**English 11**

**Academic Reading and Critical Thinking**

**Instructor Information**

* Professor Ms. Natasha Maryanow
* Email: natasha.maryanow@reedleycollege.edu (response within 24 hours on weekdays)
* Office hours: Wednesdays 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. via ConferZoom/email or by appointment.

**Course Description**

This is a transfer-level course designed to introduce students to critical thinking as critical reading in academic discourse. Students will analyze, interpret, critically evaluate, and advocate ideas. This course covers literal and critical thinking levels of academic reading, and it is designed in modules focusing on specific academic reading themes, content areas, and strategies. This is a variable-unit course, and students may take from 0.5 to 3 units. This course can be taken in conjunction with any college course where students read, analyze, and evaluate academic texts. (A, CSU)

**Study Hours**

Students are expected to study on average 24-27 hours per 0.5 units. Please look at your calendar to identify the time that you will spend studying for this class.

**Textbook and Materials**

All materials are available for free through the course modules.

**Communication Policy**

* If you have a question or concern regarding this course, please contact me via email; I will respond within 24 hours. Include your name, student ID number, section number and topic of the email in the subject line. If you do not hear from me within 24 hours, please resend your email.
* You can also reach me via the phone during my regular office hours. If I do not answer the phone, please leave your name, section number, phone number and explain the reason for your call; I will get back to you within 24 hours on weekdays.
* If you would like to meet with me in person, please see me during my regular office hours. You may also see me by appointment if needed.

**Attendance and Participation**

Students are required to actively participate in scheduled activities in modules. These activities might include discussions, assignment submissions, quizzes and tests, etc. Failure to participate in a graded activity or failure to submit an assignment will count as an absence; in addition, it will negatively affect your grade.

**Late Work**

Late assignments are not accepted; exceptions might be made only by pre-arrangement with instructor or in cases of severe illness or family distress (upon verifiable proof).

**Grades**

| Letter Grade  | Percentage | Credit/No Credit |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A | 90%-100% | Credit |
| B | 80%-89% | Credit |
| C | 70%-79% | Credit |
| D | 60%-69% | No Credit |
| F | 59% and below | No Credit |

**Weighted Grading Structure**

| Assignment Type | Percentage |
| --- | --- |
| Discussions | 20% |
| Quizzes | 20% |
| Assignments, Projects, and Essays | 60 |

**Important Dates**

May25 (T) Instruction begins for 4- and 10-week classes

June 19 (F) Final examinations; end of 4-week classes

**Course Outcomes**

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

1. Analyze academic texts on literal comprehension level
2. Analyze academic texts on critical thinking level
3. Apply active reading strategies to reading academic material

**Course Objectives**

1.      Apply active reading strategies to reading academic material: reading as a process, metacognition, and annotations.

2.      Apply vocabulary skills by using context clues, morphological clues, and dictionary to discern word meanings.

3.      Identify structure of academic texts by finding the topic, stated or implied main idea, and supporting details.

4.      Identify author's thought patterns/patterns of organization.

5.      Create a summary, outline, or map that reflects the text's structure and thought pattern.

6.      Draw inferences based on textual evidence.

7.      Differentiate fact from opinion.

8.      Evaluate author's intent by analyzing author's point of view, intended audience, tone, and purpose.

9.      Evaluate arguments by identifying its structure, relevancy and adequacy of support, bias, and logical fallacies.

10.  Conduct guided research and evaluate the competence of information gained from research.

11.  Apply various formatting styles (e.g. MLA, APA, etc.)

**Cheating and Plagiarism Policy**

* Cheating is the actual or attempted practice of fraudulent or deceptive acts for the purpose of improving one’s grade or obtaining course credit; such acts also include assisting another student to do so. Typically, such acts occur in relation to examinations.  However, it is the intent of this definition that the term ‘cheating’ not be limited to examination situations only, but that it include any and all actions by a student that are intended to gain an unearned academic advantage by fraudulent or deceptive means.  Cheating may include, but is not limited to, copying from another’s work, supplying one’s work to another, giving or receiving copies of examinations without an instructor’s permission, using or displaying notes or devices inappropriate to the conditions of the examination, allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student, of failing to disclose research results completely.
* Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating which consists of the misuse of the published and/or unpublished works of others by misrepresenting the material so used as one’s own work. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated indifferent courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and copyrights.
* All incidents of cheating and plagiarism will be regarded very seriously and will result in any of a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on the particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor.
* PLAGIARIZED ASSIGNMENTS WILL RECEIVE **ZERO CREDIT**. If concepts of plagiarism and/or cheating are confusing to you, make sure to speak to me.

**Important Information and Helpful Suggestions**

* If you have a verifiable need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; please contact the DSP&S office at (559) 638-0332 or TTY (559) 638-0382.
* It is student’s responsibility to officially withdraw from a course. Failure to do so may result in an “F”.
* Keep track of deadlines and all graded assignments (keep all of them!). If any questions arise about your grade, you may be asked to produce graded work for verification. You are responsible for keeping track of your work *and* your grade.
* All work done in this course must be in Standard English and MLA format. I reserve the right to return work that is incomprehensible and/or illegible.
* Should there be any questions or concerns, please communicate them to your instructor as soon as possible. E-mail me, call me, or see me during the office hours or by appointment.

**Computer/Network Equipment Use Policy**

Every State Center Community College District (SCCCD) student is permitted to use a District owned computer/network. As a condition of this use, each student agrees to:

* use the computer/network for educational purposes only and not for any commercial purpose or financial gain;
* use the computer and software in an ethical manner; this means he/she will respect the security of the District’s computer system and will not illegally gain access to any network, hardware or software;
* not take or copy any copyrighted or patented software or any part of such software; further, he/she agrees not to install/uninstall any program or software, including shareware programs, on the computer;
* not use the electronic mail system for any illegal or illicit purpose, including solicitation; the District reserves the right to monitor all computer activities on its computers; the student agrees to abide by the rules of any other computer system that he/she may contact through the Internet;
* not transmit any communication in which the meaning of the message or its transmission or distribution would violate any applicable law or regulation or be offensive to the recipient or recipients; and
* not search, view or download pornographic material through any means.

It is understood that information, programs or data a stu­dent obtains from the Internet are used at his/her own risk. He/she is responsible for any damage caused by malicious programs, commonly known as viruses, received from the Internet.

Each student is expected to abide by the [SCCCD Use Policy](https://www.scccd.edu/departments/information-systems/scccd-use-policy.html). The District is the sole determiner of the inter­pretation and application of the Acceptable Use Policy. It is understood that if a student violates any of the above rules, he/she is subject to removal from the computer facility as well as discipline as a student.

**Required Software**

* [Firefox](https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/) or [Chrome](https://www.google.com/chrome/browser/desktop/index.html)
* [Adobe Reader](https://acrobat.adobe.com/us/en/acrobat/pdf-reader.html)
* [Microsoft Office 365](https://products.office.com/en-us/student/office-in-education)

**Helpful Links**

* [DSP&S Office](https://www.reedleycollege.edu/student-services/disabled-student-programs-and-services/index.html)
* [Reading and Writing Center Online](http://www.reedleycollege.edu/academics/tutoring-services/reading-and-writing-center/reading-and-writing-center-online.html)
* [Online Student Readiness Tutorials](http://apps.3cmediasolutions.org/oei/students.html)
* [Canvas Student Guide](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-4121#jive_content_id_Introduction)

***I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus.***