Making the Most of Your Learning

Being a learner isn’t just reserved for your time at college. Becoming a lifelong learner is something that can enrich your life, adding an element of curiosity and awe to everyday happenings.

So, how can you make the most of your learning opportunities here on campus while also developing lifelong learning skills?

1. Choose group projects or papers that are topics you’d like to spend some time with – if you’re going to be spending this much time researching and writing, it may as well be with something that you find interesting.

2. Pick a class that’s outside the realm of what you’d normally study – you may find a new interest!

3. Focus on learning outside of the classroom, too – get involved with campus organizations, from an intramurals team to the biology club to the school radio station to see how you can learn in non-classroom settings as well.

4. Talk with people who are different from you – a conversation over coffee with someone whose culture is different from yours can be incredibly eye-opening and fascinating!

5. Attend a campus event, lecture or workshop that you’re curious about – it’ll likely always feel like you “should” be doing something else, yet taking an hour or two to go experience something new can make the world bigger while helping your brain expand, too.

6. Find the learning within your job – maybe you’ll gain a better understanding of what good/bad people management looks like after experiencing it or you’ll have an opportunity to gain new technological skills… look for what you’re able to learn everywhere!

7. Talk about what you’re learning with family and friends – it’s not unusual to talk about a political or sociological tidbit of information learned in class with your friends over dinner – start off with “Our professor mentioned that…” and you’ll soon find yourself immersed in great conversation.

8. Keep up with your readings – you’ll be better informed, you’ll be practicing your reading-for-comprehension skills and you’ll be better able to engage in class discussions since you’ll know what you’re talking about!

9. Read the school newspaper – by tasting different media mediums, you’ll improve your critical thinking skills while also staying informed.

10. Talk with faculty and staff about their experiences – there are some uber-smart people on campus with fascinating stories to tell… have a listen.