DREA 0091-63204
Concepts in Basic Reading
Spring 2015
01/20/15-03/20/15

Meeting Time: M/T/W/R 11:00AM- 12:20PM
Class Room: W-176
Credit Hours: 3 credit hours
Professor: Wilma Robinson
Email: wrobinson@dccc.edu
Office Phone Number: 214-860-8643
Office Number: W-170A
Office Hours: TBD

Division: Communications and Social Sciences
Office Hours: 7:30AM – 7:00PM
Office Phone: 214-860-8831
Office Number: 279B

PREREQUISITE
A score of 9 on the Asset Test, 342-347 on the TSI, or a recommendation from a previous reading instructor would indicate that a student has the reading skills needed for this course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course presents basic reading comprehension and vocabulary skills. Literary Analysis is also introduced.

COURSE GOALS
This course is an 8 week course that is individualized, prescriptive, and self-paced. Students will be pre-tested to determine their instructional reading level as well as specific areas needing development or reinforcement, and will be assigned various skill-building materials. At the end of the 8 week flex term, students will be post-tested to determine progress.

COURSE MATERIALS (Required)
(The textbook is available online with the Aplia program).
Spiral notebook - 5 class sectional
#2 pencils, and Pens – black or blue
1 Scantron Form 20788-PAR (Exit Exam)

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students should be proficient in four content areas:

- **Main Idea and supporting Details**
  Identifying the main idea of a passage and comprehending explicit textual information in a passage

- **Inferences in a Text or Texts**
  Synthesizing ideas by making a connection or comparison between two passages
  Making an appropriate inference about single passages.

- **Author’s Use of Language**
  Identifying an author’s purpose, tone, and organization or rhetorical strategies and use of evidence
  Determining the meaning of words in context

- **Literary Analysis**
  Identifying and analyzing ideas in an element of literary texts

**Attendance Policy:**
To be successful in this class, students are expected to attend class regularly. The instructional schedule cannot accommodate excessive or unnecessary absences. Students are allowed two unexcused absences in this class. In cases where the student must be absent, it is the student’s responsibility to discuss the absence with me upon his/her returning to class, and make up all required assignment(s). Some activities conducted during class cannot be made up. **Tardiness can be disruptive and will not be permitted. If you are more than 15 minutes late to class, you will be marked absent.**

Students will have the opportunity to work alone, in small groups, and large groups. To benefit the most from this course, it is important that you actively participate in the learning process. **Two unexcused absences are allowed in this class.**

**Evaluation Procedures:**

**STUDENTS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN THE NCDR 1 HOUR LAB MUST ATTEND AND SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE ALL LAB ASSIGNMENTS. STUDENTS WHO DO NOT EARN A PASSING LAB GRADE WILL NOT EARN A PASSING GRADE IN THIS COURSE (DREA 0091).**

Grades will be determined based on the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aplia Skill Tests</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Notes</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literary Analysis</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SEMESTER GRADING CRITERIA**
Developmental Reading Exit Exam:
In addition to successfully completing the student learning outcomes (earning a C or better in this course/showing progress), students must also pass the Reading Exit Exam to advance to the next reading course or exit Developmental Reading. If both objectives are not met, students must repeat the course and/or retest on their own.

Students must meet the following criteria to be eligible to take the DREA exit exam:
- Regular class attendance - no more than 2 unexcused absences by the time of testing.
- Successful completion of required coursework – as specified by the instructor
- Mountain View College ID and Test Pass Required

NOTE: DREA students that are ineligible to take the exit exam due to course performance, but do take the Asset or TSI will forfeit the score.

Exit Exam Testing:
Round 1 – Asset – Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Classroom Policies
Lecture and class discussion will be elements of the course. The following is a list of class expectations.

