

**Saint Louis Christian College**  
**GEN 020-College Reading**

Alice Perrey  
3 Credit Hours

Fall, 2014

No course prerequisites

Wednesday and Friday

8:40-9:55 a.m.

**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

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.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Specific Objective	Method of Assessment
The student will attain at least a 10 <sup>th</sup> grade level in vocabulary knowledge.	Nelson-Denny Reading Test Vocabulary exercises Unit exams
The student will attain at least a 10 <sup>th</sup> grade level in comprehension skills.	Nelson-Denny Reading Test Textbook mastery tests Exams

Classroom instruction to help the student meet the objectives will concentrate on the following skills:

**Vocabulary skills**, especially the use of context clues.

**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.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS (EXPECTATIONS)

**Passing the class:** GEN 020, College Reading is a developmental class, and it seeks to bring reading skills up to a college level. Obtaining a grade of **S** (Satisfactory) is dependent on meeting standards on **both** of the following criteria:

- An average of 80% or better on classwork and exams; **and**
- Scoring at least 10<sup>th</sup> grade level on at least one section of the Nelson-Denny Reading Test, administered twice during the semester.

Students not achieving **both** an 80% average and at least 10<sup>th</sup> grade level on the Nelson-Denny will receive a grade of **U** (Unsatisfactory) for the semester.

**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. If you come in after attendance has been taken, you will be marked tardy. Being tardy 3 times constitutes 1 absence.

**Examinations and Quizzes:** 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 exams may not be made up**, without *prior* permission from the professor. Exceptions will be granted for *documented* illness or bereavement. Should you be absent because of an athletic walk, your test must be taken *before* you leave.

**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. **All assigned work is due at the beginning of class.** Late work will be accepted for a maximum of 1 week past the due date of the assignment, but will be counted at 1/2 the earned score. After 1 week, late work will not be accepted.

**Materials:** These are the required materials for the course:

***Ten Steps to Improving College Reading Skills***, by John Langan.

***Advancing Vocabulary Skills Short Version*** by Sherrie L. Nist.

***The Holy Bible***: any version

## COURSE ASSESSMENT—CRITERIA FOR GRADING

The final grade will be determined by the following criteria:

Assignment	Percentage	Method of Assessment
4 examinations, including vocabulary	40%	Objective—Multiple choice, matching, true/false, fill-in
Textbook assignments	25%	Objective
Vocabulary assignments	15%	Objective
Nelson Denny Test	20%	Objective; Grading scale: all sections above 10 <sup>th</sup> grade—100%; 1 section 10 <sup>th</sup> grade or above—80%; no sections at 10 <sup>th</sup> grade level—0%

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<b>Class date</b>	<b>What you should do before class (your homework)</b>	<b>Turn in</b>	<b>What we'll do in class</b>
Aug. 20	•		• Introduction to class • Nelson-Denny vocabulary
Aug. 22	• Nist: pages 8-9		• Nelson-Denny Comprehension • Nist: Ch. 1
Aug. 27	• Nist: 12-13, Ch. 1 Final Check • Langan: 21-34	• Nist: Ch. 1 Final Check	• Nist: Ch. 2 • Langan: Ch. 1—Vocabulary in Context
Aug. 29	• Nist: 16-17, Ch. 2 Final Check • Langan: 40-44. Be prepared to answer the discussion questions in class	• Nist: Ch. 2 Final Check • Langan: 42-44	• Nist: Ch. 3 • Langan: Ch. 1 Review Tests
Sept. 3	• Nist: 20-21, Ch. 3 Final Check • Langan: 45-56; 57-64	• Nist: Ch. 3 Final Check • Langan: 45-56	• Nist: Ch. 4 • Langan: Ch. 2—Main Ideas
Sept. 5	• Nist: 24-25, Ch. 4 Final Check • Langan: 64-79	• Nist: Ch. 4 Final Check	• Nist: Ch. 5 • Langan: Ch. 2 Review Tests
Sept. 10	<b>NO CLASS</b> —Infinite Influence		
Sept. 12	• Nist: 28, Ch. 5 Final Check • Langan: 85-102	• Nist: Ch. 5 Final Check • 88-90; 91-102	• Nist: Unit 1 Review • Langan: Ch. 2 wrap-up
Sept. 17	• Nist: 29-32; 38-39 • Langan: 103-119; 124-128	• Nist: 29-32 • Langan: 127-128	• Nist: Ch. 6 • Langan: Ch. 3—Main Ideas
Sept. 19	• Nist: 42-43, Ch. 6 Final Check • Langan: 129-140	• Nist: Ch. 6 Final Check • Langan: 129-140	• Nist: Ch. 7 • Langan: Ch. 3
Sept. 24			<b>TEST</b> —Nist Unit 1; Langan Ch. 1-3
Sept. 26	• Nist: 46-47, Ch. 7 Final Check • Langan: 141-148	• Nist: Ch. 7 Final Check	• Nist: Ch. 8 • Langan: Ch. 4—Implied Main Ideas (148-155)
Oct. 1	• Nist: 50-51, Ch. 8 Final Check • Langan: 161-167	• Nist: Ch. 8 Final Check • Langan: 165-167	• Nist: Ch. 9 • Langan: Ch. 4 Review Tests
Oct. 3	<b>NO CLASS</b> —Fall Break		
Oct. 8	• Nist: 54-55, Ch. 9 Final Check • Langan: 169-180; 181-190	• Nist: Ch. 9 Final Check • Langan: 169-180	• Nist: Ch. 10 • Langan: Ch. 5—Relationships I
Oct. 10	• Nist: 58-62 • Langan: 203-207	• Nist: 59-62 • Langan: 205-207	• Nist: Unit 2 Review • Langan: Ch. 5 Review Tests
Oct. 15	• Nist: 68-69, 72-73 • Langan: 443-446	• Langan: 445-446	• Nist: Ch. 11-12 • Langan: Readings 1-2
Oct. 17	• Nist: Ch. 11-12 Final Check	• Nist: Ch. 11-12 Final Check	• <b>TEST</b> —Nist Unit 2; Langan Ch. 1-4
Oct. 22	• Nist: 76-77 • Langan: 221-233		• Nist: Ch. 13 • Langan: Ch. 6—Relationships II (Illustration; Comparison/Contrast)
Oct. 24	• Nist: 80-81, Ch. 13 Final Check • Langan: 233-241	• Nist: Ch. 13 Final Check	• Nist: Ch. 14 • Langan: Ch. 6—Cause/Effect and Review tests

