When you are new to university study, the amount of reading you are expected to do can be daunting. However, you can learn how to prepare yourself in advance and find ways to make it easier. The following resources outline tips for effective reading and note-taking.

Effective reading

Lengthy reading lists for courses and essays can be frightening, particularly when the subject is unfamiliar. This guide assists with reading strategies you will find helpful.

Reading for understanding (SQW3R method)

Reading is one of the core activities of study. You need to be able to understand what you read and to be able to recall the main ideas when you need them. You can use this SQW3R method of study to improve your reading comprehension, to remember readings for tutorials, seminars or to revise for exams.

Note-taking strategies for lectures and tutorials
Here is an outline of effective note-taking strategies to help you get the most out of lectures and tutorials. The guide suggests procedures such as symbols and abbreviations, diagrams and tips for electronic devices.

**Taking notes from your reading**

Make your notes count. Discover a simple method to use when you are making notes from any written sources of information.

**Selecting information for your assignments**

When you select material and information for your assignments, it should never be used indiscriminately should be a continual evaluation process occurring. This guide features a list of questions you should ask yourself when examining information.

---

**Essay and Assignment Writing**

Resources to help you with essay and assignment writing

**Individual consultations**

One-on-one support and advice about assignment writing

**Science and Engineering Writing**

Resources tailored to Engineering and Science students

---

![Image](https://student.unsw.edu.au/effective-reading-and-note-taking)