LEARNING STYLES:
THE FOUR MODALITIES

Visual Preference

Students who have a visual strength or preference:

- want the teacher to provide demonstrations
- find it easy to learn through descriptions
- often use lists to keep up and organize thoughts
- often recognize words by sight
- often remember faces but forget names
- often have well developed imaginations
- are easily distracted by movement or action in the classroom
- tend to be unaware of noise
- Roughly 60% of students are visual learners.

Auditory Preference

Students who have an auditory strength or preference

- want the teacher to provide verbal instructions
- find it easy to learn by listening
- enjoy dialogues, discussions, and plays
- often remember names but forget faces
- often do well working out solutions or problems by talking them out
- are easily distracted by noise and often need to work where it is relatively quiet
- often do best using recorded books

Tactile Preference

Students who have a tactile strength or preference:

- do best when they take notes either during a lecture or when reading something new or difficult
- often like to draw or doodle to remember
- do well with hands-on activities such as projects, demonstrations, or labs

Kinesthetic Preference

Students who have a kinesthetic strength or preference:

- do best when they are involved or active
- often have high energy levels
- think and learn best while moving
- often lose much of what is said during lecture
- have problems concentrating when asked to sit and read
- prefer to *do* rather than watch or listen
- Most children are kinesthetic and become more tactile in the first grade

Need More Information?

Check out the **ILS** (Index of Learning Styles) or the **VARK** survey at the CSL

The Center for Student Learning at the Addlestone Library

843.953.5635 **www.cofc.edu/~csl**