



# Teaching the Craft of Note-taking

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# New Student Habits in Note-taking

- Most first-time college students have limited experience with note-taking from lectures
- Some initial habits include:
  - Writing down everything the instructors says
  - Poor organizational structure within notes (hierarchy of ideas)
  - Failing to recognize “importance” cues



Political Pref.	church all 1	Vichy - (1940 = 44)			No. refer 6	
		2	3	4	5	6
Left	1170	30%	40%	55%	24%	87%
Other	89	70	60	45	26	13

- possible to classify pol. systems in other ways - gave ex. - helpful - scheme pointed to certain aspects of pol. syst.

Lecture - 1-15-70  
Thursday

### French Political System

hard to draw parallels between diff developing pol. systems  
 political conflicts can merge out of the past as well as contemporary times.   
 (Past Development, Past Relevance, other sources of conflict) \*

1. French past subdivide chart / Quad. 1 - pol. dev. stable  
 changes can occur along horizontal lines - within quadrate - change of Rules.  
 3rd, 4th & 5th rep - diff sets of rules - accept competition  
 Vichy - didn't accept competition  
 Political development attainment of satisfactory.

Rules & institutions

weakness diff between dev. countries in past & dev. countries today.  
 FRANCE LATIN AMERICA

1. in past - dev. countries had usually reached economic development first  
 today - reach pol. stability first.

# "Streaming" Notes

# Processing Notes

- Students view notes as “recording” rather than notes as “method of learning”
- Notes become a series of fragmented pieces of information



# Recall Without Processing

According to Paik (1997), people lose their information retention at the following rates:

20 minutes      47% forgotten

1 day            62% forgotten

2 days           69% forgotten

75 days          75% forgotten

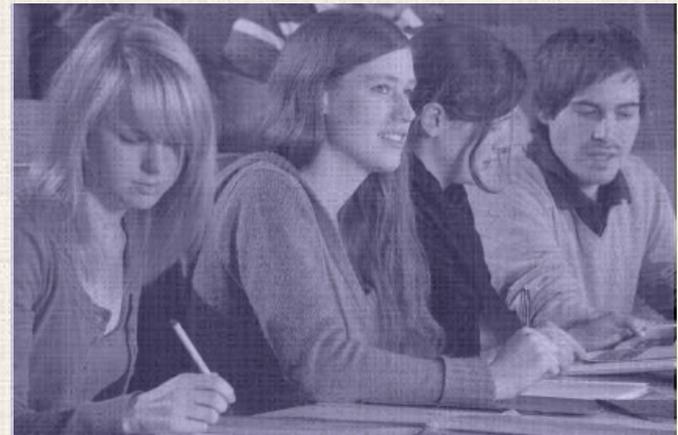
78 days          78% forgotten

# Teaching Note-Taking

- In LeaRN surveys and polls, note-taking ranks within the top three skills students say they most needed to learn in their first year of college
- A 2001 study from University of Maryland showed that students who were taught note-taking skills were able to capture 55-60% of “critical points” in a lecture while untaught students averaged 37%

# Teaching Note-taking

- Two critical “time frames” of note-taking
  - “Real-time” habits
    - Organization, abbreviation, attention to key concepts, instructor cues
  - Review habits
    - Reviewing before/after class for a few minutes & applying critical frameworks to notes



# Teaching “Real-time” Habits

- Be aware of your lecture style, and incorporate practice for active learning
  - *My instructor writes in one column on the board, and then erases the information before starting another column. The problem is he stands in front of what he’s writing, and we can’t copy it down.*
  - *I’m an international student and have trouble reading cursive. This makes it very difficult for me in note-taking from cursive handwriting.*
  - *The teacher never asks for questions. We’re always racing and there’s no time for the students to respond.*

# Teaching “Real-time” Habits

- Provide a skeleton of lecture information (possibly with some key material omitted)
- Take hand-written notes on a document camera or other technology
- Provide time (early in the semester) for students to compare notes and share strategies that work
- Invite students to visit your office hours and discuss their note-taking approaches

# Teaching Review/Critical Application Habits

- Teach students Question-Based Notes
  - Students leave 3-inch margin on left side of notes
  - After a lecture, students categorize notes and fill in questions that correspond with the material (students ensure that the information in the segment “answers” the question(s) they pose)
  - Students are encouraged to move from definitional or summary questions (“what is”) to more complex questions (“how, why?”), to evaluative and creative questions (“Is the evidence credible?” “What if...?”)

Where does competition begin? [ legal and factual  
competition within Comm party for leadership  
Invented by Lenin  
Party organized before Revolution to make  
revolution (MARCH 1917 - Collapse, NOV. Revolut.  
Then converted into control after Revolution.  
(In spite of small #'s were successful,  
No opposition but legitimate (Mex. leg. but none)

For what purpose was the  
party organized?

Ideology - "party directs and orients"  
"increasing objective historical law etc"  
(FROM NEWSPAPER)

What is the connection  
between party and  
Revolution?

Party is ideological part because system  
emerged out of Revolution  
Men who made Bolshevik Revol were  
inspired by an ideology (MARXISM)

What are the basic parts  
of Marx's philosophy?

Marxism  
1. private property divided men into classes  
2. in Capitalist dom. people own property  
3. if abolish private property - abolish  
class structuring - abolish. of state

What additions did Lenin  
make?

Lenin's Additions  
1. after Bolshevik's take over - Repression  
will be in the interest of the people  
2. to reorganize the society (with discipline  
leading role of the party.  
Function of Ideology (to justify rule)

# "Question- Based" Notes

# Teaching Review/Critical Application Habits

- Introduce students to the “Cornell Method” of Note-taking
- Give students a couple minutes at the beginning and end of class to review their notes and form questions or summaries
- Ask a former student to lead a session on “successful note-taking, reading, and study habits” within the first month of class

Questions?

