

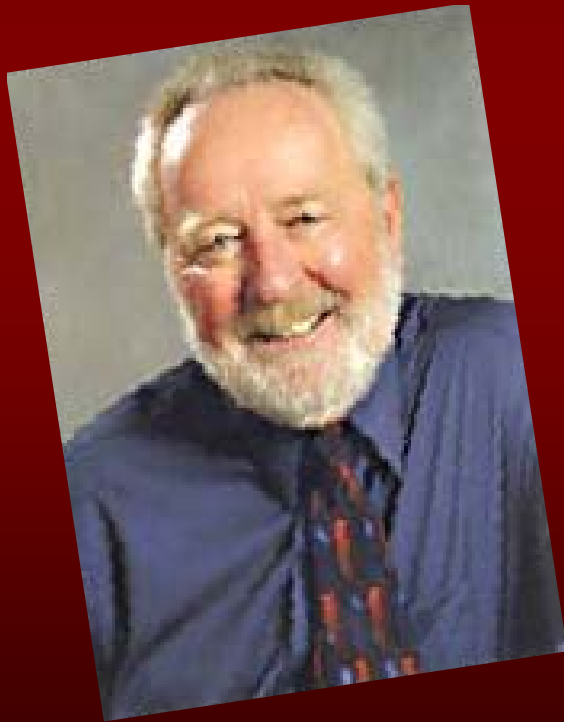
Welcome to PAWS Preview's College Note-taking Session



Presented by

Student Learning Assistance Center

**Please Welcome
Dr. Byron Augustin
Professor of Geography & Planning**



**‘Doc’ Specializes in the
Study of...**

Resource Conservation

Latin America

Texas

Geographic Education

Mon



coffee

Boliva –

cocaine !!!!!

Brazil --

boring-~~TTTT~~

Suroche

coea

Mrs. Justin
Timberlake ☺

PeRu – GUANO
--gross

because of all the seabirds!!



Jessica ♥ Tony

The Distracted/Artistic Note-taker

Geog 1310

1.

8/17/07

Brazil is the largest country in South America with over 170 million people living...

**Coffee grows in the tropics because the temperature...
It grows at high elevations where the air is...**

Bolivia is high (!) in the Andes in more than one way. It is at a high elevation and it...

The natives use the coca plant for relief of soroche ? by chewing.

**The Detailed
Note-taker**

8/17/07

Brazil:

-Largest S. Am. Country > 170 million people

-Coffee (grows in Brz)

★ 1. Likes consistent temp in tropics

★ 2. “ cooler temps at higher elevations

★ 3. “ likes volcanic soil

Bolivia

-High in the Andes!!

-Capital – La Paz – elvation

-Soroche – altitude sickness

-Coca plant – natives chew leaves for relief of soroche

-Cocaine comes from coca

Outline Form

Cornell Note-taking System

	Geog 1310	1
○	8/17/07	
	Recall Column	
	--to be used for review before/after class	Take notes here as usual
○	Vocabulary / definitions	
	Questions	
	Summary Phrases	
○		

**Regular
Notes on
Right Side of
Page**

Brazil:

- Largest So. Am -170 m. pop
- Coffee
- Grows in tropics -consistent temp
- Grows in volcanic soils

Bolivia:

- High in Andes
- Capital -La Paz (the peace)
- Elevation → little oxy
- Soroche ← alt. sickness
- Coca plant → cocaine
 - Natives chew leaves
 - No addiction
 - US → cocaine addiction
 - social probs

**Clues to
Stuff you
Need to
Know on the
Left**

 **Study Tip:** 

Use another sheet of paper to cover up info on the right when preparing for an exam. This will keep you from “cheating” while you study.

