

**Course Title: Analytical Reading for Academic Comprehension**

**Instructional Hours:** This course meets for two hours twice a week for 16 weeks, totaling 64 hours in the semester.

**Course Description:** Students will read academic discourse in a variety of disciplines and practice critical analysis. Reading historical fiction and identifying literary terms and devices will also be included. Students will also practice and learn informal forms of writing such as reflective writing, response writing, and discovery writing and their importance in deeper thinking and understanding of academic and literary material.

**Course Objectives:** In this course, students will:

- Employ level-appropriate pre-reading skills.
- Identify main ideas, details and organizational patterns.
- Recognize point of view and author bias in nonfiction readings.
- Summarize unadapted readings of fiction and nonfiction.
- Use contextual clues to determine the meaning of new vocabulary.
- Use elements of fiction to analyze short stories and/or novels.
- Evaluate source material for reliability and validity.
- Improve reading speed and comprehension.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Apply critical thinking skills and respond to unadapted selections of fiction and nonfiction.
- Use the elements of fiction to analyze and respond to unadapted works of fiction.
- Use online databases to collect research information for additional learning.
- Gain experience reading literature and historical information in depth, and analyzing appropriate rhetorical and literary styles and approaches including genre and audience analysis.
- Explore and utilize new and interesting technology tools that can help students read, write and think in new ways
- Gain a sense of curiosity about various topics addressing history, culture, and society

## Assignments:

- Reading academic and literary material, including one historical fiction novel.
- Freewriting, reflective writing and discovery writing based on fictional and non-fictional reading.
- One research project based on a variety of academic disciplines with which students will share researched information using appropriate references and academic presentation skills.
- Vocabulary and reading comprehension exercises
- Pair and group activities, includes oral presentations
- Discussions analyzing readings and a variety of themes
- Objective exams and quizzes
- Summarizing and paraphrasing activities
- Timed nonfiction reading
- Silent sustained reading

## Grading:

Writing: 20-40% (Written homework, summaries, and journals)  
Exams: 50-70% (All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.)  
Other: 10-15% (Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.)

\*percentages may vary according to instructor discretion

100-98% = A+; 97-93%=A; 92-90%=A-  
89-88%=B+; 87-83%=B; 82-80%=B-  
79-78%=C+; 77-73%=C; 70-72%=C-  
69-68%=D+; 67-63%=D; 62-60%=D-  
59% and below = F