T³: Today's Teaching Tip

Before, During and After

If you ask students what they know about the content before arriving at class, and they almost always say "Nothing," read on....

- Students seem to plan to learn the material **after** class, causing an unnecessary cycle of complication.
- So, during class, they focus on taking notes, often consisting of intimidating words and inaccessible concepts.
- Attempting to study after class often leads to frustration, avoidance and procrastination.
- To break this destructive study cycle, students must recognize the importance of being prepared **before** the class/lecture.
- So, encourage students to: (1) spend 30 minutes reading notes **before** class, (2) **during** class remember and ask the questions you noted in 1, (3) **after** class, compare what you prepared with what was discussed in class.

Adapted from an article by Angela Zanardelli Sickler.