

**Mayland Community College
Welcomes You To:**

**RED 090
Section 10
Fall 2007**



IMPROVED COLLEGE READING

Contact Hours: 5

Credit Hours: 4

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to improve reading and critical thinking skills. Topics include vocabulary enhancement; extracting implied meaning; analyzing author's purpose, tone, and style; and drawing conclusion and responding to written material. Upon completion, students should be able to comprehend and analyze college-level reading material. *This is a developmental course and does not count towards graduation.*

COURSE PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES: Placement test scores and/or Reading 080.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Instructor: Jan C. Graham
Office Location: #259 Administrative building
Phone number: 765-7351 ext. 264
E-mail address: jgraham@mayland.edu
Office Hours: T, Th 10:30-1:00
Others by appointment

COURSE INFORMATION: Class meets Tuesday and Thursday 8-10:20 in room 238 in the administrative building.

REQUIRED TEXTS: *Reading and All That Jazz, Mather and McCarthy.*

REQUIRED CLASS SUPPLIES: Other than paper and writing utensils, you will need two three-ring binders.

**Mission Statement and Competencies
for the General Education Core:**

This course directly supports the mission statement and competencies for the General Ed core courses in the Division of Arts and Sciences:

Mayland Community College's General Education core courses will provide the essential body of knowledge and skills that enable all degree-level students to perform competently as employees and as contributing members of society.

Graduates of all degree programs at Mayland Community College will have completed the general education core. That core encompasses the essential knowledge and skills that enable all degree-level students to perform competently as employees and as contributing members of society. Upon completion of the general education core, students will be able to demonstrate the following:

- 1 Effective communication in speaking and listening situations needed for college, personal, and work successes
- 2 Effective communication in writing and reading situations needed for college, personal, and work successes
- 3 Logical, critical, and creative thinking to evaluate evidence and reach a conclusion
- 4 Application of basic computer use skills
- 5 Application of fundamental math skills
- 6 Basic awareness of the diversity of various world groups from both historical and contemporary contexts

COURSE OBJECTIVES: *This course will help you develop knowledge and skills by:*

1. Increasing your vocabulary skills through better word recognition and context clues.
2. Improving your reading comprehension through practice in recognizing main ideas, identifying supporting details, understanding transitions, and understanding patterns of organization.
3. Improving and developing your critical thinking skills through practice in distinguishing facts from opinions, making inferences, understanding purpose and tone, detecting propaganda, and evaluating arguments.
4. Exploring your own literacy and determining ways to improve it.
5. Improving your reading of college-level material through practice with selections from different textbooks and literary genres.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: You will receive credit for each class you attend and you are allowed to miss two classes before it affects your attendance grade. It is suggested that you find a classmate to exchange phone numbers with because you will be required to come to every class with homework assignments completed, ready to participate. If you

miss a class, you are still responsible for the reading and homework for the next class. You have one week to submit any missed class work and this is **your** responsibility to check with me concerning any missed class work. Three times tardy will result in one absence. Attendance and class participation will count 10% of your grade. After six absences, you will be expected to meet with me to decide if you can successfully complete the class.

GRADING CRITERIA:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Portfolio | 40% |
| Text Assignments | 10% |
| Presentation | 15% |
| Attendance | 10% |
| Final | 10% |
| Mastery Tests | 15% |

GRADING SCALE:

| | |
|---|----------|
| A | 93-100 |
| B | 86-92 |
| C | 78-85 |
| D | 70-77 |
| F | Below 70 |

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:

Listen to the radio for class cancellation if we have inclement weather. If class meets, please use prudence when deciding on road conditions, but try to be in class if possible. Attendance will be taken. If Mayland is operating on a two-hour delay, class will meet from 10-11:40.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS: You must take responsibility for your own learning and reading improvement by:

1. **Attending all classes.**
2. **Actively participating in all class assignments, activities, and discussions.** Even though reading is an individual activity much can be learned by working with each other in small groups and pairs. Lectures are rare in this class and opinions and thoughts are welcomed. Please show respect for the opinions of others.
3. **Completing all assigned units from the textbook.** Upon completion of each unit in the text, you may be required to pass a mastery test, demonstrating competency in that particular reading skill.
4. **Creating your own reading portfolio.** This is a project that is on-going throughout the entire course. More information will be presented at a later time and much

support is offered through your fellow classmates, past class students, and the instructor.

5. **Assisting fellow classmates in the learning process and working cooperatively.** It is imperative that you work well together and not only accept responsibility for your own learning but the successful learning of your classmates. Peer tutoring is encouraged.
6. **Utilizing reading strategies successfully.** You will be asked to use the strategies presented in the classroom in actual college texts and readings. These strategies should become “second nature” by the end of this class, and you should be able to utilize these strategies in future course reading.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Developmental Class Policy: *You will receive a grade in this class, and the grade will be recorded on your transcript; however, because this is a developmental class, your grade will not be figured with your GPA, nor will it count toward graduation credit.*

Disclaimer: *This is your class. I am here as a facilitator of your growth in reading and as a learner. This syllabus is, therefore, only a guide as to this course and its content. Reasonable suggestions are encouraged and will be considered. There is some flexibility. Also, due to unforeseen situations or needs of the class, this syllabus may vary or change.*

Academic Standards/Student Expectations/Ethics:

In addition to good academic performance, you should exhibit the qualities of honesty and integrity. Any form of dishonesty, cheating, fabrication, the facilitation of academic dishonesty, and plagiarism will make you subject to disciplinary action. At the minimum, you will receive an F for the course. Measures for probation, suspension, or expulsion may also result.

