

Biochemical Engineer Major

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My tips:

Everyone is going to benefit from different study techniques and styles; however study groups work well for a majority of people. My college learning experience was greatly enhanced by a number of study groups that I was a part of. Here are some tips I have regarding study groups:

Find or establish a study group of around 1-4ish other people. Once your major is established it should be pretty easy to find a group that has pretty much all the same classes. The ideal group has balanced strengths in different disciplines (i.e. math, chemistry, computer programming, biology, etc). You want to find a group that allows a good balance of you helping them versus them helping you.

Ideally everyone in the group would work through the problems individually first, then together as a group. If time is tight or the problems are hard, the second best option is to work them together with the group right away. As the bare minimum, if you just get the answer, make sure you work through the problem and understand it enough to know the parts of it you don't quite understand. Resist the urge to just blindly copy, even if you have to go back to it after the fact and work through it.

Try to work on all outside of class things with that group, even if it is simple and you don't think you need help. On the other hand, once you find a good group don't get too locked in--be open to sampling other groups, other study techniques etc.

Engineering school is all about problem solving. For me, defining and constantly optimizing my study techniques was one of the most rewarding problems I solved.