

Tips for Online Learning

USC Disability Services and Programs

USC has made the decision to finish the academic semester online or remotely, and USC leaders are currently working out the many details. DSP understands that online learning may be a new experience for you. Here are some tips to make your online learning both positive and productive.

Practice time management

Online classes can allow a very flexible schedule, but freedom can make it difficult to maintain time management skills. To avoid procrastination and cramming during online learning, we suggest that you:

1. Make a list of assignments and readings to do
2. Budget time for each task (i.e. designated study time)
3. Plan and stick to a daily routine

For more academic support, [USC Kortschak Center For Learning and Creativity](#) is hosting online drop-in hours.

Create your space

Set up a **dedicated space** for learning and studying, ideally with a decent chair that will support your back. By completing your work there repeatedly, you'll establish a daily routine, stay organized, and be able to shift your mindset from *fun time* to *work time*. Find a place that is comfortable and has high speed internet but will also keep you alert. Avoid working in bed, if possible.

Eliminate distractions

When creating a space and schedule, get rid of all physical and digital distractions. As lectures and studying occur on your computer, it is much easier to become distracted. Take the extra step to turn off your TV and close your social media apps. There are some tools and Chrome Extensions (**StayFocused**, **RescueTime**, **StayFocusD**) that may assist you.

Communicate with your professors

Through online learning, professors still have the responsibility to cover all topics required for the class. Review your DSP accommodations and discuss with your professor how the accommodations may look like in the online setting. If you are confused or have any questions, send your professor a polite email and be patient when waiting for a response.

Need help with your accommodations?

For assistance or to schedule an appointment, your DSP Specialist can be reached via email. Please note that all scheduled appointments will be conducted virtually utilizing Zoom. Please visit the [DSP website](#) for specific information related to accommodations.

Helpful Links:

- [COVID-19 & College Students with Disabilities](#)
- [List of Crisis Resources](#)
- [A Guide: How To Prepare Your Home For Coronavirus](#)