Note-making styles for lectures: 1



Long-hand, linear notes

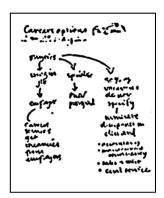
This is where you try to write down most of what is said and put on the screen. Many students say these help you to keep with the flow of an argument in a lecture. Usually you end up with too much material and you miss key points or images because you are too busy writing everything down.

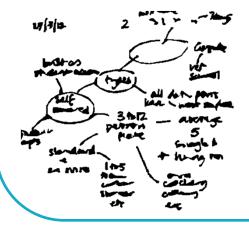
- Write short phrases
- Leave space for additional information
- ☐ Label, date and number systematically

■ Use abbreviations

Pattern notes and other graphic notes

Pattern notes are a diagrammatic form rather than the linear line by line or list approach. In its simplest form, as a spider diagram, you put the main idea in the middle of the page and link topics to it. They might take the form of concept maps or mind maps which give an overall picture and show connections.





It can be difficult to make notes during lectures in this way unless you have a good idea of the lecture in outline beforehand. However, it is good for making a summary straight afterwards. Graphic notes are good for less structured sessions (e.g. discussion where the focus jumps back and forth).

Key words and bullet points

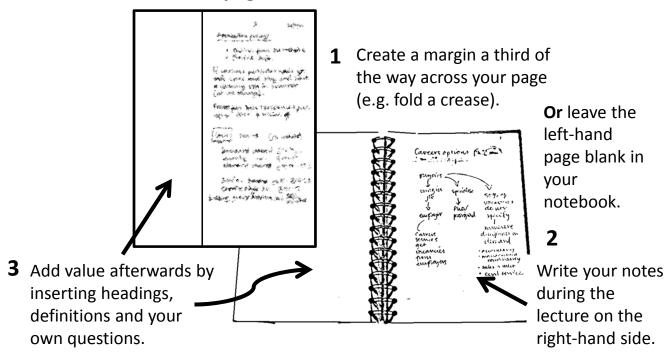
- Write down only the key terms, names or concepts mentioned in a lecture (listing).
- The key word should remind you of the rest of what you heard.
- Works well where you can access lecture slides and reading lists, and can add to your notes.
- Using key words focuses attention on the main ideas, such as concepts, movements, individual authors or important texts.
- Revise and add to your notes fairly soon after.



Note-making styles for lectures: 2

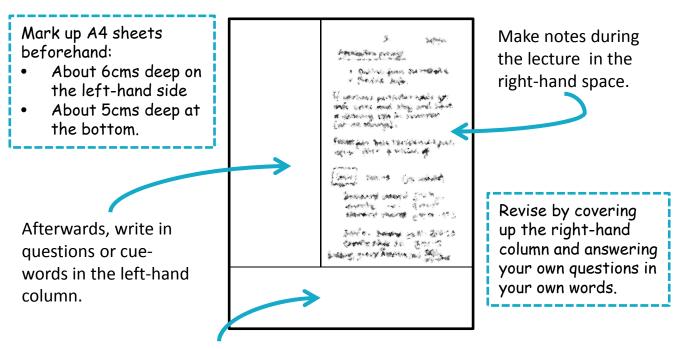


Two-column or two-page method



Cornell-style note making

A variation on a system originally devised at Cornell University by Prof Walter Pauk.



Write a two sentence summary of the page in the space at the bottom after the lecture.