Exams

**What are exams? Exams are:**

* a test of your deep learning, knowledge and understanding of material
* a challenge or opportunity to demonstrate what you know

**Revising for exams**

* Revision is not something that you would do just before exams
* Revision is part of active learning throughout the study period
* You should be learning as you go through each course or program
* You only practise timed-writing before exams

**Types of exams**

Short answers Essays Case study Open book

Take home Oral Practical

**Strategies for exam preparation**

Try the Survey, Question, Predict, Plan, Prepare, Practise (SQP4)exam preparation strategy

**Predict**

**Question**

 **Survey**

* Predict the questions
 that will come up on
 the exam paper
* Decide which
 questions you think
 you would be most
 interested in
 - Plan to answer the
 questions in the exam

e question(s) in the
 exam.

* Look at past exam papers.
	+ Notice the style, number of questions and time limit.
* Ask yourself this question:

What exactly do I need to do to pass this course?

* For each exam make a list of topics that will come up
* Link the topic to the learning outcomes
* Link topics to course weeks
* Link topics to assignment questions

me question(s) in the
 exam.

* Look at past exam papers.
	+ Notice the style, number of questions and time limit.
* Get an overview of the whole course
	+ Check the aims and learning outcomes
	+ Note areas that you will be assessed
	+ Gauge the importance of a topic by identifying the number of weeks set to cover a topic
	+ Cross reference the different parts of assignment questions with the different weeks on the course

same question(s) in the
 exam.

* Look at past exam papers.
	+ Notice the style, number of questions and time limit.

* Practise for exams:
* Practise brainstorming and planning
* Go through all the questions in your course handbook
* Allow ten minutes per brainstorm; plan an answer for each one.
* Find past exam papers
* Allow ten minutes per brainstorm, brainstorm every question on the paper
* See how much you can write in half an hour

 question(s) in the
 exam.

* Look at past exam papers.
	+ Notice the style, number of questions and time limit.
* To prepare properly you have to:
* keep a revision cycle going for each exam topic
* keep your revision folder and big picture revision pattern in order and up-to-date
* go through each revision folder from time to time, throwing out excess material

 question(s) in the
 exam.

* Look at past exam papers.
	+ Notice the style, number of questions and time limit.
* Plan your learning and revision strategy for each topic:
	+ Do more than the
	basic minimum amount of work
	+ Read around the subject
	+ If you regurgitate input from your instructors, you will get an average grade.

question(s) in the
 exam.

* Look at past exam papers.
	+ Notice the style, number of questions and time limit.

**Practise**

**Prepare**

**Plan**

**Using time for exams**

* Each exam is different
* Know how long each exam is
* Know how many questions you will have to answer
* Time per question needs to be divided between:
	+ preparation time
	+ writing time
	+ reviewing time

**Processes during exam**

* Read the paper:
* Read the questions carefully
* Plan each answer:
	+ Allow ten minutes per plan
	+ Analyse all key words in questions and brainstorm each word in the question
	+ Outline your answer
	+ Number the different points in your outline in the order they will be discussed in the essay