  Online Reading Techniques II Syllabus

**REA 0017**

**Session I, 2014**

**Co-requisite:** REA 0017 with lab              **Instructor:** Dr. Laura Smith

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**Office Hours:** 9:30- 4:00 M-R

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**Required Texts:**

Langan, J. (2014*) Ten Steps to Advancing College Reading Skills ,6th ed.*   NEW EDITION

**Welcome to Reading Techniques II – Online!**

During the session, I’ll work diligently to ensure you gain the most knowledge possible to improve your reading skills. The reading class and the lab are both at this site. Please read the syllabus so you understand the policies for the course, especially the grading policy. There will be both a midterm and a final reading exam. You will take them on this web site. You do not have to go to a proctored site.

**Common Course Description:**  Prerequisite: [REA 0007](http://www.spcollege.edu/popcourse/REA-0007) or an appropriate score on the SPC placement test. This college preparatory reading course improves vocabulary skills, reading comprehension, and study strategies. Three class hours and two lab hours for a total of five hours weekly. (NOTE: A student cannot enroll in REA 0017 after receiving credit for [REA 1105](http://www.spcollege.edu/popcourse/REA-1105). Credit for REA 0017 cannot be used toward graduation.) 77 contact hours.

**Course Objectives**:

**1.** Student will demonstrate improvement of literal comprehension skills in selected passages by…

**a**. identifying the topic and stated main idea in a multi-paragraph selection in print and online.

**b**. distinguishing between major and minor details in a multi-paragraph selection.

**c**. identifying specific information in a multi-paragraph selection.

**d**. identifying and using contextual clues to determine the meaning of words in multiple sentences

**e**. vocabulary using contextual clues and structural analysis (prefixes, suffixes, and roots) to clarify meanings and broaden academic vocabulary

**2.** The student will demonstrate improvement of critical comprehension skills in selected passages by…

**a**. identifying the implied main idea in a multi-paragraph selection in print and online.

**b**. analyzing the author's primary purpose.

**c.** analyzing the author's tone and support with examples, including denotative meaning, connotative meaning and figurative language.

**d**. evaluating the author’s use of facts and opinions.

**e**. detecting bias.

**f.** synthesizing the information in a text in order to make inferences and draw logical conclusions.

**g.** analyzing the details to infer what the author is implying and drawing logical conclusions in paragraphs and multi-paragraph selections.

**h.** determining the primary and secondary patterns of organization of paragraph and multi-paragraph  selections such as comparison and

       contrast, cause and effect, problem to solution and identifying the transition words that are associated with each pattern.

**i.**  identifying the relationships between and/or with sentences.

**j.** determining whether an argument is logical, relevant, and adequate based on the evidence provide in a passage.

**3.** The student will develop study strategies for reading in the content areas by organizing study time, using note-taking skills, applying study/reading techniques, and test-taking competencies.

*Upon successful completion of the course, the student will demonstrate a minimum of* ***70%*** *mastery for each of the above stated objectives through classroom measures developed by individual course instructors and will attain at least the minimum passing score on a final exam.*

**Attendance Policy**

SPC requires online instructors to monitor student attendance/participation in educational activities on a weekly basis. Students are required to participate in their online course each week as verified by activity within the Learning Management System. **For this course, Dr. Smith will take attendance based on your completion of quizzes and/or tests during the week they are due.** Students may be withdrawn automatically at the beginning of the term for non-payment of course fees. You may withdraw yourself with a grade of “W” only if you withdraw yourself on or before October 23. During the week following October 23. If you are not actively participating in a class, you will be withdrawn with a “WF.” When you exceed two weeks of unexcused or otherwise undocumented absence, you will either be administratively withdrawn with a “W” if this occurs before October 23. in the term, or be given a grade of “WF” if it occurs after October 23. Excused absences will not count against you. Students who abandon the course or do not withdraw themselves by October 23 will receive a "WF.” Students can drop a course during the first week of class and receive a full refund. If this is your third time taking the course, you cannot withdraw, so if you do not complete the requirements of the course, you will receive an “F.”

