SOUTHERN
MAINE
COMMUNITY
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South Portland, Maine 04106

English Department

Title: Advanced Academic Reading	**Catalog Number:** ENGL 090-05
Credit Hours: 3	**Total Contact Hours:** 45
Hybrid: Brightspace/Zoom	**Instructor:** Kate Kerr
Office Hours: Via Zoom	**Email: kkerr@smccme.edu**

Course Syllabus

Spring 2022

Course Description

This hybrid course focuses on the college student's ability to read extensively as well as analyze, synthesize, and apply the information studied. Advanced Academic Reading is designed to aid students in developing and reinforcing the skills needed for reading college-level materials. Emphasis will be on vocabulary development, literal and critical comprehension skills, and study strategies. The course will also focus on increasing research and library skills. Successful completion of ENGL 090 should provide a student with an adequate background to pass college courses that require intensive reading. This course has a preferred co-requisite of ENGL 095. The credits earned in this course will not count toward a degree with SMCC.
Prerequisite(s): ENGL 020, 025 or appropriate placement.

Course Objectives

By successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize and identify both stated and implied main ideas, supporting details, transitions, and patterns of organization in paragraphs and longer passages.
2. Identify and describe different organizational patterns, author purpose, and author's tone in a variety of reading selections.
3. Identify and build Information Literacy skills in response to online research and article validation.
4. Distinguish between critical reading skills, such as making inferences, evaluating arguments, identifying fact / opinion, and recognizing connotative language.
5. Utilize active reading strategies such as annotation, vocabulary development, Cornell Notes, SQ3R, and Triple Highlighting.

6. Understand vocabulary in context of advanced-level texts.
7. Exhibit learning skills and conduct appropriate to a college-level student, such as asking appropriate questions, keeping a record of assignments, completing homework thoughtfully, preparing for exams, and seeking help from the learning center and instructor as needed.

Topical Outline of Instruction

WEEK	TOPIC	WHAT'S DUE?
1	Reading Strategies, Note Taking, Context Clues	
2	Word Parts, Paragraph Parts: Topics, Main Ideas, Details	Notetaking Exercise
3	Implied Main Ideas, Thesis Statements	
4	Intro. to Annotated Bibliography Projects	Exam 1
5	Organizational Patterns, SMCC Authentic Reading Passages	
6	Organizational Patterns, Database Practice	Research Project 1
7	Intro. to Critical Reading Skills, Inference, Author Purpose	
8	Purpose and Tone	Midterm Exam
9	Fact and Opinion	Research Project 2
10	Intro. to Extended Text	
11	Critical Reading Skills and Essays	Exam 3
12	SMCC Authentic Passages, Database Practice	Reading Guide 1
13	Argument, Engaging Extended Text	
14	Argument	Reading Guide 2
15	Critical Reading Skills Exam Review	
16	Conferences, Course Conclusion	Exam 4

Coursework Requirements

1. Participation in the classroom environment, including attendance and proper college behavior. See College Behavior below.

2. Participation in weekly virtual meetings via Zoom conferencing software.

3. Participation in Brightspace course discussions sections when presented.

4. Two research projects using library databases. Throughout the semester we will learn and practice a number of different research techniques. Central to this goal to expand your research capabilities, you will utilize resources such as the internet and services offered by the SMCC library online such as EbscoHost, ProQuest, CQ Researcher, and Marvel, to name a few. Your understanding of these vast resources will contribute significantly to your ability to research and record information vital to your academic endeavors.

5. Four assessments on textbook chapters covered throughout the semester. This course is organized according to the different skills active readers use and practice. After a set of skills is discussed and practiced in class there will be a skills assessment, known as a unit round-up.

   - **Exam 1**: Active Reading, Context Clues, Word Parts, Main Ideas, Implied Main Ideas
   - **Exam 2**: Main Idea, Implied Main Idea, Details, Paragraph Parts, Organizational Patterns
   - **Exam 3**: Critical Reading Skills: Author Purpose, Inference, Fact, Opinion, Tone, Bias
   - **Exam 4**: Critical Reading Skills and Argument

6. The reading of assigned extended non-fiction articles and completion of reading guides issued for the articles with comprehension, paraphrasing, and summary practice, and vocabulary development prompts.

Student Evaluation and Grading

Notetaking Exercise	10%
Research Projects	20%
Exams	40%
Reading Guides	20%
Course Participation	10%

Text, Tools and / or Supplies

   1. *More Reading Power 3* by Beatrice S. Mikulecky and Linda Jeffries

   2. *Ten Steps to Advancing College Reading Skills* by John Langan (Online)

   3. Extended Texts – The instructor will assign two non-fiction articles from a compilation originating at Longform.org.

   4. A collection of authentic reading passages drawn from courses at SMCC.

   5. Access to a computer: All course components will require use of a computer and access to the internet.

Attendance Policy

An essential aspect of learning is being able to explain your understanding of the material we cover. Therefore I place a strong emphasis on class participation. While this course is online, attendance and participation are very important for student success. ***Simply logging in to the zoom meeting is NOT enough to constitute attendance.*** Students need to be engaged and participate actively in each class. By being engaged, students show respect for one another and create an atmosphere where all students feel comfortable voicing their ideas and understandings. One way to indicate engagement is to turn on your zoom camera. This helps students stay focused during class. My experience is that students who keep their camera on usually earn a full grade (or two!) higher than those who do not. If you choose to turn off your camera, you will need to work very hard to show you are present and engaged in our work by participating, asking questions, and volunteering your ideas. In addition, as stated in the SMCC College Catalog, the instructor must assign a student the grade of AF (Administrative Failure) after a student has not submitted assignments, discussions, or quizzes for two consecutive weeks and the student has not contacted the instructor with a reason for being absent from the course. Faculty members have authority to establish attendance standards appropriate to their courses.

