

Success Strategies for PSL250 (Dillon)

Pointers from a student after meeting with the professor:

- Read over the chapter **BEFORE** class so that you know what we will be covered that day.
- Make sure that you are taking your own notes as well as the ones he provides. This will be helpful when studying for the test because you will be able to remember things in your own terms instead of just having a memorized definition.
- He records his lectures, so if you do not understand a particular section during the lecture, or have to leave for the bathroom, you can mark in the margin the time that you missed (or stopped comprehending). Then you can go back to his recorded lecture and listen again.
- Do NOT use notecards if you are just memorizing and not *learning*. Anyone can write definitions on a piece of paper, but until you actually understand the material, it won't make a difference. You need to be able to apply the material.
- Study for 30-40 min. at a time MAX. Then take a break, have dinner, or make a phone call, etc. Then when you come back to studying, have someone quiz you for a couple of minutes. This will ensure that the information you studied previously is already locked in your long term memory as opposed to just short term. In addition, if you can recite the information out loud, that is another key indicator that it is already locked in your brain.
- Take advantage of OFFICE HOURS!! Students often wait to go to office hours until just before a test, so make the time to go before the rush and get the one-on-one attention that you need.
- DO NOT wait to study material the night before a test. There is too much information to learn in one night. Review notes every week to make sure material is sinking in way before the test!
- Again, use his OFFICE HOURS – he is more than willing to help. 😊