

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: ENG 107

Credits: 3

Course Title: Critical Reading

Course Description (including lecture hours, lab hours, total contacts)

Helps students refine their reading processes. Emphasizes applying and synthesizing ideas. Includes ways to detect organization, make inferences, draw conclusions, evaluate generalizations, recognize differences between facts and opinions, and other advanced comprehension, strategies. May include comprehensive library skills. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

This course is the last in a sequence of three developmental reading courses designed to assist students to adjust to college and develop college reading and behavioral skills. ENG 107 helps students who have intermediate or higher reading skills. Working with college textbook materials, students learn refinements of academic analysis, as well as academic behavior, and studying skills.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites (*Entry-level competencies **required** for enrollment*)

Placement requires a satisfactory score on a reading placement test to demonstrate advanced reading skills. Students may not jump from ENG 4 to ENG 107 without re-taking the placement test in reading. Passing the reading placement test or ENG 5 demonstrates that students can make basic inferences and have more than a basic vocabulary and background knowledge for academic subjects.

Course Objectives (Each item should complete the following sentence.)

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- a. Identify a task and set purposes for reading, studying, and self-testing.
- b. Apply strategies: Establish and supplement prior knowledge, relate new information to prior knowledge, map or outline concept relationships, develop and answer test-like questions; summarize, paraphrase, and quote accurately; display methods of acquiring familiarity with advanced and technical vocabulary.
- c. Monitor comprehension: know what is comprehended, know what is not comprehended, and apply fix-up strategies for challenging reading matter.
- d. Respond critically to textbooks by making inferences and drawing appropriate conclusions, researching concepts as needed in a library or online.

A series of assessment activities near the end of the course will be the basis for exit recommendations, but students must also demonstrate their academic stamina by succeeding with lessons throughout the entire course.

Major Topics to be Included

- a. Reasons for reading: setting purposes and asking questions, detecting and relating testable concepts.

- b. Building strategies: predicting and verifying ideas, applying prior knowledge, seeing patterns of organization, analyzing and interpreting information, drawing conclusions, designing test questions and crafting appropriately detailed answers.
- c. Self-reflective strategies: monitoring comprehension, effective use of study time, effective prioritizing for college study, and adjusting as needed to succeed in college.

Effective Date of Course Content Summary (Month, Date Year): February 13, 2009