College Behavior

Professional college behavior can include, but is not limited to, the following:
- Student has assignments prepared and submits them on time.
- Student prepares to listen attentively and with courtesy during class meetings.
- Student keeps cell phone on vibrate or silent and does not use it during class meetings.
- Student avoids rude, disruptive behavior and follows classroom guidelines for sharing information.
- Student takes care of non-course-related business before class meetings.
- Student does not sleep or work on other courses during class meetings.

If any student has an issue with adhering to these practices, he or she should consult the SMCC Code of Student Conduct or contact the Dean of Students.

The Learning Commons
The library, tutoring and writing centers, and reference/research assistance (typically located on the second floor of South Portland's Campus Center and in the Midcoast's LL Bean Learning Commons and Health Science Center) will be fully available online during the spring 2022 semester.

Here you can find free academic support through individually scheduled and drop in, online tutoring. You can also find information literacy/research librarians, and professional academic strategy/planning mentoring online. We can also work with you to set up zoom classrooms for small group study. Services are offered by appointment or as drop-in assistance.
To access services:

- Visit My Learning in My Maine Guide or
- Select the "tutoring needed" button if it appears inside your Brightspace course.

Whether on site or online, students have consistently reported that the Learning Commons is a friendly, risk-free, and helpful place to seek academic support. It has also been shown that those who make use of the Learning Commons do better in a course than those who do not. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this valuable and enjoyable resource.

End-of-Course Evaluation
Students complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal. Students can access the course evaluations beginning one week before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs Monday at 5 p.m. following the last day of the class. You will receive an email to your student account when course evaluations are available.

ADA Syllabus Statement
Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call (207) 741-5798. If you have a disabling condition and wish to request accommodations in order to have reasonable access to the programs and services offered by SMCC, you must register with the Disability Services Coordinator, Sandra Lynham, who can be reached at (207) 741-5923. Further information about services for students with disabilities and the accommodation process is available upon request at this number. Course policies about online testing are modified to suit each individual's accommodations.

SMCC Pay-for-Print Policy
Each semester students receive a $20 printing credit. The balance resets at the end of the semester and any remaining credits are removed. The College's pay-for-print system monitors printing on all printers (including those in general access labs, library printers, Tutoring Services, Campus Center Lounge and technology labs). Be sure to log OUT of the system when you've finished your printing, to prevent unauthorized access to your account. Students can check the number of pages they have printed by using the Printing Balance tool available on SMCC computers (located in the lower right corner of the screen, near the clock). Departments with work study students who need to print documents for the department should contact the Help

Desk at 741-5696 to have a special account set up. To find ways to reduce your printing charges, please go to the IT Help tab on My SMCC. If you have questions about the pay-for-printing policy or your printing charges, please contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 or send an email to helpdesk@smccme.edu.

Refunds
Print jobs are eligible for a refund in the event of mechanical or electronic error on the part of the printer, print server, or software used to submit the job. Jobs are not eligible for a refund in cases where the job was not set up correctly, was submitted multiple times, or the student is not satisfied with the result. To request a refund, please bring the offending print to the IT Department in the basement of the Ross Technology Center. Refunds will be granted in the form of a credit to the student's account.

Add-Drop Policy
Students who drop a course during the one-week "add/drop" period in the fall and spring semesters and the first three days of summer sessions receive a 100% refund of the tuition and associated fees for that course. Please note any course that meets for less than the traditional semester length, i.e., 15 weeks, has a pro-rated add/drop period. There is no refund for non-attendance.

Withdrawal Policy
A student may withdraw from a course only during the semester in which s/he is registered for that course. The withdrawal period is the second through twelfth week of the Fall and Spring semesters and the second through ninth week of twelve-week Summer courses. This period is pro-rated for shorter-length courses (usually 75 percent of course meeting times; please check with the Registration Office. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Registration Office. This process must be completed either in person or by using SMCC e-mail accounts.

Plagiarism Statement
If an instructor suspects that a student has knowingly committed a violation defined in the Maine Community College System Policy on Student Grade Appeals and Academic Misconduct, the instructor has the authority to review the alleged misconduct and determine the grade that the student should receive for the assignment and the course. The instructor may assign a failing grade for the assignment or course and may require the student to complete additional work for the course. The instructor may consult with the department chair and/or the College's chief academic officer prior to making such decisions. If a student seeks to challenge an instructor's determination, the student should submit a grade appeal. Grade appeal forms are available in the Advising Office on the South Portland Campus or in the administrative offices in the Learning Commons on the Midcoast Campus. An instructor may also refer the matter to the College's disciplinary officer for review under the procedures of the MCCS Student Code of Conduct.