

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE  
SYLLABUS

## RDG 121 COLLEGE READING SKILLS

Credit Hours: 3 Lec 3

PREREQUISITE: Appropriate reading score

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Intensive and critical examination of fiction and nonfiction more appropriate to the college level. Emphasis upon reading standard textbook format and technical selections; identification of main ideas, implied main ideas, and conclusions; vocabulary development via word parts and specialized vocabulary; critical reading focusing on bias, argument and tone; writing includes note-taking and summarizing.

1. COURSE GOALS

- 1.1 Understand the structure of reading.
- 1.2 Use a variety of texts to read and understand.
- 1.3 Develop strategies to improve their vocabularies.
- 1.4 Take notes and write summaries of textbook selections.
- 1.5 Acquire strategies to become lifelong learners responsible for learning.

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 determine the topic, main idea, and supporting details from selected texts.
- 2.2 determine the writer's purpose for selected texts.
- 2.3 determine the organizational patterns present in selected texts.
- 2.4 use the dictionary, context clues, and word parts to develop his/her vocabulary.
- 2.5 apply the critical reading strategies of bias, argument, and tone to selected reading texts.
- 2.6 write notes, summarize, and paraphrase selected textbook passages.
- 2.7 use reading strategies of prior thinking, previewing, reciting, reviewing, and note-taking when reading texts.
- 2.8 use the study reading strategy, SQ4R, and/or other study-reading strategies.
- 2.9 demonstrate study strategies for time management and organization of notes and assignments.
- 2.10 demonstrate study strategies to improve concentration, memory, and taking notes.
- 2.11 understand the difference between summaries, and personal responses, and write both.
- 2.12 develop speed in reading.
- 2.13 demonstrate ability to read a variety of texts.
- 2.14 monitor and take responsibility for their own learning.

3. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 3.1 Lectures
- 3.2 Discussion
- 3.3 Individual assignments
- 3.4 Group collaboration
- 3.5 Group discussion
- 3.6 Videos and/or DVDs
- 3.7 Audio resources
- 3.8 Outside resources and/or Guest Speakers

4. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 Reading of assigned texts, books, and internet sources

- 4.2 Exercises to assess comprehension of selected and assigned readings
- 4.3 Participate in class discussion
- 4.4 Participate in oral reading activities
- 4.5 Read selected materials chosen to meet student's particular need and ability
- 4.6 Use appropriate computer programs

## 5. EVALUATION

- 5.1 Placement, pre- and post (exit)- testing
- 5.2 Tests and quizzes over course materials
- 5.3 Final exam
- 5.4 Class assignments
- 5.5 Class participation and contribution to learning climate of the class
- 5.6 Speed Reading development

## 6. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 6.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 6.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 6.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.
- 6.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.
- 6.6 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for “No Show” reporting during the first 10 days of each semester.  
Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a “No Show” (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of “NS” on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid.  
For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):
  - Submitting an academic assignment
  - Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
  - Attending a study group that is assigned by the school
  - Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
  - Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course