The Study Cycle

1. Preview
   - Use syllabus to identify relevant text/notes to preview.
   - Scan introduction, chapter headings, keywords, diagrams, and summary.
   - Formulate questions you want to answer.

2. Read/Take Notes
   - Use Cornell note-taking system during lectures.
   - Listen/Read actively; find answers to your questions.
   - Mark unclear concepts/topics to review.
   - Synthesize lecture & readings.

3. Organize & Review
   - Clarify unclear concepts with text, professor, TA, and other students.
   - Summarize main ideas.
   - Create flashcards, charts, diagrams, timelines, etc., to organize information and illustrate relationships.

4. Self-Test
   - Explain ideas out loud.
   - Write and answer practice test questions.
   - Formulate a study group and quiz each other.
   - Apply concepts to real world situations or problem solving.

5. Test
   - Arrive early & with all necessary materials to reduce anxiety.
   - Think clearly and demonstrate what you have learned.
   - Use appropriate test-taking strategies.

6. Prepare
   - Analyze returned test.
   - Think realistically & manage your time with a study schedule for the next test.
   - If concerned about course grade, see your professor.

Adapted from: The University of Texas Learning Center.