Class Date	What you should do before class (your homework)	Turn in	What we'll do in class
Oct. 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: 84-85, Ch. 14 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan: 246-252</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 14 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan: 250-252</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 15</li> <li>• Langan: Reading 3</li> </ul>
Oct. 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 15 Final Check, 83-92</li> <li>• Langan: 253-264</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 15 Final Check; 89-92</li> <li>• Langan: 253-264</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unit 3 Review</li> <li>• Review of Relationships</li> </ul>
Nov. 5			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>TEST</b>—Nist Unit 3; Langan Ch. 5-6</li> </ul>
Nov. 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: 98-99</li> <li>• Langan: 273-280</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 16</li> <li>• Langan: Ch. 7—Inferences (280-289)</li> </ul>
Nov. 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: 102-103, Ch. 16 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan: 290-294</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 16 Final Check</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 17</li> <li>• Langan: Ch. 7 Review Tests</li> </ul>
Nov. 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: 106-107, Ch. 17 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan: 307-318; 319-324</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 17 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan 307-318</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 18</li> <li>• Langan: Ch. 8--Purpose and Tone</li> </ul>
Nov. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: 110-111, Ch. 18 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan: 325-336; 342-349</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 18 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan: 347-349</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 19</li> <li>• Langan: Ch 8 Review Tests.</li> </ul>
Nov. 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: 114-115, Ch. 19 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan: 351-362; 363-376</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 19 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan: 351-362</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 20</li> <li>• Langan: Ch. 9—Argument Review Tests</li> </ul>
Nov. 26—28	<b>NO CLASS</b> —Thanksgiving Break		
Dec. 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: 118, Ch. 20 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan: 387-398</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nist: Ch. 20 Final Check</li> <li>• Langan: 387-398</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Langan: Ch. 10—Critical Reading: Fact and Opinion</li> </ul>
Dec. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Langan: 423-427; 429-432</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Langan: 426-427, Questions 1-8; 429-432</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nelson Denny Test</b></li> </ul>
Dec. 9-11	<b>FINAL EXAM</b> —Consult the final exam schedule for day, time, and room The final exam is comprehensive (it will cover everything), but it counts as a regular test.		

## RESOURCES:

Internet Public Library

Dictionary of the English Language

Google Books

St. Louis Christian College

Bible Gateway

Vocabulary game

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

Foster, Thomas C. *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. New York: Harper Collins, 2003.

[www.ipl.org](http://www.ipl.org)

[www.bartleby.com/61](http://www.bartleby.com/61)

[books.google.com](http://books.google.com)

[www.slcconline.edu](http://www.slcconline.edu)

[www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

[www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com)

## 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". Laptop computers are not necessary in this class and require either the instructor's permission or must be a necessary accommodation for your disability. **Exception: Electronic devices are permitted for e-book users.**

3. Earphones/Bluetooth headpieces are not permitted in class.
4. Text messaging, social networking, or computer games during class are not allowed.
5. No extra credit will be assigned or accepted.
6. No food or drink is permitted in the classroom.
7. 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.
8. All documents not distributed in class will be put in the student's SLCC mailbox.
9. E-mail sent to Mrs. Perrey will be answered in a timely manner—usually within 24 hours, but not on weekends.
10. 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.

## **INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

### **Professor Alice Perrey**

Office: 030—downstairs under Room 102, 2<sup>nd</sup> door on the left

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00-10:00 a.m., 12:00-1:15 p.m.

Wednesday and Friday: 1:30-2:45 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday: 3:00-4:15 p.m. by appointment

Phone: (314) 837-6777, extension 1515; cell: (636) 395-0607 (either text or voice)

e-mail: aperrey@slcconline.edu