

Saint Louis Christian College
GEN 020N-College Reading
Professor Alice Perrey

Spring, 2008
No course prerequisites

Monday
1:00-3:45 p.m., Room 130

MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Louis Christian College pursues excellence in the Word and develops servant leaders for urban, suburban, rural, and global ministry.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

College Reading is required of all students whose entrance-exam scores indicate that they may lack the vocabulary and reading comprehension skills necessary to interpret college material. It is designed to position students for success by helping them find main ideas and supporting details in reading selections. Students must earn a C (80%) or higher to receive a satisfactory grade. As with other college preparation courses, credits earned do not apply to graduation requirements, nor are they considered in computation of students' GPA.

COURSE RATIONALE

Some students enter college without a good foundation in reading and have difficulty finding main ideas and supporting details. College Reading is an attempt to build on this foundation so that students can attain the reading comprehension skills necessary to interpret college level material.

This introductory course is designed to position the student for success at SLCC. It contributes to the formation of these Expected Student Outcomes:

- to be capable and reliable communicators of the Bible
- Possess a permanent thirst for wisdom
- Engage modern global, pluralistic, diverse cultures from the standpoint of a robust Biblical worldview.

This course partially fulfills General Studies Divisional Goal #1, (Given instruction in the communication skills, the student will demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively and will be able to use a variety of research and documentation techniques), and Divisional Goal #2 (Upon completion of the study of humanities, the student will be able to analyze major components of culture and will be able to understand the differences between Christianity and other worldviews.)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course covers the following:

- **Vocabulary skills**, especially the use of context clues. Ways to increase vocabulary will be discussed.
- **Comprehension skills**, including finding the main idea and important details, making inferences, and drawing conclusions. Emphasis is given to the author's purpose, methods of paragraph development and organization, understanding language, and perceiving the author's tone.
- **Reading for study**, including outlining and summarizing. Critical reading skills will be stressed, especially recognizing and evaluating an author's arguments.

You will demonstrate your knowledge by:

1. Demonstrating an ability to find the main idea of paragraphs and essays.
2. Demonstrating an ability to find the meaning of unknown words using context clues.
3. Outlining a sample passage.
4. Identifying the pattern(s) of organization in paragraphs.
5. Distinguishing between fact and opinion.
6. Identifying an author's arguments.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS (EXPECTATIONS)

Attendance: Your role in learning will be to come to every class and to give a full effort. Much of the value and meaning of this skills course will come from what happens in class, so you must be here on a steady basis. To really learn communication skills, you need direct experience and practice. So if you miss classes, you are, in effect, missing the course.

This course meets a total of 11 times, with each session of the course having two individual units. Attendance will be taken during each of those 22 units. Whenever four hours or units of absence occurs, the student will be given an additional assignment to make up for the lost class time. Failure to complete the additional assignment will result in a reduction of 5% of the final grade. In accordance with SLCC policy, if you miss 6 units of class, you will be administratively withdrawn from the class and will receive a grade of "U", unsatisfactory.

Examinations and Quizzes: Examinations and quizzes will test the student's ability to recognize and apply reading comprehension principles. There will be 2 quizzes and 1 comprehensive final examination. These assessments will be objective in nature; there are no essay questions.

Quiz 1: April 28, over Chapters 1-3

Quiz 2: June 2, over Chapters 4-8

Final Exam: June 28. This exam covers all material covered in the course.

Missed quizzes may not be made up. Missed exams may be rescheduled at the discretion of the professor.

Class Work: Most of the textbook exercises will be done in class. Students are, therefore, expected to bring their textbooks to class every day.

Timely Work: Part of being successful in any class is to submit assigned work on time. Therefore, late work will not be accepted.

