, Stuart Phillipson4, Gabi Lipan5 and Peter. Corresponding author: Emily Nordmann [emily.nordmann@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:emily.nordmann@glasgow.ac.uk). Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License; Accessed July 2020.