

# Cornell Note Taking

**Goal:** To take notes during class, prepare potential test questions, or create study materials.

There are many ways to produce Cornell Notes. A quick web search will turn up many different methods you can use. Try the method below and adjust it based on your needs!

1. About 3 inches from the left side of your paper, draw a vertical line.
2. On the right side of the line, write all your notes from class. *Write down everything, even if you don't understand what is being discussed. You will spend time understanding it later.*
3. While taking notes, as you reach the end of a topic or section, draw a box.
4. After class, go through your notes line by line.
5. To the left of the line, write in key words or sample questions that correspond with the notes on the right side.
6. Highlight or underline the answer in your notes. Use colors or symbols to help clarify things.
7. Circle concepts you don't understand or parts of your notes that are missing.
8. Use the box at the end of each section to write a summary. Try to draw overall conclusions and connect ideas to get to the big picture.

What are nominal variables?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nominal level variables are variables that have values that are simply categories, which are unrankable</li><li>• Examples include gender and religion</li></ul>
What are ordinal variables?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ordinal level variables are also called rank order variables</li><li>• They are variables that have values with a rank order, but the spacing between the rank is unknown.</li><li>• Examples include class rank and GPA</li></ul>
What are interval variables?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interval level variables are variables whose values are rankable and equally spaced but have no true zero point</li><li>• Examples include SAT scores and IQ</li></ul>
Summary: Different variable types depend on spacing between variables, if they are rankable, and what the values represent (categories, etc.)	

**Now What?** Once you have formed questions and highlighted the answers, you can use this sheet to study! Fold the paper on the vertical line you drew and test yourself

**What else?** Make flashcards! On one side, write the questions from your notes. On the flip side, write the answers. *Refer to the "Flashcards" handout for more details.*

Want to meet with a tutor? You can schedule an in-person or online appointment [HERE!](#)