First aid for EXAM PERIOD

ORAL EXAMS

How to prepare for an oral exam? Do you need a different approach if the exam takes place online? Study guidance helps you on your way with this Infographic.

BEFORE THE EXAM

- Check the instructions on Canvas/mail. How will the exam take place? Which materials should and may you use? Do you get preparation time?
- What are the expected learning results? Check the course information.
- What are the peculiarities of the professor?
- What are your own weaknesses regarding content and presentation?
- Practice (online) with fellow students or housemates.

DURING THE EXAM

- Listen to the question carefully. Tip: repeat the question in your own words and check if you have understood the question correctly.
- Build up your answer logically and do not skip any steps or argumentations.
- What if you don't know the answer?
  - Think about what you will do in this situation in advance.
  - Ask if it is possible to briefly write down some core concepts.
  - Remember: you don't need to know everything, you need to know enough.

AFTER THE EXAM

Did your exam go smoothly? Great! Did it not go as planned? Reflect:
- What went well?
- What went wrong? Did you master the content? Were you surprised by the exam method?
- Ask for feedback. Attention: you have to request this for a certain period of time!
- Write down how you can improve your strategy next time.
- Contact a study advisor to reflect on your study method.

Digital exam?

Find out how to contact the teacher in case of technical problems.
Check well in advance if everything works: webcam, microphone, stable internet (cable!)
Prepare an environment without many distractions and collect the material you need.
Inform your housemates. Ask not to stream anything during your exam.
Technical problems? Let the examiner know as soon as possible!

Learn more? Check our Canvas course  Tel. +32 (0)2 629 23 06  guidance@vub.be  follow Study Guidance on wearestudent.vub.be