Textbook Reading Strategies

Identify the purpose

- Before you start reading, think about what your professor wants you to learn. Are you able to recognize your learning outcomes for that particular reading?

- If you are able to identify what you are learning, it is easier to sort through all of the information and pick out important topics.

Self-monitor your understanding

- Write in your book or place sticky notes throughout your reading. This will remind you to pause and ask yourself questions about what you just read. If you understand, move forward. If not, review the material again.

- Even if you are not able to solve your confusion, you will have a greater understanding of what you do not understand and give you an opportunity to ask your professor or classmates.

Ideas adapted from Sheila Valencia Professor of Language, Literacy, and Culture at the University of Washington Seattle.