



How to PREVIEW & PRE-READ Strategically

1. EXPECTATIONS

Set realistic expectations! Don't try to read everything and set a brief amount of time for previewing. Your goal is to survey, not fully understand or remember the content.

2. MATERIALS

Decide which course materials will be most useful as you prepare for lecture. Course slides? Textbook? Syllabus?



3. ORGANIZATION

Make use of the organization of a resource. How are the materials laid out? Are there useful text features that highlight important info?

4. KEY IDEAS

Identify key vocab/images. Pay attention to things that seem to be emphasized and to what you may have questions about.

5. ANNOTATE

Identify and take notes on main ideas. What are some of the big-picture ideas and topics? Highlight, underline, or otherwise note them in the text.



6. QUESTION

Formulate potential questions. What do you not understand at this stage? What is confusing? What would you like to know/have answered during lecture?

Remember: the goal of this phase is to familiarize yourself with the material and prepare to take good notes: not to master it!