Tips for critical reading

	Do	Don't
Reading Lists and Sources	DO use your module reading lists and library subject guides to source texts	DON'T worry about approaching tutors or your academic liaison librarian for guidance
Pre-reading	DO use pre-reading strategies before you start taking notes, to support your understanding of the text	DON'T launch into the reading without any preparation or context
Questioning	DO question, question, question	DON'T just accept what you read as factual, truthful or reliable
Objectivity	DO analyse texts objectively and consider the value of arguments presented	DON'T be blinded by your own view on a subject
Evaluation	DO evaluate sources for currency, relevance, authority, accuracy, purpose	DON'T make assumptions about a text's quality just because it is written by an expert and on a reading list
Bigger Picture	DO evaluate how your reading fits into the bigger picture within the field, topic or module	DON'T view texts in isolation
Making connections	DO make links with other texts you have read and compare and contrast ideas, concepts and approaches	DON'T forget to cross-reference these connections within your notes
Reviewing	DO use active strategies like Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Review (SQR3) to try to consolidate your understanding	DON'T forget to plan in time to review/recall what you have read