

Saint Louis Christian College

GEN 020N College Reading

Fall 2014
Monday's 6:00 – 7:50 p.m.
No course prerequisites

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 Student Learning Objectives:

- 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.)

Professor Jacqueline Carter
jcarter@slconline.edu
314-503-4440

Saint Louis Christian College

GEN 020N College Reading

Course Objectives

This course will concentrate on the following skills:

- 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 practice reading various types of materials encountered in college, including essays and short stories.

You will demonstrate your knowledge by:

- Completing assigned work in the vocabulary textbook.
- Demonstrating an ability to find the main idea and supporting details of paragraphs and essays.
- Identifying the pattern(s) of organization in paragraphs.
- Distinguishing between fact and opinion.
- Identifying an author's arguments.

Course Requirements

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. According to school policy, if you miss more than 25% of the attendance days for any reason, you will be withdrawn from the class. There is no difference between excused and unexcused absences. Missing more than 15 minutes of any class session will constitute an absence.

Class Work: Most of the textbook exercises will be done in class. Students are, therefore, expected to bring their textbooks to class every day. You will have assignments from both the reading textbook and the vocabulary book.

Timely Work: Part of being successful in any class is to submit assigned work on time. Therefore, late work will be accepted for a maximum of 1 week past the due date of the assignment, and will be counted at 1/2 the earned score. After 1 week, late work will not be accepted.

Professor Jacqueline Carter
jcarter@slconline.edu
314-503-4440

Saint Louis Christian College

GEN 020N College Reading

Course Requirements

Examinations and Quizzes: Four examinations will test the student's ability to apply the reading strategies learned in class. All grading will be according to the point system approved by the college. **Missed quizzes and exams may not be made up**, without prior permission from the professor. Exceptions will be granted for *documented* illness or bereavement.

Nelson Denny Reading Test: To pass the class, *no matter what your grade average*, you must score at least 10th grade level on at least one section of the Nelson Denny Reading Test, administered twice during the semester.

Materials: These are the required materials for the course:

Ten Steps to Advancing College Reading Skills, Second Edition, by John Langan. ISBN: 1-59194-295-0

Advancing Vocabulary Skills Short Version, Fourth Edition by Sherrie L. Nist. ISBN: 1-59194-199-7

The Holy Bible: any version

Course Assessment

Weekly Textbook Assignments—Mastery Tests—35%

Weekly Vocabulary Assignments—Final Check—15%

Quizzes—10%

Tests—40%

Course Policies

- *Courtesy and a positive regard for the learning of others is expected at all times.*
- *You may not use cell phones, Blackberries, MP3 players, Gameboys, etc. in class. Cell phones must be either off or turned to "vibrate". Laptop computers are not necessary in this class and require either the instructor's permission or must be a necessary accommodation for your disability.*
- *Earphones/Bluetooth headpieces are not permitted in class.*
- *Text messaging, social networking or computer games during class are not allowed.*
- *All work must be turned in by the beginning of the final exam. No work will be accepted after the final begins.*
- *No extra credit will be assigned or accepted.*
- *Sleeping in class is done at your own risk, and will result in being counted absent for the class, whether or not you are dismissed from class.*
- *All documents not distributed in class will be put in the student's SLCC mailbox.*
- *E-mail sent to Professor Carter will be answered in a timely manner—usually within 24 hours, but not on weekends.*
- *If you have a diagnosed learning disability, please present your documentation to Professor Karen Duffy (kduffy@slcconline.edu, ext. 1521). She can help you with the necessary accommodations. No accommodations can be granted without Prof. Duffy's recommendation.*

Professor Jacqueline Carter

jcarter@slcconline.edu

314-503-4440

Saint Louis Christian College
GEN 020N College Reading

GEN 020N College Reading Course Schedule

	Chapter Readings	Assignments Due *On the first day of class*
Before the 1st class	10: Read pages 3-12 10: Chapter 1 AVS: Read and complete pages 1-6 AVS: Read Ch. 1 & 2	AVS: Chapter 1 Final Check p. 11 AVS: Chapter 2 Final Check p. 15

10 = Ten Steps to Advancing College Reading Skills, 2nd Edition
AVS = Advancing Vocabulary Skills, Short Version, 4th Edition

Professor Jacqueline Carter
jcarter@slcconline.edu
314-503-4440