

DSPR 0700
Basic Reading Syllabus

Instructor's Name: _____ Email: _____

Office: _____ Phone: _____

Semester/Year: _____ DSPR0700 _____ (section)

Course Description:

3 credits; 3 course hours

This course provides a review of phonetic and vocabulary skills with an emphasis on reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. Attention is given to word parts, dictionary skills and context clues. Focus is placed upon the skills of determining central themes and main ideas. These are essential for taking notes and writing summaries in other courses. Inferences, paragraph patterns, and implied main ideas are also studied.

Rationale:

The purpose of this course is to review basic reading comprehension skills and to increase vocabulary and critical thinking skills. The curriculum is especially designed for students who have been out of school several years and for those who need extended instruction and practice. It also is the foundation of advanced reading skills for success in collegiate courses. Some of the skills tested on the College Base exam, which is required of all students to graduate, are taught only in developmental reading courses.

Goal--80% proficiency in the following:

1. Accurately reading and following directions.
2. Dictionary and pronunciation skills.
3. Determining vocabulary from word parts and context clues.
4. Identifying main ideas, supporting details, and paragraph patterns.
5. Making inferences and identifying implied main ideas.
5. Identifying transitions and sentence relationships.
6. Recognizing paragraph patterns.

Text and Supplies

You are required to have your own text and all supplies at every class meeting.

Text: Ten Steps to Basic Reading Skills, by John Langan. Fourth edition. Townsend Press, 2005. Purchase at the college bookstore before the second class meeting.

Supplies: Three-ring binder, notebook paper, three-ring pencil pouch, package of small (3 x 5 inch) index cards which will fit inside the pouch, five Scantrons, a manila folder, and a paperback collegiate dictionary. You must also have two black pens, two red pens, and two #2 pencils in the pouch at all times. These supplies can be purchased at a discount store. However, five Scantrons (bubble test forms) must be purchased at a Southwest bookstore. You may also purchase a single manila folder there.

Additional Practice

This is available and may be required. Web activities are found at the website <townsendpress.com>. Computer access is available in some reading classrooms, the Academic Support Center, and the library. Free tutoring is also provided in the Academic Support Center. Check with the Center for times that the reading tutor is available.

Final Course Grade

The lowest passing grade for this course is C. The final grade will be based upon attendance; class preparation; class participation; text, web, and vocabulary assignments; quizzes, tests, and the final exam. Students will be informed of specific grading criteria by their instructor at the beginning of the term.

	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Numerical Average</u>
A	Superior	90 – 100
B	Excellent	80 – 89
C	Average	70 – 79
*F	Failure	Below 70
*W	Withdrawal (initiated by student)	

Students who do not complete the course requirements will receive an F or W.

*F, W – REGISTER AGAIN. An F or W counts as one attempt to complete the course. Failure to complete a developmental course on the second attempt may result in college suspension.

Attendance Policies:

The Tennessee Board of Regents, Southwest's governing body, mandates regular attendance in all developmental courses.

1. Any student who misses more than two weeks of class meetings may automatically receive a failing grade regardless of a passing course average. ***Only 4 absences are allowed for classes***

meeting MW or TR. Only 2 absences are allowed for classes which meet only once a week.

Exceptions to this policy will be made only in extenuating circumstances and will require documentation. Do not use class time for other college business. Medical and dental appointments should not be made which will conflict with class times. Have a backup plan for childcare and transportation emergencies which cannot be documented. Attendance is recorded for every class and is reported to the Records Office. The last date of attendance reported will be the date when the student has exceeded the number of allowable absences. Attendance records are also supplied to the Financial Aid Office. Failing a course may adversely affect financial aid benefits. Students who stop attending will fail.

2. Students must be present during the entire class session. Those who leave before class is dismissed will be counted absent. Use the time between classes for personal needs (restroom, water, etc.) to avoid being counted absent.

3. Attendance is required and will affect your course grade. Absence from class does not excuse students from being prepared. In such cases, check the course syllabus or confer with a classmate regarding homework. If in doubt, always complete the assignments as stated for the next class meeting.

4. Three late arrivals (less than fifteen minutes) equal 1 absence. Late arrivals are disruptive and should be kept to a minimum. ***Students who are more than fifteen minutes late will be counted absent,*** but will be allowed to stay and participate in class. All students are expected to be seated in class with text, homework, and supplies open and ready to begin work.