Geog 1310	1
	Brazil: 8/17/07
Largest So. Am country?	➤ Largest So. Am –170 m. pop
Pop?	➤ Coffee
Impt/Expt?	➤ Grows in tropics –consistent temp
Conditions needed for growth?	➤ Grows in volcanic soils
Mtn range?	Bolivia:
Cap city?	➤ High in Andes
?comes from coca plant	➤ Capital –La Paz (the peace) ?
Native use of coca leaves differ from US?	➤ Elevation → little oxy
	➤ Soroche – alt. sickness
	➤ Coca plant → cocaine
	➤ Natives chew leaves
	➤ No addiction
	➤ US → cocaine addiction
	➤ US → social probs

Lecture Note-taking as a 3 Part Process

Before Class

- ❖ Read
- ❖ Review notes
- ❖ Be prepared

During Class

- ❖ Listen for clues
- ❖ Stress general ideas
- ❖ Use your own words
- ❖ Listen-Think-Write

After Class

- ❖ Organize/Reduce
- ❖ Rehearse
- ❖ Reflect
- ❖ Review

Get Organized

- ❖ Attend ALL lectures
- ❖ Sit near the front of the classroom
- ❖ Use a separate notebook or binder for each course
- ❖ Date your notes (This matters around test time!)
 - ❖ Write on one side of the page
 - ❖ Have pens and pencils ready
- ❖ If text is referenced, have it open and ready

Get excited! It will help you stay organized and focused.

A Good Listener is Hard to Find

Are you a good listener?

- Tune in and maintain eye contact
- Listen for a statement of purpose
- Keep listening even if lecture becomes confusing
- Focus on ideas, facts, or procedures
- Stay objective if material is controversial



To truly listen, you must be attentive! Hearing is a physical act that does not necessarily involve thought.

You've got to have a Strategy.

The most important
strategy is one for
change!



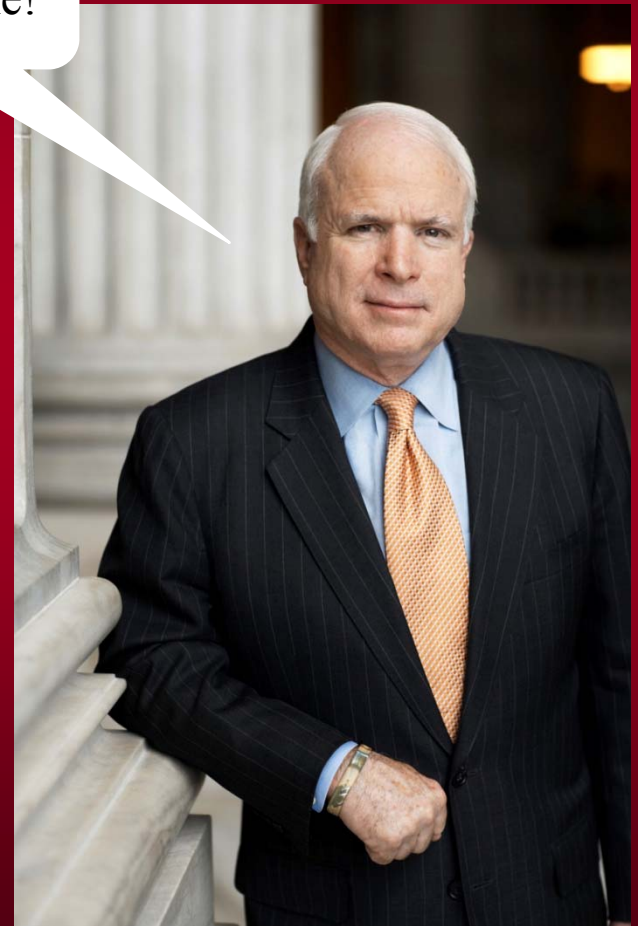
Write it down if...

- Words or concepts are repeated
- Introductory & concluding transition phrases are used
- Words signaling relationship, new subject, conclusions, or examples are used
- Anything is written on the board or overheads
- A direct statement is made (such as, "This will probably be on the test." OR "Star this in your notes.")
- The instructor's level of interest rises, he gets excited, or more animated
- Anything is presented in a list form

Americans have the right to...

...an education
from day one!

