

Syllabus: English 126
Instructor: Judith Kenney
Phone: (559) 896-5008
Email: judith.kenney@reedleycollege.edu
Class: Section 59261: TTH 6:00-7:50 Phy-75

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to develop basic reading skills and to become proficient in the areas of vocabulary usage, literal and implied meaning, and critical reading skills. Instruction will include a variety of reading comprehension strategies necessary for the successful completion of college level courses.

Text and Required Materials:

Textbook: Ten Steps to Advanced Reading 6th Ed.

Novels: Gaines, Ernest J. *A Lesson Before Dying*
Albom, Mitch. *Tuesdays with Morrie*

Novel-Student choice and must be 200 pages or more

Pen or pencil for everyday work

Red pen for correction and editing

Stapler (no paperclips on assignments)

COURSE OUTCOMES:

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

1. Apply semantic, syntactic, and morphological clues to understand more of the unfamiliar words they encounter in college-level academic reading.
2. Understand college-level, academic reading materials.
 - ❖ Understand and state the topic of college-level, academic reading materials.
 - ❖ Understand and relate the explicit main idea of college-level, academic reading materials.
 - ❖ Understand and state the implied main idea of college-level, academic reading materials.
 - ❖ Recognize the major details presented in college-level, academic reading materials to develop and support the main ideas.
 - ❖ Recognize and identify organizational patterns used by authors to express logical relationships and use the same organizational patterns to paraphrase and record the important information in college-level, academic reading material.

3. Analyze college-level, academic reading materials.
 - ❖ Distinguish among statements of fact, personal opinion, and reasoned opinion in college-level, academic reading materials.
 - ❖ Understand and state an author's tone, attitude, or bias in a passage of college-level, academic reading materials.
 - ❖ Understand and identify an author's purpose in writing a passage of college-level, academic reading materials.
 - ❖ Make inferences that are logical, reasonable, and probable and are based on accurate literal comprehension of what is read in college-level, academic reading materials.
4. Demonstrate confidence in gaining important information from reading independently.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- ❖ Students will be able to recognize and use new vocabulary as found in the selected readings as well as vocabulary study.
- ❖ Comprehensive strategies will include developing the ability to recognize both literal and implied meaning while analyzing various writing techniques.
- ❖ Comprehension strategies will be applied to readings of short passages, journal articles, editorials, and independent reading as a means to develop critical reading skills.
- ❖ Students will develop basic reading skills that will lead to college-level proficiency in the areas of comprehension and reading as a problem-solving process.
- ❖ Former knowledge and new knowledge will be compared, synthesized, and evaluated in a variety of sources.
- ❖ All students will be able to generate new ideas, issues, solutions, and conclusions about various assigned topics and readings.

Assignments: Homework assignments and projects must be typed and double-spaced unless otherwise specified. All assignments will be graded for spelling, grammar, and sentence structure. Homework assignments must be spellchecked or may be returned without a grade.

Include the following on each assignment you turn in:

Name (First and last)

Assigned class number

Date

Assignment (Source, page number)

Homework/Journals/Participation: Homework is due at the beginning of the class session and should be done at home not **during** class. Journal responses to assigned

readings will be completed and assessed weekly. Homework will include: reading comprehension questions or response writing, and vocabulary study. Participation in class discussions is an important part of the comprehension process and will be monitored on a regular basis. It is important to read all assignments before class in preparation for oral questioning or quizzes. Students must have his/her own textbook..

Reading and Writing Assignments: You will be required to read from the textbook as well as various handouts from the instructor. Two novels will be read during the course. Book projects are required for each and should not be written with the help of commercial study guides (Sparknotes) or videos. **Late assignments will not be accepted without prior approval.** If you know you will be absent on the day an assignment is due, arrange to turn it in early or have someone turn it in for you. I recommend exchanging phone numbers with a classmate. Missing homework assignments **will lower** your semester grade.

Tests

Vocabulary:

Words will be distributed on the **first class** of the month and there will be a vocabulary test on the **last class** of each month.

Comprehension:

Comprehension tests in response to textbook reading assignments will be given at the completion of each chapter. **Bring your textbook to each class session.** Test format includes multiple choice, true and false, short answer, and essay.

Midterm/Final: Essay style/short answer test or project to evaluate the skills we cover over the course of the semester.

Book Report: One book project or author study is required. The novel will be student selected and on a college reading level of 200 pages or more.

Makeup tests may be given if instructor is notified prior to absence with verification.

Grading:

Grading will be based on total semester points including: tests and quizzes, book projects, response writing, homework, cooperative groups, positive class participation, midterm and final exams.

Grading scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
Below 60%	F

Attendance: Attendance is extremely important due to the nature of this class. Much of the required course work will be completed during class meetings. If you are going to

miss a class, please notify me ahead of time by email. If an emergency arises, notify me as soon as possible. If you have more than four absences before the last drop date you will be dropped from the class. **You may not receive credit if you have six or more absences by the end of the semester.** Students must be on time for each class session and stay for the assigned hours. **Two tardy sessions will count as one absence.** You will not be allowed to complete daily opening assignments or take quizzes if you are late. If a student leaves class early, he/she will be marked as absent.

Cooperative group activities: Class sessions may include participation in activities for which grades will be assessed on your cooperation, participation, and reporting.

Behavior: The instructor reserves the right to ask a student to leave if his/her behavior is disrupting instruction or group activities. Disruptions include talking or other distractions and will not be tolerated. Rudeness, inappropriate responses, or offensive language will not be tolerated and you will be asked to leave the class session.

Cell phone usage, including text messages, emails, or internet during class (unless for a class project) is not allowed. Cell phones must be turned off and put away in your backpack, pocket or purse, etc. You will be asked to leave class if found to be using your phone.

If you have an emergency situation that requires you leave your cell phone on silent to receive a message, please advise the instructor before class and leave the classroom to answer.

Note: If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text etc.) Per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

Note: All submitted work for this course must be your own written for this class exclusively. Refer to the summary of the Code of Student Conduct in your Schedule of Classes concerning consequences for academic dishonesty.

“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 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” (College Catalog) The first infraction will result in a failing grade on the assignment; a subsequent infraction will result in a failing grade in the course and the incident will be documented and filed in your permanent record.

“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 (using citations, which we will cover in class). 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, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights” (College Catalog). I do not tolerate plagiarism; and anyone caught plagiarizing will receive a failing grade in the course and the incident will be documented and filed in your permanent record.