Textbook: *Ten Steps to Advancing College Reading Skills* by John Langan. **This is a required text, and you should bring it to each class.**

COURSE ASSESSMENT—CRITERIA FOR GRADING

The final grade will be determined by the following criteria:

Quizzes (2 @ 50 points)	100 points
Exam (1 @ 100 points)	100 points
Weekly Assignments (10 @ 10 points)	100 points
Class Work (10 @ 5 points)	<u>50 points</u>
	350 points

All assignments are objective—true/false, multiple choice, fill-ins—with the exception of the class participation grade. A student will receive all 5 points for coming to class prepared and participating in class discussions. Students who attend but are not prepared for class by doing weekly assignments or do not participate in the class will receive 3 points. Absent students receive a grade of “0” for that week.

To obtain a “Satisfactory” grade for the course you must have at least 280 points (80%).

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week	Topics to be covered	Assignment for next class
Before the first class, read pp. 3-11 in <i>Ten Steps to Advancing College Reading Skills</i>		
Week 1 April 7	Introduction Vocabulary in Context, Ch. 1	Review Test 4, pp. 31-35; Mastery Tests 1-6, pp. 37-48
Week 2 April 14	Main Ideas, Ch. 2	Review Test 4, pp. 76-79; Mastery Tests 1-6, pp. 81-92
Week 3 April 21	Supporting Details, Ch. 3	Review Test 4, pp. 113-117; Mastery Tests 1-6, pp. 119-131
Week 4 April 28	Quiz 1 over Ch. 1-3 Implied Main Ideas, Ch. 4	Review Test 4, pp. 153-157; Mastery Tests 1-6, pp. 159-170
Week 5 May 5	Relationships I and II, Ch. 5-6	Review Test 4, pp. 239-244; Ch. 5 Mastery Tests 1, 3, 5; Ch. 6 Mastery Tests 2, 4, 6
Week 6 May 12	Fact and Opinion, Ch. 7	Review Test 4, pp. 282-287; Mastery Tests 1-6, pp. 189-300
Week 7 May 19	Inferences, Ch. 8	Review Test 4, pp. 326-330; Mastery Tests 1-6, pp. 331-342
May 26—NO CLASS; Memorial Day Holiday		
Week 8 June 2	Quiz 2 over Ch. 4-8 Purpose and Tone, Ch. 9	Review Test 4, pp. 363-369 Mastery Tests 1-6, pp. 371-382
Week 9 June 9	Argument, Ch. 10	Review Test 4, pp. 403-407 Mastery Tests 1-6, pp. 409-420
Week 10 June 16	Reading selections	Selection 3, pp. 447-456 Selection 4, pp. 458-469
Week 11 June 23	FINAL EXAM	

COURSE RESOURCES:

Internet Public Library

www.ipl.org

Dictionary of the English Language

www.bartleby.com/61

St. Louis Christian College

www.slconline.edu

Bible Gateway

www.biblegateway.com

Adler, Mortimer and Charles Van Doren. How to Read a Book. New York: MJF Books, 1972.

Foster, Thomas. How to Read Literature Like a Professor. New York: Quill, 2003.

COURSE POLICIES

1. Courtesy and a positive regard for the learning of others is expected at all times.
2. You may not use cell phones, Blackberries, MP3 players, Gameboys, etc. in class. Cell phones must be either off or turned to "vibrate".
3. No food or drink is permitted in the classroom. Sleeping in class is done at your own risk.
4. All e-mail communications from the professor will be sent to the student's SLCC e-mail address. All documents not distributed in class will be put in the student's SLCC mailbox.
5. If you have a diagnosed learning disability, please present your documentation to Professor Karen Chartrand (office in The Hundred, phone 314-837-6777, extension 1521), who will help you with the necessary accommodations.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Professor Alice Perrey

Office: 030—downstairs under Room 102, 2nd door on the left

Office hours: Tuesday through Friday: 9:00-10:30 a.m. in my office

Tuesday and Thursday: 4:00-5:30 p.m. in The Hundred

Phone: (314) 837-6777, extension 1515

Campus mailbox: B054

e-mail: aperrey@slconline.edu