

First Year Intensive Reading Class Outline

Course Description

This course involves students reading in detail with specific learning aims and tasks. Attention is paid to the syntax and lexical aspects of reading passages, particularly those which appear with high frequency. This course helps students develop confidence in their reading of academic passages. There is an intentional focus on essential core vocabulary and patterns of text organization.

In addition, focus is also given to overall understanding of the text through skimming. Materials used for instruction focus on a wide range of topics, including content-area information, and introduces the students to increasingly complex text.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to demonstrate prediction strategies.

Students will improve academic vocabulary, grammar and academic reading comprehension skills.

Students will be able to skim for gist and understand challenging texts.

Students will understand patterns of text organization and be able to use effective reading strategies.

Students will become more confident and skillful at academic reading.

Course Content

Pre-reading prediction strategies

Reading for gist, main ideas – stated or implied and supporting details (skimming)

Reading for specific information (scanning)

Focused development of vocabulary

Understanding literal vs. inferential data

Understanding patterns of organization

Transitional vs. relational words

Comprehension check

Expressing one's own ideas / Writing short reports

Grading Criteria

Worksheet Preparation and Assignments	30%
In-class reading activities	40%
Exams	30%