# English 11: Academic Reading and Critical Thinking

## Instructor Information



* Instructor: Ms. Natasha Maryanow
* Office: Forum 8
* Phone: (559) 494-3000; Ext. 3611
* Email: natasha.maryanow@reedleycollege.edu (response within 24 hours on weekdays)
* Student Chat/Office Hours: [Mondays and Fridays 10:00 to 10:50 am via Zoom](https://scccd.zoom.us/j/98980998152); Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10:00 to 10:50 am in Forum 8; Thursdays 12:00 to 12:50 pm in Forum 8; 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. (CSU, A)

## Study Hours

Students earn 0.5 units for about 22-27 hours of studying. Please look at your weekly calendar to identify the time that you will spend in this class.

## Textbook and Materials

All materials are free and available through the course modules.

## Communication Policy

* If you have a question regarding this course, please contact me via email; I will respond within 24 hours on weekdays. 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.
* If you would like to meet with me, see me during my regular student chat/office hours. You are also welcome to see me by appointment when needed.

## Drops

Students could be dropped from the course as no shows if they do not log into class on Canvas on the first day. Students may also be dropped if they do not to submit two assignments by the end of week two or three assignments by the end of week four.

## Attendance and Participation

Students are encouraged to actively participate in scheduled activities every week. 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 generally accepted; exceptions might be made on a case-by-case basis (upon verifiable proof).

## Academic Dishonesty, AI, Cheating, and Plagiarism Policy

### ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students at Reedley College are entitled to the best education that the college can make available to them; and they, their instructors, and their fellow students share the responsibility to ensure that this education is honestly attained. Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college, each student is expected to exert an entirely honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty incidents will be regarded seriously and may result from a failing grade of a zero on the particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor. Such incidents may also be reported to the dean. If concepts of plagiarism and/or cheating are confusing, make sure to speak to me.

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Material that is generated using generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) is not considered original/authentic. Using generative Artificial Intelligence tools to create, augment, or revise/edit material without the knowledge and consent of the instructor is considered plagiarism. **Use of AI tools to generate content/writing is not allowed in this course.** Please use GPTZero to scan written work; if it shows generative AI use above 25%, submitted work will not earn points. You will be allowed, however, to redo and resubmit the assignment in question within 48 hours. **Review the following list of AI tools to avoid** (and email me any other ones you think should be included here):

* AI text or image generator (e.g. ChatGPT, DeepAI, DALL-E, etc.)
* Predictive text in Word, GoogleDocs, etc.
* “Rewrite” or “Refinement” features in Word
* Paraphrasing, rewording, or wording suggestions used by any other AI tool or generator (e.g. Grammarly, QuillBot, etc.)

### CHEATING

Cheating is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task in a fraudulent or deceptive manner, such as having improper access to answers, in an attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating may include, but is not limited to, using AI tools, 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, or failing to disclose research results completely.

### PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating: the use of another’s words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. 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 in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights; or **generating content using AI tools**.

## 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

March 25-29 Spring recess (Classes reconvene April 1)

May 13-17 Final examinations

May 17 End of Spring Semester 2024

May 17 Graduation exercises

## 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.)

## Required Hardware

* Computer or laptop (smart phone or tablet is not an adequate device to complete coursework)

## 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
* [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)

## 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.

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