Book IT: Textbook Tactics

Tackling large reading assignments can be overwhelming. This guide will help you read efficiently to save you time and effort, so that you will become a more effective student.

1. Find the right setting to read

- Your study space needs to be comfortable, not too comfortable, like your bed
- Try to avoid distractions: wear earplugs if your environment is loud and cannot control
- If you are uncomfortable with silence, play soft instrumental music

2. Do a preview of the readings assigned

- Make notes of the chapter headings, sub-heading, key terms, charts, graphs, or exercise
- Break the chapter into manageable sections- don't try to read the whole thing at once!
- Use memory tactics, such as outlining, to get the most out of your reading

3. Read for success!

- Read at a study pace; it may also help to read out loud, so you see and hear the words
- Develop your ability to concentrate so you don't lost focus
- Make notes of anything you find confusing so you can ask your professor about later

4. Mark your readings

- Mark up your textbook by highlighting, underlining, or writing notes in your own words
- Remember to only mark important or key information, don't "over highlight"
- Use the information you've marked to add to your lecture notes and other study notes

5. Review your notes and readings

- Review your texts and notes within 24 hours- it greatly improves your memory of the material
- Use markings- this should help to identify vocabulary and give you material for flashcards
- Use notes you made from reading the text in combination with your lecture notes to study

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Recommended Applications:

These apps are suggested to help reading and studying for success. Check out these apps if you are looking for tech resources.

