Reading Comprehension and Analysis

READ 0302

Course Description:

READ 0302 provides instruction in critical reading and thinking skills necessary for college reading and research. It includes instruction in critical analysis, critical interpretation, and advanced instruction in vocabulary and literal comprehension. The course is designed for students who have mastered literal comprehension skills but desire mastery of higher-order thinking and reading skills. Prerequisite: READ 0301 or a satisfactory score on the THEA or approved alternative test. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec). Class time will be used for introduction of skills, for discussion, and for guided practice. Since class time will not provide time for sufficient practice, students are encouraged to go to the Reading Support Lab in the Writing Center for additional practice.

Required Textbooks & Materials: (To access updated information on textbooks, please visit www.bkstr.com) One or more of the following textbooks will be used in the course:


Supplementary textbooks: The following textbook may also be required:


Instructor Information:

Instructor’s name: Nancy Isaacs
Course Objectives:

**Vocabulary Objectives:** When encountering unfamiliar vocabulary, the student will be able to:

- Use a variety of context clues to determine meanings
- Use the dictionary and thesaurus to ascertain meanings
- Students may also be expected to master a selection of affixes

**Literal Comprehension Objectives:** After reading a selection or passage the student will be able to:

- Determine the specific topic selection or passage
- Determine the thesis or main idea selection or passage
- Identify all major supporting details of the thesis (main idea)
- Identify all minor supporting details of the thesis
- Summarize the selection or passage
- Outline or map the selection
- Identify and use signal words to determine organizational patterns
- Determine the predominant and secondary organizational patterns

**Graphics Objectives:** When encountering graphics during reading, the student will be able to:
• Analyze graphic materials (topic, thesis, major and minor details, type, pattern of organization, inference or conclusions)

**Critical Comprehension and Analysis Objectives:** After reading an article, essay or research selection, the student will be able to:

• Determine the issue or topic
• Identify supporting evidence
• Make valid inferences and draw appropriate conclusions based on the information in the article
• Identify the author’s purpose for writing
• Identify the author’s point of view or bias on the topic or issue
• Identify the author’s tone regarding the topic
• Distinguish among facts, expert or informed opinions, and personal opinions
• Define or translate meanings of figurative language
• Use other reasoning and evaluative skills as needed

**Textbook Study Objectives:** When reading long textbook assignments the student will be able to:

• Select and apply appropriate reading and annotating strategies.
• Prepare appropriate study outlines, study summaries, maps, or notes
Instructor’s Plan

Nancy Isaacs

June 6, 2011   Syllabus, Textbook, Assignment sheets,
Get acquainted activity

June 6-13, 2011 Critical Comprehension Unit

June 14, 2011   Mastery Test 1

June 14-23, 2011   Literal Comprehension, Outlining, Summarizing, Textbook
Organizational Patterns, and Context Clues

June 27, 2011   Mastery Test 2

June 27-29, 2011   Graphical Comprehension

June 30, 2011   Mastery Test 3

July 5, 2011   Student evaluations and finish semester requirements

July 6, 2011   Final Exam, part 1

July 7, 2011   Final Exam, part 2

July 11, 2011   Required conferences
MCC Attendance Policy:

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students, and each instructor will maintain a complete record of attendance for the entire length of each course, including online and hybrid courses. Students will be counted absent from class meetings missed, beginning with the first official day of classes. Students, whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades. Absence from 25 percent of scheduled lecture and/or laboratory meetings will be taken as evidence that a student does not intend to complete the course, and the student will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W.

Note: Students interested in seeing the class attendance policy in its entirety should check the Highlander Guide or the MCC policy manual.

ADA Statement:

In accordance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the regulations published by the United States Department of Justice 28 C.F.R. 35.107(a), MCC’s designated ADA co-coordinators, Mr. Gene Gooch - Vice President, Finance and Administration, and Dr. Santos Martinez - Vice President, Student Services, shall be responsible for coordinating the College’s efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under ADA. Students with disabilities requiring physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact Mr. Marcus Sweatt, Disabilities Specialist, at 299-8122 or msweatt@mclennan.edu.

Academic Integrity Statement

The Center for Academic Integrity, of which McLennan Community College is a member, defines academic integrity as “a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behavior that enable academic communities to translate ideals into action.” Individual faculty members determine their class policies and behavioral expectations for students. Students who commit violations of academic integrity should expect serious consequences. For further information about student responsibilities and rights, please consult the McLennan Community College website and the Highlander Student Guide.

Final Grade in Course

The final grade for this course will be A, B, C or No Credit (NC).

Determination of the Final Grade in the Course

Mastery Tests

10% Mastery Test #1 (Retake exam provided)
10% Mastery Test #2 (Retake exam provided)

10% Mastery Test #3 (Retake exam provided)

**Daily Work**

10% Article Analyses Unit 1 Critical Comprehension

10% Article Analyses Unit 2 Literal Comprehension/Vocabulary/Text Organization

10% Graph Analyses Unit 3 Graphical Comprehension

**Final Exam**

40% Final Exam

Daily work assignments will be done in class. No late assignments will be accepted. Students will be allowed to turn in bonus articles/graphs/vocabulary exercises to make up missed work. The bonus articles will be due at the beginning of class on the test day. Students who are tardy to class will not receive full credit on the daily assignment that is being done when the student arrives. Students who do not achieve a 70 or above on the skills on the Mastery Test will take the re-take exam. If the student does not take the regularly scheduled mastery test, no retake will be allowed. There will be a final exam for this course. The final exam consists of two parts. Both parts must be taken. There is a required conference at the end of the semester. The conference will be by phone, e-mail or in my office. Students will sign-up for the conferences during the last week of classes.

**Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policies**

Any behavior that disrupts the learning process will be grounds for dismissal from the class. Unacceptable behavior includes excessive lateness, leaving early without instructor’s permission, and talking in class. Cell phone usage (phone conversations and text messaging) is prohibited during class.