

## SYLLABUS

**COURSE:** English 26 - COLLEGE READING SKILLS

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Paula Sullivan

**OFFICE HOURS & LOCATION:** By appointment

**HOME PHONE:** 787-3397

**MEETS:** Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00 - 3:50p.m. in SS 31

(Except these two Holidays:

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Monday, January 19

Washington's Day - Monday, February 16)

*Last day to drop this course: Friday, March 13. (A letter grade is issued after this date.)*

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The objective of English 26 classes is to help students improve their reading skills so that they will be successful at critical reading for their other college courses. This course concentrates on improving reading comprehension and vocabulary skills.

### REQUIRED BOOKS:

1. Langan, John. *Ten Steps to Improving College Reading Skills* (textbook)
2. Any comprehensive hardback dictionary, such as *Webster's New World Dictionary* or *The American Heritage Dictionary*.
3. Bronte, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre* (novel available in paperback from any large bookstore)

You need to buy the three books listed above. In addition, I will provide many free handouts of photocopied newspaper articles and other reading materials.

Other supplies: You should also buy a three-ring binder and save all your class handouts, tests, quizzes, book reports, and corrected homework in it for review before the final exam. A yellow highlighter is highly recommended.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

#### TO PASS THIS COURSE YOU MUST

- 1) complete all assignments, without exception, and do so satisfactorily (grade of "C" or higher)
- 2) participate! Being both a participant and an attentive listener is the responsibility of the college student in all classes. It is not sufficient to park your body in a seat and put your mind on cruise control. By the same token, you can't contribute to a discussion or group work if you are not in class, nor can you expect to make progress in reading improvement. Therefore, you also need to
- 3) have accumulated no more than five absences during the semester.
- 4) pass the final exam.

## ATTENDANCE:

Absences from class make progress in reading improvement very difficult. It is your responsibility to come to class prepared, even after absence. This means you will have to find out what was assigned during your absence before you return to class by contacting a classmate or myself.

If you are ever unable to attend class, put (or have a friend put) any written work due in my mail box in the Mailbox Room for adjunct faculty, located behind the receptionist's desk in the Administration building. Except by pre-arrangement or unusual cases of severe illness, injury, or family distress, late assignments are not accepted.

You must be present for all quizzes and tests.

If you have five absences by the end of the ninth week, you will automatically be dropped from the course. (Two tardies [arrivals in class after instruction has begun] count as one absence.) If you miss two consecutive sessions and have not contacted me before the end of the second one, you will be expected to drop the course. In other words, it is not acceptable to "disappear" for several days or a whole week and just return; talk to me or a classmate and let me know why you're out and find out what you're missing so you can keep up. I expect you to take responsibility for your college career, and that includes attendance, communication with instructors, and filing paperwork to drop a course.

## GRADING AND CREDIT

English 26 is a three-unit course required for graduation. The class is offered on a graded basis with a credit/no credit option. If you choose to take this class credit/no credit, you must earn at least a C to get credit. A grade of C or better will also mean that you have met the reading requirement advised for eligibility for English 1A. (There is also a writing requirement advised for eligibility for English 1A, namely English 25.)

Each of the following four areas constitute 25% of the final course grade:

- 1) Unit tests and quizzes
- 2) Book reports, typed
- 3) Daily work, including homework and class participation
- 4) Final examination.

