Faculty Matter Teaching Tip #4:  
Reading Support

One of the greatest challenges for faculty is that students often come to class not having completed assigned readings. This makes it difficult for them to participate in discussion, and it may also make it difficult for them to follow the material you have planned for the day.

**Spend 5 minutes at the end of class going over key points in the readings you are asking students to do for the next class period.** This type of advance organizer will enable them to place what you are asking them to read in a more meaningful and comprehensible context.

**Spend 5-10 minutes at the beginning of class having students discuss (in pairs or in small groups) two or three quick questions about the readings.** Students can assist one another in clarifying the readings, or bring their collective confusion, if any, to you. You may want to have students turn in notes from their discussions, or something similar, as evidence that they had something to contribute to the conversation.