Brain On!
Study Smarter Not Harder

Economics concepts are cumulative -- you need to understand the earlier material to understand the complex concepts later in the semester. Use the following strategies for a better understanding of the material.

1. **Learn the terms:** create flashcards or go to: [https://quizlet.com/](https://quizlet.com/) and use the ones created by other UNH students when they took economics. Contextualize the terms with examples to lock in learning—this helps you understand how to apply terminology to real-world concepts.

2. **Learn to apply the terms:** understand how the concepts relate to one another. Ask question like **HOW** and **WHY** when analyzing a shift or a movement.

3. **Reinforce your understanding of the material:** use your book, professor resources, and Khan Academy videos. If you have access to an online ECON platform (like MindTap or myEconLab), use the Study Dynamic modules and other tutorial content. Take advantage of adaptive test preparation!

4. **Write linear equations over and over:** do this until you know them. Then make sure you know the algebra needed to solve for missing variables in the linear equation.

5. **Practice doing problems:** find practice problems in your book, online ECON platform, and the Course Challenge questions on Khan Academy. Practice weekly -- do not wait until before the exam!

6. **Look for key words in a problem:** they will tell you where to start. For example: if a question asks to classify the type of good after a change in **income** and a change in the demand of the good, the answer is most likely normal or inferior, not compliment or substitutes. The keyword being **income**.

7. **Replace given variables in a problem:** to prepare for exam problems, replace variable X and Y with real world examples. For example, when learning substitutes use hotdogs and hamburgers and for compliments use hot dogs and hotdog buns.

8. **Understand your wrong answers on practice problems:** avoid quickly looking for the right answer. Try to figure out what you did wrong. Work backwards and look at your steps and why you did them, to figure out the correct solution. Use your notes, book, Professor and TA office hours and help sessions, and studying with others for extra help.

9. **Graphs, Graphs, Graphs:** practice drawing the graphs and how the lines move based on the information provided. On exams, sketch graphs showing shifts or movements to look at impact.

10. **Create a mock exam:** mix up problems from different chapters. Not knowing which lecture or chapter the problem came from, prepares you for the exam conditions.