Reading

*Effective readers are active and constructive because they:*  
- Have a purpose in mind as they read  
- Connect the new to what they know  
- Differentiate the most important from the less important  
- Predict and/or develop questions and look for answers  
- Dare to read critically

*Effective readers use strategies*  
- **Before Reading**  
  - Get rid of distractions  
  - Break into manageable chunks  
  - Set a purpose  
  - *Why am I reading this?* (For class discussion, paper ideas, overview, details, etc.)  
  - Preview the text  
  - *Read title/subtitles, skim overview or intro & conclusion plus any study questions or vocabulary*  
  - Activate prior knowledge by asking  
    - *What is this text about?*  
    - *What do I already know about this topic?*  
  - Predict

- **During Reading**  
  - Consider reading rate & adjust according to purpose  
  - Ask and predict in order to monitor comprehension  
    - *Try turning subheadings into questions*  
    - *What are the author’s main topics and subtopics?*  
    - *What are the supporting details?*  
    - *What is the underlying pattern of organization?*  
    - *What is the critical vocabulary?*  
  - Try summarizing each section after reading if material is dense  
  - Highlight, underline, and/or take notes (outline, tree/bubble, Cornell…)  
  - Write down questions you have & possible paper or test questions  
  - Take breaks if reading for more than ½-1 hour

- **After Reading**  
  - Write a short summary (few paragraphs to 2 pages)  
  - Possibly make flashcards of key concepts and terms  
  - Review author’s credibility, reliability and evidence cited  
  - Review your perspective/opinion
READING RATES:

**SKIMMING** = fast paced reading used to get the general idea (read 1st & last paragraphs or intro & conclusion, then read 1st and last sentence of each paragraph)

**SCANNING** = fast paced reading used to look for a specific item or piece of information (remember to use index/table of contents!)

**RAPID READING** = used to determine main idea and a few details or when reviewing familiar material

**NORMAL READING RATE** = used for identifying details, important relationships, finding answers to questions or solving problems

**STUDY READING RATE** = used to master, analyze or evaluate information or ideas