- Write or print clearly but quickly
- Use the language of the discipline
- Write what you need for understanding
- If a term or concept is used that you don't understand or can't spell, circle it to check later
- Record the speaker's examples (You'll often find them on the test.)
- At the end, identify your own thoughts (What are mine? What are the professor's?)



Something Else to Note...

- Strive to detect main headings
- Capture ideas, facts, procedures
- Skip lines between main ideas (this gives you room to fill in missing info you remember later)
- **Look for the professor's organizational pattern!**



Can you keep up?

- ✓ Use fragments: Don't try to write down every word spoken. Do get the most important stuff.
- ✓ Leave spaces if you didn't understand or need to add something you missed (statistics, diagrams, or charts) later.
- ✓ Develop your own system of abbreviations and symbols.
- ✓ Find your own style!
- ✓ If your handwriting is messy, recopy or type up your notes neatly while the info is still fresh in your mind.

In Case of a Speed Demon...

- o Ask the instructor to go slower or repeat a point
- o Prepare before class
- o Trade copies of notes with friends
- o Attend S.I.
- o Ask for clarification
- o Check with instructor after class
- o Leave spaces in notes for filling in the blanks
- o Use a tape recorder



Useful Abbreviations & Symbols

b/c or bcs = because

* or → or impt = important

govt = government

lbs = pounds

wt = weight

ht = height

mnts = mountains

info = information

> = greater than

< = less than

cf = compare

ex, eg = example, for example,

intro = introduction

i.e. = in other words

= number

??? = clear up fast, confusion

↑ = leads to, becomes

ch = chapter

(Ex: school ↑ job ↑ \$)

admin = administration

Only you've got to remember/know what your abbreviations mean!

Making a cheat sheet may help until you establish your own system.

In Case of the “Laid Back” Lecturer

DO

- ❖ Get plenty of sleep
- ❖ Utilize caffeine or energy foods & drinks
- ❖ Sit in the front of the class and lean forward in your chair
- ❖ Chew gum or eat candy (if you can do so quietly)
- ❖ Review text & note headings before class, making notes in text during class
- ❖ Illustrate notes with pertinent info (charts, graphs, etc.)
- ❖ Note anecdotes and relate them to text or lecture info that may be on exams
- ❖ Work out before class
- ❖ Keep a stress ball/small toy in bag to stimulate circulation in hands and arms



Laid Back Lecturer DON'TS

- ❖ Wear overly comfortable/warm clothes
- ❖ Eat big meals shortly before class
- ❖ Sit in the back of the classroom
- ❖ Lay your head down or recline in your chair

I'll just copy
someone's
notes later.



DO learn from this experience!
Avoid scheduling classes when you know you'll
be catatonic
Ask your peers which professors are engaging

Should I use a tape recorder or laptop?

The Tape Recorder

Always ask if it's ok to record a lecture!

PRO: Enables you to “rewind” your prof, fill in gaps in notes, listen again if you have a speedy speaker or simply like the repetition.

CON: Leads to daydreaming, very time consuming, and batteries can/will fail when least expected.

But, you know some things should not be recorded.



The Laptop

PRO: Convenient if you type faster than you write. Always legible. You can still use your abbr.

CON: Bulky. Commonly stolen on campus. Must have power outlets or backup power source.

General Note-taking Hazards

You shouldn't...

- ❖ Consider an example too obvious
 - ❖ Use Roman Numerals
- ❖ Overload yourself with abbreviations
- ❖ Give up if the lecturer is too fast/too slow
 - ❖ Stop to ponder for too long
 - ❖ Over indent or waste space
 - ❖ Wait for something “important”
 - ❖ Look only for facts
 - ❖ Doodle
- ❖ Text message or play games on cell phone
 - ❖ Write love letters

For More Note-taking Info or Help

Drop By SLAC

Student Learning Assistance Center

4th Floor, Alkek Library (Suite 411)

<http://www.txstate.edu/slac>

512-245-2515

Good Luck!