

## The Anatomy of the Cornell Note-taking System

Do you want to take more effective notes for your lectures? It turns out what you do with your notes *after* lecture will help you learn better.

Take notes during your lecture and consolidate your learning after it. Use the Cornell note-taking system to take notes, practice, and reflect upon what really matters from the lecture.

The Cornell system allows you to:

- Summarize the important ideas from your notes
- Create practice problems
- Reflect upon how you will be marked

### How it works

Divide your paper into three sections: Notes, Cue Column, and Summary. Draw a vertical line down to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the page. Use the left side of the line as the Cue Column and the right side for Notes. Use the remaining space at the bottom of the page for the Summary.

### 1. Take notes during the lecture

In the Notes section:

- Capture the main ideas
- Organize with headings
- Use bullet points
- Create diagrams or charts

### 2. Review your notes

Using the Cue Column, brainstorm key ideas and questions.

Ask yourself:

- How could the professor test me on this information?
- How do these concepts connect to what was learned before?
- What are important words I need to apply?

### 3. Summarize the most important points

Use the Summary section. What was the point of this lecture?

Based on how you like to learn, use pictures and/or words.