- Assignments will be posted in Aplia and blackboard
- All assignments are due at the beginning of class.
- Students are expected to have all homework assignments prepared before class.
- Students who are absent from class are responsible for any material covered in class and any assignments. **An absence is not an acceptable excuse for not turning in assignments.**
- No eating, drinking or gum chewing in class
- Make up tests may be allowed under extenuating circumstances, at the discretion of the instructor. Written documentation should be provided for absences in order to make-up a test.
- The highest grade that can be earned on a make-up test is 80% - no exceptions.

Withdrawal Policy
LAST DAY TO DROP WITH A GRADE OF “W” is **Saturday, February, 28, 2015.**
Students who are unable to complete this course, must formally withdraw by **Saturday, February 28, 2015.** The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar’s Office by **Saturday, February 28, 2015.** Failure to do so will result in a failing performance grade, usually an "F."

**Electronic Devices**
**Cellular Phones & Electronic Devices** - Because of the numerous interruptions caused by cell phones and other electronic devices, please remember to turn them off before class begins and put them out of sight. No personal electronic devices are to be used in the classroom. All hands-free devices must be taken off and put out of sight. It is a courtesy that will protect the learning environment for all participants. Therefore, if your phone rings (makes a noise) or sounds, or if you receive or make a phone call during class, or any of these devices are used during class, this includes texting and twittering, **YOU WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE CLASSROOM AND THE INCIDENT WILL COUNT AS AN ABSENCE FOR EACH OCCURRENCE!!!**

**Stop Before You Drop**
For students who enrolled in the college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions.

Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “w”. Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in the Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access:[https://www1.dcccd.edu/doursedrops](https://www1.dcccd.edu/doursedrops)

**Institutional Policies:**
**Repeating This Course:**
Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. This class **may not** be repeated for the third or subsequent time without paying the additional tuition. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 semester. More information is available at: [http://www.dcccd.edu/Current+Students/Paying+for+College/Third+Course+Attempt/](http://www.dcccd.edu/Current+Students/Paying+for+College/Third+Course+Attempt/)

**Financial Aid:**
Students who are receiving any form of financial aid should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

**New Retest Policy**
Students who take the TSI placement exam during the course of the semester and score high enough (351+) to exit DREA can exit the course with a grade of an A, B, or C. However, the student must attend a minimum of 40% of the class time. If the **40% rule** (3 of 8 weeks class) is
not applied, then the letter grade can be an “F.” If the student officially withdraws from the class, then the letter grade will be a “W.” Financial Aid recipients are encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office for additional information regarding this policy.

**Academic Honesty (Plagiarism):**
Academic honesty is expected, and integrity is valued in the Dallas County Community Colleges. Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. Students who engage in academic dishonesty will receive an “F” in the course and possibly expulsion from the college.

**The Texas Success Initiative (TSI)**
The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a statewide program designed to ensure that students enrolled in Texas public colleges and universities have the basic academic skills needed to be successful in college-level course work. The TSI requires assessment, remediation (if necessary), and advising of students who attend a public college or university in the state of Texas. The program assesses a student's basic academic skills in reading, writing, and math. Passing the assessment is a prerequisite for enrollment in many college level classes. Students who do not meet assessment standards may complete prerequisite requirements by taking developmental courses in the deficient area and passing them with a grade of C or higher. Additional information is available at [https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0910/admiss/tsi_requirements.cfm](https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0910/admiss/tsi_requirements.cfm).

**Student Code of Conduct:**
All enrolled Mountain View students are responsible for following the guidelines and policies of the DCCCD Student Code of Conduct. As an enrolled student you accept the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by the policies and the procedures in place for violations of the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct applies to the classroom, student activities on and off campus, as well as campus facilities. Details on the Student Code of Conduct are available at [https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0910/ss/code.cfm](https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0910/ss/code.cfm).