6. Students absent from a developmental class may not be allowed to make up missed tests or other graded work. Missed work will adversely affect course grades. Notify your instructor with documentation to arrange to take a test ahead if an absence, such as a court date, is unavoidable.

Probation and Suspension Regulations

A student who does not pass a developmental course on the first attempt is placed on probation, regardless of any other grades. A student who does not pass the course on the second attempt is placed on suspension from school, regardless of any other course grades. A final grade of C is the lowest passing grade given for successful completion of a developmental course.

Services for Students with Disabilities

Southwest Tennessee Community College is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for all qualified students with disabilities. The student is responsible for contacting the Students' Disabilities Services Office at either the Macon or Union campus to arrange for appropriate accommodation. When the disability has been documented and verified, a counselor will contact the faculty member with confidential information regarding any special accommodation to be provided. For more information, refer to the college catalog or student planner.

Academic Misconduct

STCC policy states: “Plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. A student guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly through participation or assistance, is immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through regular college procedures as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” grade or a zero for the exercise or examination, or to assign an “F” grade for the course. College sanctions for academic misconduct may include suspension or dismissal from the college.”

Classroom Conduct

Success in college and the workforce are dependent upon adult standards of behavior. These are described in the college catalog and student planner. Further expectations are listed in the college protocol for the course.

Child care

Parents are expected to make arrangements for child care when schools are not in session. Southwest policy does not allow children or visitors in the classrooms. Children may never be left unsupervised on campus.

Misuse of Computers

Computers located in the labs are for **EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY**. *No food or drink is allowed in the classrooms, labs, or library.*

Semester Assignments

Fill in the blanks with the dates according to the semester calendar. These are tentative and may vary. Absence from class does not excuse students from being prepared. If in doubt, check with another classmate or work ahead.

Week 1 _____ Introductions and Orientation
Reading assessment test
Read “Getting Off to a Good Start,” pp. 3—13 and “One Reader’s Essay for class discussion.

Week 2 _____ Read and fill in the blanks in “How to Become a Better Reader and Thinker,” pp. 23-30.
Chapter 1, “Dictionary Use.” Read and do the chapter practices.
Complete the assigned review and mastery tests.

Week 3 _____ Chapter 2, “Vocabulary in Context.” Read and do the chapter practices. Complete the assigned review and mastery tests.

- Week 4** _____ *Unit Test I* (Chapters 1 and 2 in reading text)
Main Idea umbrella concept map. Chapter 3, “Main Ideas.” Read and do the chapter practices. Complete the assigned review and mastery tests.
- Week 5** _____ Chapter 4, “Supporting Details.” Read and do the chapter practices.
Complete the assigned review and mastery tests.
Chapter 5, "Location of Main Ideas." Read and do the chapter practices.
Complete the assigned review and mastery texts.
- Week 6** _____ *Unit Test II* (Chapters 3, 4, and 5 in reading text)
Chapter 6 “Relationships I.” Read and do the chapter practices. Complete the assigned review and mastery tests.
- Week 7** _____ Chapter 7, “Relationships II.” Read and do the chapter practices.
Complete the assigned review and mastery tests.
- Week 8** _____ *Unit Test III* (Chapters 6 and 7 in reading text)
Chapter 8, "Inferences." Read and do the chapter practices. Complete the assigned review and mastery tests.
- Week 9** _____ Chapter 9, "Implied Main Ideas." Read and do the chapter practices.
Complete the assigned review and mastery tests.
- Week 10** _____ Chapter 10, "The Basics of Argument." Read and do the chapter practices. Complete the assigned review and mastery tests.
Unit Test IV (Chapters 8, 9, and 10 in reading text)
- Week 11** _____ SQ3R selections 1 and 2. Answer all the questions in the text for a daily grade.
- Week 12** _____ SQ3R selections 3 and 4. Answer all the questions in text for a daily grade.
- Week 13** _____ SQ3R selections 5 and 6. Answer all the questions in the text for a daily grade.
- Week 14** _____ SQ3R selections 7 and 8. Answer all the questions in the text for a daily grade.
- Week 15** _____ SQ3R selections 9 and 10. Answer all the questions in text for a daily grade.
Course review
Final Exam (all concepts in chapters 1 – 10 and selected vocabulary)