

What Data Do We Need?

You would like to find out if **university students who take handwritten notes get better grades than students who take notes on their computer**. In the space below, write about the data you would need to collect in order to answer this question. Consider:

- Over what timeframe would you ideally like to collect your data?
- How would you ensure your sampling is fair?
- How would you measure “better grades”?
- Are there any threats to validity to keep in mind while collecting data?

Data on students’ note-taking preferences, age, grades, and courses would be collected over a minimum of one school year, but ideally the students’ entire time in college.

A representative sample of grade levels and majors should be used, and current grade data should be collected multiple times throughout the year- at minimum at the end of each semester. Ideally, digital and analog note-takers in the same classes would be studied, to control for class and topic variances affecting grades.

Possible threats to validity include not being able to get a representative sample of students, and a lack of consistency in note-taking methods among those studied.