

## **Critical Reading**

### **RDG 100**

Instr.: Mr. Flood

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## **Course Description**

This course covers the application of basic reading skills to improve critical comprehension and higher order thinking skills.

## **Prerequisites**

Students must have acceptable placement scores or satisfactory completion of Reading 032.

## **Required Textbooks**

Flemming, Laraine. *Reading for Thinking, Fifth edition*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2006.

A quality dictionary. Recommended: *American Heritage Dictionary*. *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*.

**Note:** By the end of the first week of classes, ALL students are **required** to have the textbook. College policy states that students who do not have textbooks will be asked to leave the class and not return until they acquire the textbook. This policy will be strictly enforced so that each student has every opportunity to do his or her best in the course.

## **Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the course, students will

- Be able to identify the elements of different types of printed materials
- Be able to distinguish between fact and opinion
- Be able to evaluate the accuracy and authority of information
- Be able to determine word meaning from the context of the word(s)
- Be able to apply the transfer of reading skills to the written composition
- Demonstrate the expansion of vocabulary by defining and applying terms in a range of contexts

## **Statement of College-Wide Student Competencies**

Graduates will be able to comprehend and generate written and oral communication necessary for success in their lives and chosen careers.

## **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend class and be punctual. Absences are detrimental to the learning process.

The following is a list of allowed absences:

Summer term – Day classes - 8 allowed absences, Evening classes – 2 allowed absences

Fall and Spring terms – MWF classes – 9 allowed absences

MW or T-TH classes – 6 allowed absences

Evening classes – 3 allowed absences

Tardy policy – Habitual tardiness will NOT BE TOLERATED. For all MWF classes, 3 tardies are excusable. For MW and T-Th classes, 2 tardies are excusable. For Spring and Fall evening classes, 3 tardies are excusable. For summer day classes, 3 tardies are excusable. For summer evening classes, 2 tardies are excusable. Additional tardies may be counted as absences. A student with excessive absences will be dropped from the course with an NC (No Credit).

Students will not be allowed to make up quizzes missed due to absences OR tardies. Tests must be made up on the first day a student returns to class. Make-up testing is conducted and monitored in the Success Center.

**Grading**

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 and below

**Course Evaluation**

Tests	20%
Reports	20%
Articles	25%
Vocabulary	25%
Homework/quizzes	10%

**Withdrawal Policy**

Students who wish to withdraw from a class must initiate their own withdrawal. Withdrawals with a grade of “W” will be awarded through midterm regardless of the student’s academic performance; however, after midterm, a grade of “WF” (withdraw failing) will be awarded if the student is failing class. Please be aware that withdrawal from any class can have a negative effect on any financial assistance.

**Statement on Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Vice-President for Student Services to discuss needs or concerns as they pursue an academic program and participate in campus life. The Vice-President for Student Services will provide guidance regarding official documentation of disabilities/accommodation of needs. (See NETC Course Catalog p. 16).

**Statement on Academic Dishonesty**

All students are reminded of the college policy regarding academic dishonesty as outlined in the Student Code Handbook, pp. 9-11. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Should a student submit an assignment or complete a test that is not entirely his or her own work, or use unauthorized materials, or not follow assignment guidelines, said student will receive a grade of 0/F for that assignment.

**Class Policy**

Sleeping in class is rude and inconsiderate and will not be tolerated. Students should not put their heads down on their desks. The cue for students to turn off cell phones is when the instructor is taking attendance. To maintain classroom integrity (cheating, distracting others, etc.), text messaging will not be tolerated. Using phones to take pictures is forbidden in class. Students **may** be given one warning, after which any infraction will be communicated to Student Services and handled accordingly. Again, read your Student Code Handbook. Abusive and disruptive behavior will not be tolerated to any degree.

## **Reading 100**

### **Course Schedule**

**GRAMMAR ASSIGNMENTS/QUIZZES WILL BE ADDED INTO SCHEDULE ON A REGULAR BASIS.**

#### **Week 1**

Intro to course – review syllabus  
Discuss vocab assignments – Assign vocab 1  
Ch. 1 pp. 12-22  
Discuss and assign book report – library visit  
Begin ch. 2 pp. 53-90

#### **Week 2**

Basic MLA citation instruction  
Vocab 1 sentences due – quiz on vocab 1  
Assign vocab 2  
Discuss article assignments – assign article 1  
Begin ch. 3 pp. 91-144

#### **Week 3**

**Test** – Ch. 1 and 2  
Conclude ch. 3  
Article 1 due – quiz on art. 1  
Vocab 2 sentences due – quiz  
Book report and further MLA discussion – **Setting**  
Assign vocab 3

#### **Week 4**

**Test** Ch. 3  
Ch. 2, 4, 5 – pp. 60-72, 181-209, 237-267  
Vocab 3 sentences due – quiz  
Assign article 2  
Assign vocab 4  
Book report discussion – **Characterization**

#### **Week 5**

Ch. 2, 4, 5 (continued)  
Vocab 4 sentences due – quiz  
Assign vocab 5  
Article 2 due – quiz

#### **Week 6**

Ch. 2, 4, 5 – (continued)  
Vocab 5 sentences due – quiz  
Book report discussion – **Plot/Conflict**  
Assign vocab 6

#### **Week 7**

**Test** – Ch. 2, 4, 5 (**MIDTERM**)  
Assign article 3  
Vocab 6 sentences due – quiz  
Assign vocab 7

**Week 8**

Article 3 due – quiz  
Vocab 7 sentences due – quiz  
Assign vocab 8  
Ch. 6 pp. 291-326

**Week 9**

Book report discussion - **Theme**  
Vocab 8 sentences due – quiz  
Assign article 4  
Assign vocab 9  
Ch. 6 (continued)

**Week 10**

Article 4 due – quiz  
Vocab 9 sentences due – quiz  
**Putting it all together - Book report rough draft due**  
Assign vocab 10  
**Test** – Ch. 6  
Works Cited page prep and further MLA instruction

**Week 11**

**Book report due**  
Ch. 7 and 8, pp. 358-378, 395-417  
Vocab 10 sentences due – quiz

**Week 12**

Research assignment discussion – topics assigned (Tentative topics for research – American pop culture)  
Ch. 7 and 8 (continued)  
Student self-selected article assignment

**Week 13**

Ch. 9, pp. 444-483  
Further research assignment discussion – Thesis and outline  
Self-selected article assignment due  
Library research

**Week 14**

Week of review and research  
Ch. 9 (continued)

**Week 15**

**Research assignment thesis and outline due**  
Student self-selected article assignment  
Review ch. 7-9  
Library research  
Vocab assignment TBA

**Week 16**

**Research assignment due 1<sup>st</sup> class of week**  
Self-selected article assignment due  
Vocab quiz

**Week 17 – Final exam**