

STEM courses tend to be objective, cumulative and application-focused. Learning new skills and establishing different routines help STEM students maintain the structure and control that leads to success in these courses

OBJECTIVE



There's often one (and only one) right answer

- Practice attention to detail.
- Get in the habit of showing your work in order to document your progress.
- Learn to identify and fix your own mistakes.
- Make and use reference sheets.

CUMULATIVE



Coursework builds on itself and adds complexity.

- Because these subjects build on previous ideas, a missed or misunderstood lesson makes a difference—if this happens, seek help!
- Keep excellent notes.
- Start work on problems only after you believe you understand the materials and concepts involved.

APPLICATION-FOCUSED



Key concepts are used to solve problems students haven't seen before

- Attend all labs and take detailed notes.
- Envision doing homework as a way to learn the concept, not solve the problem.
- Work on different kinds of problems
 – abstract and word problems as well as more straightforward.
- Study problems you got right as well as the ones you got wrong. This can help increase understanding of the correct ideas and processes.

