

SWOT-analysis on studies and learning skills

To make the most out of this course, you should select the assignments that support your personal needs. This SWOT analysis will help you understand what your personal needs concerning the academic skills actually are. Based on this analysis, you can then easily create the self-assessment. The swot analysis is for your personal use only but the self-assessment is a compulsory submission in this course.

The purpose of this SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) -analysis is to evaluate yourself from the perspective of your studies and learning skills/habits. You are more than half-way through your university studies after completing your BSc and possibly working before MSc, so at this point you have already adopted certain manners and ways of working. Now is the time to step back and analyze critically what works well and what doesn't, what needs improvements or changes, what is good to keep. It is not an easy task to analyze one's behavior objectively. The process involves metacognition (thinking about your own thinking) which is a valuable skill as such.

Task:

1. In the start lecture the concept of academic skills and more concretely study skills was explained. More information is also available here: <https://into.aalto.fi/display/enopisk/Study+skills>. Review the materials to make sure you understand what is meant by study skills.
2. Think about your previous studies and the goals you may have for your future studies.
3. From this perspective, ask yourself the following questions and write down your responses in S, W, O and T fields.

STRENGTHS: What am I good at / what qualities/skills/habits do I possess that make studying fluent?

WEAKNESSES: What causes difficulties in studies? What are my bad study habits? What are the qualities / skills that I need to develop that I am aware of?

OPPORTUNITIES: How can I use my STRENGTHS to overcome my weaknesses? Is there some unused potential in me that I have not used in studies yet?

THREATS: What hinders or prevents me from reaching my goals or development as a learner?