

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: ENG 5

Credits: 3

Course Title: Reading Improvement II

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

Helps students read critically and increase appreciation of reading. Guides students in making inferences, drawing conclusions, detecting relationships between generalizations and supporting details. Includes interpreting graphic aids and basic library skills. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

This course is the second in a sequence of reading courses available to help students develop collegiate reading skills. This course helps students who have displayed intermediate reading skills. Working with intermediate materials and textbook excerpts, students increase their skills for academic analysis, as well as academic behavior.

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

Placement test performance or passing ENG 4 denotes students' abilities to locate main ideas and supporting details in easy-to-read paragraphs, as well as the rudiments of vocabulary development.

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

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

- a. Plan: Identify a reading task and set purposes for reading.
- b. Apply strategies: Preview, activate prior knowledge, predict, identify topics vs. main ideas vs. details, recognize text patterns, question and determine answers to self-made and teacher-made questions, paraphrase, summarize, and interpret graphic aids.
- c. Monitor comprehension: recognize when comprehension has succeeded, recognize when comprehension has broken down, and apply fix-up strategies.
- d. Respond critically to texts by making inferences and drawing appropriate conclusions, recognize and characterize tone, understand mood.

A series of assessment activities near the end of the course will be the basis for exit recommendations. A student's ability to meet the above objectives will determine whether he or she is recommended for more developmental work, for the college-level reading course, or for no further coursework in reading.

Major Topics to be Included

- a. Reasons for reading: setting purposes and questions.
- b. Building strategies: predicting and verifying ideas, interpreting information, drawing conclusions, making inferences, and applying prior knowledge.
- c. Monitoring comprehension: Confirming when comprehension has occurred and using appropriate strategies to improve comprehension.

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