I understand travel and personal problems; however, an online class provides the opportunity to work around these obstacles. If you travel, take a portable computer with you. After all, that is one of the benefits of taking an online class.

Some universities interpret Ws, Xs, and Is as F's when calculating grade point averages (GPAs).

**Grading Policy**

Reading Quizzes24

Midterm Exam              20

Final Exam                    20

Vocabulary Tests          10

Lab Exercises                26

                                     100 points

**Tests and Quizzes:**  
When you decide to take a test or a quiz, the program is designed to let you take a test or quiz only once (making future use unavailable for a grade) and it is also graded immediately following completion. When you open the quiz, the timer begins, so do not leave and come back the next day, you will not be able to access the quiz unless it states unlimited time. The reading quizzes and tests have the first submission as your grade. **The following grading scale will be used**:

**A**  90 - 100     and successful completion of the final exam

**B**  80 - 89       and successful completion of the final exam

**C** 70 - 79       and successful completion of the final exam

**F** 69              and below and successful completion of the final exam

**N**    This is a non-punitive grade and means the student has progressed in the course but not attained the level required for passing the course. The student needs to re-register for the course. Circumstances will be discussed with the instructor.

**Assignments:**

Because of the nature of an online course, do not leave homework for the weekends; plan on doing some work every day. In fact, schedule a time to "meet" your class. The reading for this course is plentiful; a lot is required in a session, so I suggest you read ahead whenever possible. The online environment will necessitate your responsibility to respond to all tests and quizzes in the allotted time-frame. **Weekly assignments are posted in the weekly folders.**

**Participation:** There will not be many discussions since this course focuses on you improving critical reading skills for college success. You will have the opportunity to enter into meaningful dialog by responding to exercises from your textbook as well as assignments from web sites which relate to the course objectives. Each week I will post a lecture and/or lectures followed by assignments.

**Instructor Availability:**  
Feedback and comments from me will generally be provided to each of you through the online e-mail. If you have any questions, need clarification, or would just like to talk, I will check my online e-mail every evening between 6-9 p.m. EST. I also respond on weekends.

**Midterm and Final** **Exam Policy:** There is a midterm and final exam on this web site.  You need to complete all of the assignments prior to the midterm and also all of the remaining assignments prior to the final exam, so you do well.

**COURSE REPEAT POLICY:**  
New state policy requires that students in college preparatory courses who repeat a course for the third time must pay the full cost of instruction. This means that tuition will be charged at the out-of-state rate for the third and any subsequent attempts in any college preparatory course.

**Attention Students: The Special Notes are an important part of the syllabus and can be easily accessed by this link, so do take the time to read this very important information:** <http://www.spcollege.edu/addendum/index.php>

**Student Resources:**  
Students attending an online class are required to have the following:  
1. personal computer and modem and Internet service provider  
3. Internet browser – recommend Chrome or FireFox  
4. e-mail address

**Computer Requirements:**

Some of our online courses as well as our Web enhanced courses have a moderate degree of interactivity and WWW enhancements. Therefore, we recommend the following minimum computer requirements so you may successfully experience on-line learning.

**Minimum Computer Requirements:** A Multimedia ready, desktop or tower computer with a Pentium II 350 MHz, Processor, 128 MB RAM (256 is preferred), dial up Internet connection, (a cable or DSL connection is preferred), a sound card with speakers and a printer.

**Minimum Software Requirements:** Netscape Communicator 4.0+ or Internet Explorer 4.0+, WinZip (suggested).

**Student Survey of Instruction**

Every student is expected to complete the Student Survey of Instruction survey which will be available online about three quarters of the way through the class.  The survey is used to determine the strengths and weakness of the course material and instruction.  It is anonymous, and students will be able to check NA (not applicable) to every question if they wish to do so.  We hope that all students will take the time and provide us with the evaluation feedback which is so helpful in improving our courses and College.