WILLIAM D. LAW, JR.
LEARNING **COMMONS**

New Test Prep Ideas

Create Your Study Plan

Ask yourself, when are you most productive? Is it in the morning, afternoon, or evening? Structure your study time during this time of day.

You should also create a plan over a period of time and space out your studying so you are not left cramming the night before. For example, if your test will go over 10 different chapters, try studying every day starting 5 days prior. This comes out to 2 chapters per day.

Reviewing Your Notes

When studying, read through your notes. You should be finding areas to prioritize.

On a piece of paper, create three columns: **strong**, **moderate**, **weak**.
- For concepts, chapters, or sections that you feel confident on, write them in the **strong** column.
- For concepts, chapters, or sections that you feel *okay* about, but are not 100% confident on, write them in the **moderate** column.
- For concepts, chapters, or sections that you know you need to learn more about, write them in the **weak** column.

Now, turn back to your textbook, study guide, or PowerPoint presentation. Skim through or preview all of the material by reading headings, subheadings, and the first sentence of each paragraph. For concepts, chapters, or sections that are in the moderate column, do a partial re-read. For concepts, chapters or sections that are in the weak column, do a full (or nearly full) re-read.

Take Breaks Often

Did you know that people are most productivity working in 25 minute intervals? After 25 minutes, our minds wander and typically get distracted. A wandering and distracted mind leads to multi-tasking and less efficient study time.

Get the most out of your study time with the **Pomodoro Technique** of Time Management.
- 25 minutes of study time.
- 5 minute break.
- 25 minutes of study time.
- 5 minute break.

- 25 minutes of study time.
- 15-30 minute break.
- *Repeat, as needed.*

Online Study Crash Course