

## READING & STUDY TIPS

[www.ucc.vt.edu/stdysk/stdyhelp.html](http://www.ucc.vt.edu/stdysk/stdyhelp.html) \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1) First **recognize** that reading may be the most **demanding** work you will do in college.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2) **Get into the material more often but for shorter periods of time** because learning is improved by changing tasks each hour and by spreading the work over time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3) **Establish a context** with an overview of the material to improve comprehension and retention. Read the introduction, headings, charts, graphs, diagrams, conclusion, & summary; then take a minute to think about the material before beginning to read in depth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4) **Read with a purpose.** Establish a list of questions by turning the headings into questions--and read to answer these. Put ticks in the margins when you think you've found answers. (It's better **not** to take notes, highlight, or underline at this point; you won't know which are the most important points until you are finished.) Take one more run through, focusing on the ticks in the margin and now deciding which are the most important points; **now** you can make an informed judgement, so it's appropriate to highlight, underline, or take notes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5) **Review the material** daily, weekly, & monthly **well before** the next scheduled test.