

SYLLABUS

COURSE: Reading 1300

SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 3

PREREQUISITE: Placement examination is required.

SECTIONS: 10:00 - 11:15 MW / CRN 10385 / One Main Building, Room A431

***This section is offered through the Learners' Community and is linked to
American Studies 1301 / 10:00-11:15 TR / CRN 10386)

SEMESTER: Fall 2007

INSTRUCTOR: Mr. Branden Kuzmick

OFFICE: South-651

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (and by appointment)

TELEPHONE: (713) 221-8046

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Reading 1300 is designed to improve reading skills and offers learning strategies to engage students in addressing the challenges of college-level reading assignments. This course is a review of successful techniques for improving vocabulary, comprehension, interpretation, evaluation, and basic study skills. While this course may not be used to satisfy degree requirements, students placed in it must earn a grade of C or better to be allowed to register for reading-intensive college-level courses.

LEARNING GOALS:

- To become better learners through the acquisition of specific reading and study skills
- To develop these skills through frequent practice

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Use the context of a passage to determine the meaning of words with multiple meanings, unfamiliar and uncommon words and phrases, and figurative expressions.
2. Use word parts (prefixes, suffixes and roots) to decode new words.
3. Identify a writer's purpose, audience, tone, point of view, and intended meaning.
4. Recognize organizational patterns and relationships among ideas in written material.
5. Identify stated and implied main ideas and recognize ideas that support, illustrate, or elaborate the main idea of a passage.
6. Draw conclusions inductively or deductively from information stated or implied in a selection.
7. Make inferences and predictions based on evidence from the text itself.
8. Use critical reasoning skills to evaluate written material (includes evaluating stated or implied assumptions; judging the relevance of the support provided; distinguishing between fact and opinion; assessing the credibility or objectivity of the writer).
9. Apply study skills to reading assignments (includes developing helpful textbook-marking skills and notetaking strategies; organizing and summarizing information for study purposes; interpreting information presented in charts, graphs, or tables.)
10. Demonstrate an understanding of reading flexibility by utilizing efficient reading techniques.
11. Develop thoughtful written responses to reading selections.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

1. *Opening Doors*, Fourth Edition
Joe Cortina / Janet Elder
2. *The Least You Should Know about Vocabulary Building: Word Roots*
Sixth Edition
Teresa Ferster Glazier / Carol E. Friend / Laura D. Knight
3. *Left Behind*
Tim La Haye / Jerry B. Jenkins

MATERIALS NEEDED:

1. "Just Pockets" Portfolio (provided by the instructor)
2. college dictionary
3. white looseleaf paper
4. blue pen, red pen, and No. 2 pencils
5. stapler
6. scissors
7. fluorescent highlighter (yellow)
8. Scantron answer sheets (provided by the instructor)

GRADING:

Class/Homework Assignments and Quizzes	50%
Vocabulary Test Average	15%
Mid-Term Exam	10%
<i>Left Behind</i> (Test on Chapters 1-25)	15%
Final Exam	10%

GRADING SCALE:

A=	90-100 %
B=	80- 89
C=	70- 79
F=	0- 69

YOUR FINAL GRADE AS IT WILL APPEAR ON THE GRADE REPORT:

A, B, or C will be given to students who have a passing average and pass the standardized exit exam

IP (In Progress) will be given to students who have a passing average but do not pass the standardized exit exam.

F will be given to students who do not have a passing average regardless of their score on the exit exam

The goals and assignments in Reading 1300 have been devised so as to prepare you to meet the standards established by the Texas Success Initiative and the minimum passing requirements of the Texas Higher Education Assessment Test (THEA) formerly known as the Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP) Test in Reading. Successful completion of this course should help you pass the Reading section of the THEA test, but neither the instructor nor UH-Downtown can guarantee that a student who passes Reading 1300 will pass the THEA test. UH-DOWNTOWN DOES NOT EXEMPT STUDENTS FROM READING 1300 WHO HAVE PASSED THE THEA READING TEST WHILE TAKING THIS COURSE.

LATE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:

All assignments will be collected on or before their due date; LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR A GRADE. Instead, the three lowest grades will be dropped at the end of the term before final averages are calculated.

***PLEASE NOTE: If a student is present in class the day an assignment is collected, the assignment will not be accepted for credit at a later time and date.

