## Reading Strategies

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In college, reading should be viewed as a study strategy, rather than an end in itself. Aim to mine key information from a chapter right away, then apply study strategies to that information to learn it.

Reading Goal: Read the textbook thoroughly to extract the most important information key terms, concepts, names, dates, processes, examples, explanations, evidence, supporting details.

Study Goal: Use a review strategy to learn this information: flashcards, flashcard app, outline, study guide, graphic organizer, reading journal. Spend most of study time on review.

## Finding Key Information

Look for formatting dues in your textbook that highlight significant information.

- 1. Key points: headings, terms in bold or italics, boxed information, review questions
- 2. Visual representations: charts, diagrams, graphs, tables, timelines, maps
- Summaries: introductory and conduding paragraphs, chapter goals or objectives, chapter reviews

## Annotating and Marking Texts

Annotate = notate. Develop your own shorthand for textbook and lecture notes.

- 1. Abbreviate, leave out vowels.
- 2. Use symbols or pictures: + \$ 💆 % —>
- 3. Prioritize key information with ! ★
- 4. Use 1, 2, 3 to highlight and relate points in a list or steps in a series.
- 5. Highlight conclusions with =
- 6. Put a? or need to investigate further.
- 7. Create margin notes that identify key terms, names, concepts, dates.
- 8. Write reminders for class discussion, including points or questions you want to raise.
- 9. Highlight only the most important words. Too much is hard to read.

After annotating, transfer key information to your review strategy of choice.

Two Textbook Reading Methods 3R for Academic Survival

- R1 READ: Read the chapter paragraph by paragraph. Re-read What did the
- RECORD: Once you can describe what is in the paragraph, work to retain that knowledge by underlining, annotating, taking notes in a notebook, and making flashcards.
- RECITE: Cover up your notes and recite aloud. Repeat the information to yourself until you can easily recall it. Practice regularly to prepare for quizzes or exams.

SQ3R Method for Thorough Study

**S** SURVEY: