

## TEACHING STRATEGIES

### *Cornell Note Taking:*

I am a big proponent of using the Cornell note-taking method having used it successfully to take lecture notes as an undergraduate. The Cornell method ensures that students take comprehensive lecture notes, and develop questions in the margin about lecture content using their own words. End of note-page and lecture summaries help students to formulate the “big picture” perspectives or main topics.

### *Improving Writing Skills:*

Writing is thinking, and though we articulate ideas in conversation, putting them on paper is quite different and can be difficult. Writing is a skill worth developing regardless of the student's career path. The best way to learn writing is by writing, getting feedback, and writing some more. There are helpful tools to organize thoughts, and structure arguments, while it is important to emphasize practice with grammar and usage. Writing is thinking about what you want to say, and making sure you are saying just that. Clarifying ideas in writing and improving individual writing style is both iterative and a continual process.

### *Science, Thinking and Logical Fallacies:*

Writing is a form of critical thinking, but few students know the common logical fallacies and how they are used to bias arguments. It is important for students to learn that the scientific method is not based on proving, but disproving hypotheses, yet causation seems to be the most common fallacy when interpreting scientific studies. At minimum, I like to introduce logical fallacies within my teaching so students become aware of these rhetorical tools used to bias and support arguments.