

College Knowledge **Study Groups**

1. Definition

A group of students working together with a common academic purpose. All students participate, are respectful and enhance learning for themselves as well as for the group.

2. Purpose

To enhance individual learning by using a group process.
To learn by teaching others.
To help students be responsible for their own learning.

Study groups could be for

- Homework
- Test preparation
- Special projects

3. Methodology

Students

- Define purpose of group (short or long term goals, homework or test prep)
- Review assignment and timelines given by the teacher
- Commit to the number of group meetings to reach goal
- Divide the assignment into parts or tasks
- Each member of the group is responsible for taking a part

Possible activities:

Flashcards

Outlining chapters or lectures (writing and verbal review enhances memory and understanding)

Drills

Explaining to another student what you understand

JIGSAWING is a process by which students each take a part and become the expert on that part. They then impart that info to the rest of the group. For example, if the study group is reviewing for a test, during the first study group each student will take a chapter or concept or vocabulary words. Students would become proficient enough in their areas that they would, at the next meeting, demonstrate, lecture or provide an outline or flashcards on their parts. Each would learn from the other.