**ADA Statement:**
If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the Mountain View College Disability Services Office. Office: S1053 Phone: 214-860-8691

The Disability Services/Special Services Office offers a variety of support services for students with disabilities. Students requesting services are responsible for providing current educational or psychological documentation from a qualified professional verifying the disability and the need for services. For additional information, contact the Disability services/Special Services Office at Mountain View College or visit the website at [http://www.dcccd.edu/Current+Students/Student+Services/Disability+Services/](http://www.dcccd.edu/Current+Students/Student+Services/Disability+Services/)

**Religious Holidays:**
Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence.
Inclement Weather:
In case of inclement weather, you may call the hotline at 214-860-8888 or visit the Mountain View College website to learn if the campus is closed. In the event there is inclement weather that affects regular scheduled classes and events on the Mountain View campus, the Dallas County Community College District and Mountain View College web pages will display a notification of any closings or delays. You may also call the hotline at 214-860-8888. **If there is no notice of changes or delays, then classes are in session as usual.** You also may refer to announcements on major television and radio stations in the event that the DCCCD or Mountain View College Internet sites cannot be accessed.

Disclaimer Reserving Right to Change Syllabus: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course requirements, assignments, grading procedures, and other related policies as circumstances so dictate.
Welcome to Mountain View College. Your college professors will expect you to conduct yourself as a mature, responsible, aware, and honest individual. College professors assume students are prepared for the academic and behavioral rigors of college, but if no one has explained what is expected of you, how do you know? Here are a few tips to help you make a successful transition from high school to college. (In other words, this is a community college – not a community high school! What worked in high school will usually not work in college.)

- Always turn in your best work with no excuses.
- Always come to class prepared with pen, pencil, paper, textbook, homework.
- Do not engage in side conversations while someone else is talking, especially the professor.
- Follow through on promised arrangements, assignments, attendance, and office appointments.
- Do not walk in late to class and disrupt by announcing why you’re late.
- Do not walk in late to class and ask your professor if you can talk to her/him privately. The time for this private conversation is during a professor’s office hours or by appointment.
- Do not leave class early unless you have previously made your professor aware.
- 3 Before Me: You should endeavor to access resources and glean information on your own, when possible. Therefore, I will institute the “3 Before Me” rule which states you should consult three resources before asking your professor about a classroom policy. Examples are: the class syllabus, the course textbook, a classmate, MVC website, DCCCD website, course website, the Writing Center, etc.
- Do not ask your professor for extra credit opportunities in order to pass the course, especially if you have missed one or more assignments. Extra credit opportunities are for those students whose grades are close but not quite at the C, B, or A mark.
- Understand communication etiquette regarding proper use of email and face-to-face conversations, and address your professor as she/he wishes (e.g., “Dr. Jones, Mrs. Carter, or Professor Taylor”).
- Dress appropriately. Of course you may dress casually, but not sloppily, scandalously or scantily. Please, no sagging pants/jeans or profane T-shirts.
- Understand how to access your course grade and regularly check it rather than asking your professor “how am I doing”.
- **Hope is NOT a strategy – have a Plan B when something goes wrong.**
Some statements to avoid – never say to a professor:

- Will this be on the test?
- Are we turning this in?
- Should I write this down?
- How many pages does this paper/project have to be?
- Does the paper have to be typed?
- What time is this class over?
- Can you proofread/correct my paper for me?
- I have to leave early today. Are we doing anything important?
- I wasn’t here yesterday/last week. What did we do?
- I didn’t know there was a test/quiz today. I was absent when you said that.
- I couldn’t be in class yesterday/today because I had to finish a paper/homework/project in another class.
- I have to work on Mondays. Can I be excused on those days?
- I didn’t have time to go to the library/study/do my homework.
- May I go to the restroom? Instead, know the in-and-out policy.
- The week before finals: What can I do to get an “A” in (or pass) this class?
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 20, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Classes – Professional Development</td>
<td>Thursday &amp; Friday February 19 &amp; 20, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classes resume</td>
<td>Monday, February 23, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day to Withdraw with W</td>
<td>Saturday, February 28, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>DREA Exit Exam – Asset</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 4, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>March 9 – 13, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class resume</td>
<td>Monday, March 16, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day for January Flex</td>
<td>Thursday, March 19, 2015</td>
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