

Tips to Mastering Hybrid Learning

Welcome back CIU students!

I know that many of you are continuing to study remotely at least in part this semester due to the continuing pandemic. Some of you may be taking hybrid classes where you attend in-person class one day a week and then have a synchronous component to class (e.g. Zoom class meeting) and/or asynchronous or independent online work. As a former hybrid instructor, I can say that there are certain benefits to this type of instruction as well as some drawbacks. First and foremost, you are still getting the benefit of meeting and working with your peers and professor. This kind of social engagement is often considered one of the key factors in student success as it gives students a sense of belonging and purpose (“Student Engagement”). Of course, facetime with others in a hybrid class is limited so it is important to continue to build those relationships online by emailing the instructor whenever you have questions outside of class and engaging in online discussions and/or group chats with peers that you meet in class (you can always ask your professor to set these up if they are not currently available). Another benefit to hybrid learning as noted by CIU student Richard Escobedo is that one has the flexibility of “being able to work at convenient times when [one] is most alert.” However, it is important to keep a regular study schedule just as you would for an in-person class. The University of Boulder Colorado even suggests that in addition to setting a study schedule, you get ready for class just as you would an in-person class. “While it’s true no one can tell if you’re in your pajamas, going through this routine can help establish the right type of “learning mindset” that can foster success” (“Student Success”). The idea here is to be ready to fully participate in your online classes! Finally, if you are struggling in your remote/hybrid courses, be sure to reach out to real people - teachers, advisors, and even CIU staff - for help!

Do you have some helpful tips for being successful in hybrid and/or online classes? If so, comment on our [Facebook page](#).

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Sources:

“Student Engagement and Student Outcomes: Key Findings from CCSSE Validation Research.” McClenney et al. Retrieved on 9/8/2021 from <https://www.ccsse.org/aboutsurvey/docs/CCSSE%20Validation%20Summary.pdf>.

“Student Success Tips for Remote/Hybrid Learning.” Office of Undergraduate Education. University of Colorado Boulder. Retrieved on 9/7/2021 from <https://www.colorado.edu/office-undergraduate-education/programs/student-success-tips-remotehybrid-learning>