Important Notes: *Mayland Community College is now a tobacco free environment. This includes all smoking and smokeless tobacco. If you do smoke in a designated area, be sure to put your cigarette butts in the trashcans. Actively work to **Keep Mayland Beautiful!** Please recycle whenever possible. If you eat and drink in this classroom, please be sure to throw all trash away in the proper recycling cans. Mayland provides containers for glass, cans, paper, etc. and you are expected to recycle in the correct bin. Furthermore, when using the computer printers, do not print unnecessary documents or multiple copies.*

Personal Note: *I hope that in this class you will learn how to learn and discover the joy of learning so that when you leave this class you will know how to learn and can be successful in future classes. It is my sincere wish that we come together as a community of learners and my desire that we have fun in the process.*

WITHDRAWAL DATES:

September 25
November 1

Last day to drop – Unconditional Withdrawal (W)
Last day to drop – Conditional Withdrawal (WP/WF)

ADMINISTRATIVE WITHDRAWAL:

If you have not been in contact with me and have not attended class for a consecutive two-week period, I will submit an administrative withdrawal. It is not possible to re-enter a class once an administrative withdrawal has been processed. You will receive a WF in I complete an administrative withdrawal form.

ACCOMMODATION:

Any student requesting special accommodations for this course due to a disability should apply for services through the SOAR Office or the Counseling Center, which will document the disability. A counselor will then help determine which accommodations, if any, the student needs for success in this course.

COURSE OUTLINE AND WEEKLY TOPICS: I value reading and believe that practicing the skill of reading results in better reading skills. Therefore, I will give you many opportunities to read inside and outside of class in a variety of genres. The topic and schedule of these assignments varies with the individual interests, levels, and pace of you, the students.

YOUR NOTES:

**Reading 090 (10)
Class Schedule
Fall, 2007**



Note: We will not be doing any of the Internet Activities in the textbook. If there is one included in your homework assignment, you may skip it. Unless otherwise informed, all In Your Own Words and Written Answers are to be mentally completed for discussion in class. They will not be taken up but you will be called on to answer in class these particular questions. Furthermore, we will not be doing the Crossword Puzzles or the Chapter Summary and Reviews for homework.

- #1 8/21 Homework due for 8/23: Read and study the syllabus; pages xxiii – 16.

- #2 8/23 Homework due for 8/28: Pages 17-22.

- #3 8/28 Homework due for 8/30: Pages 25-48.

- #4 8/30 Homework due for 9/4: Pages 49-74.

- #5 9/4 Homework due for 9/6: Pages 77-92. Skip Exercise 3: Writing General or Main Idea Sentences.

- #6 9/6 Homework due for 9/11: Pages 99-112. Skip Exercise 2: Paraphrasing Rhymes, page 100 and Exercise 1: Aunt Caroline, pages 106-107.

- #7 9/11 Homework due for 9/13: Pages 112-124.

- #8 9/13 Homework due for 9/18: Pages 126-140.

- # 9 9/18 Homework due for 9/20: Pages 140-156. Skip Quiz: Determining an Author's Purpose on pages 147-148.

- #10 9/20 Homework due for 9/25: Pages 167-187.

- #11 9/25 Homework due for 9/27: Pages 191-207. Skip Review Test on pages 198-200.

- #12 9/27 Homework due for 10/2: Pages 209-226. Skip Exercise 7: Drawing Inferences from Literature on pages 221-222.

- #13 10/2 Homework due for 10/4: Pages 230-243.

- #14 10/4 Homework due for 10/11: Pages 251-264.

- #15 10/11 Part I of Portfolio due 10/16. Homework due for 10/16: Pages 265-276.

- #16 10/16 **Part I of Portfolio due.** Homework due for 10/18: Pages 277-288.

- #17 10/18 Homework due for 10/23: Pages 290-313.
- #18 10/23 Homework due for 10/25: Pages 323-339.
- #19 10/25 Homework due for 10/30: Pages 339-352. Read over A 28 also.
- #20 10/30 Homework due for 11/1: Pages 401-420. Skip Exercise 6: Distinguishing Fact from Opinion, pages 409-410. Skip Fact and Opinion Quizzes 1 and 2, pages 414-415.
- #21 11/1 Homework due for 11/6: Pages 429-441. Skip Exercise 2: Positive and Negative Connotation, page 435.
- #22 11/6 Homework due for 11/8: Pages 442-452.
- #23 11/8 Homework due for 11/13: Pages 452-464. Be sure to do all Short Answer on pages 459-460.
- #24 11/13 Homework due for 11/15: Pages 469-486. Skip Detecting Propaganda Techniques, page 480.
- #25 11/15 Homework due for 11/20: Pages 495-505.
- #26 11/20 Homework due for 11/27: Pages 505-522. Be sure to write your answers to all questions on these pages.
- #27 11/27 Part 2 of Portfolio due 11/29. Homework due for 11/29: Pages 525-539.
- #28 11/29 **Part 2 of Portfolio due!** Homework due for 12/4: Pages A 12-A 19.
- #29 12/4 Homework due for 12/6: Study for Final; Pages A 20-A 26.
- #30 12/6 Final
- #31 12/11 Commitments for Success
- #32 12/13 Party/Evaluation