IF A STUDENT IS ABSENT THE DAY AN ASSIGNMENT IS COLLECTED, ASSIGNMENTS CAN BE SUBMITTED FOR CREDIT PRIOR TO THE START OF THE NEXT CLASS (Refer to CLASS ATTENDANCE).

CLASS ATTENDANCE / PUNCTUALITY:

One of the keys to success in this course is consistent attendance as well as regular preparation and participation. Students are expected to attend class and arrive on time. There is no way you can expect to learn the material in this course without being present for lectures and class discussions. Arriving on time is a courtesy that you owe your fellow students and your instructor. **Students arriving more than 20 minutes late will be recorded as absent for the day.** Excessive absences (missing more than 4 classes during the course) will result in receiving an F for the final grade. If you are absent, you must communicate with me by leaving a message on my voice mail (713-221-8046). **You are responsible for any work assigned during your absence.** Contact the professor, the Supplemental Instruction (SI) leader, or a responsible student in the class in order to find out what work was completed in class and what homework was assigned for the next class. **PLEASE NOTE: If you are absent when a homework assignment is collected,** the assignment can be submitted to the instructor for grading prior to the next class or at **the beginning of** the next class meeting before that assignment is redistributed to the other students in the class.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR READING 1300

Your regular and punctual attendance is crucial to developing the skills and habits taught in this course. For this reason, the English Department has implemented the following policy for Reading 1300:

1. Attendance will be taken daily. If you miss more than four classes, I will notify the English Department office and you will be automatically assigned a course grade of "F." Also, a "HOLD" will be placed on your academic record. You must subsequently meet with an academic advisor to have the "HOLD" removed.
2. You may petition to be reinstated after being assigned an automatic "F" by submitting a Request for Reinstatement form together with documentation explaining your absences. This form can be obtained in the English Department office, South-1045. This request must be delivered to the Chair of the English Department. You must also notify me and give me a copy of the petition. Both you and I will be notified of the final decision of the chair. You should continue to come to class and participate in all activities (including exams) until a decision is made. If your request is denied, you may continue attending class; however, your final course grade of "F" cannot be altered.
3. If you are attending class regularly, but still not passing the course, I strongly encourage you to continue attending class and to participate in all activities (including exams), since this will assist you in preparing for the next semester. If you make this effort, a grade of "IP" (In Progress) will be assigned.
4. If you do not attempt the RDG 1300 final exam or the RDG 1300 exit exam, you will receive a grade of "F" for the course.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

All students are subject to university-wide policies set forth in the Catalog and Student Handbook, including the **Academic Honesty Policy** (Policy Statement 03.A.19).

Academic Honesty Violations

The most common academic honesty violations are cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Submitting material that is not one's own.
- Using information or devices that are not allowed by the faculty member.
- Obtaining and/or using unauthorized material.
- Fabricating information.
- Violating procedures prescribed to protect the integrity of a test, or other evaluation exercise.
- Collaborating with others on assignments without the faculty member's consent.
- Cooperating with or helping another student to cheat.
- Having another person take an examination in the student's place.
- Altering exam answers and requesting that the exam be re-graded.
- Communicating with any person during an exam, other than the faculty member or exam proctor.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Directly quoting the words of others without using quotation marks or indented format to identify them.
- Using sources of information (published or unpublished) without identifying them.
- Paraphrasing materials or ideas of others without identifying the sources.

PAYMENT DATES FOR Fall 2007 SEMESTER:

- August 18, 2007** **Last day to make payment for Regular Registration (2:00 p.m.) or classes will be dropped.**
- September 12, 2007** **Last day to pay for Late Registration (including late fee). Payment must be received by 6:00 p.m. or classes will be dropped.**

DROPPING A CLASS:

If you wish to drop any or all of your classes, you are responsible for doing so online --- after receiving prior approval from an academic advisor--- by the deadlines published in the Academic Calendar. A class dropped through the official Day of Record (September 4th for the Fall 2007 Semester) will not appear on your transcript; one dropped after the Day of Record and up to the published drop deadline --- the last day to withdraw from a course or October 25th for the Fall 2007 semester) --- will appear with a grade of “W”. **PLEASE NOTE:** Learners Community (LC) students must meet with an LC academic advisor/counselor for approval regarding a schedule change or drop.

STATEMENT OF REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS:

“UH-D adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities should register with Disabled Student Services and contact their instructor(s) in a timely manner to arrange for appropriate accommodations.