

TIPS FOR STUDYING FOR A SKILLS-BASED FINAL EXAM*

Study for final exams in small increments spread out over as many days as possible. You'll get much more out of 30 minutes a day for several days than hours of straight studying in one day.

Break down the material to be studied into topics: verb tenses, equations, etc. Your strengths and weaknesses will become apparent. Concentrate on your weaknesses. If it's indirect pronouns, for example, go over them once today for 10 minutes, once tomorrow, once the next day, etc., until you feel comfortable.

Review your problem sets or workbook exercises (if applicable). Such work can serve as a good study guide. Ditto for in-class or midterm exams.

Most skills-based final exams gather together all the students from all the sections of a particular course (Elementary Spanish I, Introduction to Psychology etc.). That can be a lot of people. The exams are often held in large auditoriums. Both factors can be intimidating. Don't be intimidated—just do your own work and complete the exam at your own pace.

N.B. Someone is sure to finish a long before everyone else (after 90 minutes in a 180-minute exam, for example). Ignore him or her and continue at your own pace. No one gets extra points for finishing early.

Before you turn in your exam, overcome your exam fatigue and check it for the "little" errors that, in quantity, can turn into major point losses (masculine/feminine, singular/plural, addition/subtraction, terms, etc.).

* For example, an L1-L4 foreign language course or intro QR course