

**RED 90
Section 20
Fall Semester 2007
Room 252**

**Improved College Reading
Credit Hours: 5 Contact 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.

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.

Prerequisites: RED 80

Instructor Information:

Instructor:	Jackie Goins
Office:	TBA
Telephone Number:	737-0311 765-9414
E-mail:	megjag1@interlink-café.com
Office hours:	By appointment

Course Information:

Class meets Monday and Wednesday 5:00pm – 7:20pm in room 252

Required Text: Reading and All That Jazz, Mather and McCarthy

Required Supplies: Two three ring binders.

Course Objectives/Competencies: 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/Tardiness/Make-Up Work:

ATTENDANCE POLICY: You will receive credit for each class you attend. You are not allowed any absences. A lack of attendance will adversely affect your 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. You have one week to submit any missed class work. It is your responsibility to check with me concerning any missed class work. Two times tardy will result in one absence. After four absences, you will be expected to meet with me to decide if you can successfully complete the class.

GRADING CRITERIA:

<i>Portfolio.....</i>	<i>40%</i>
<i>Text Assignments.....</i>	<i>15%</i>
<i>Attendance.....</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>Oral Presentation-----</i>	<i>20%</i>
<i>Final and Mastery Tests</i>	<i>15%</i>

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 scheduling information. Attendance will be taken.

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. Opinions and thoughts are welcomed and encouraged. 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:

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: *For the sake of ethics, be sure that your work is your own. Copying or submitting work of another student will not be accepted.*

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.*

Important Dates:

First day of classes-- August 20

Drop/Add—August 20-24

End of Unconditional Withdrawal— Sept. 25

Fall Break—October 8-9

End of Conditional Withdrawal—November 1

No class Wed. November 21, this class will be made up Friday Dec. 14

Advising/Early Spring Registration November 1-9

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.*

Administrative Withdrawal Policy: if a student has not been in contact with the instructor and has not attended class for a consecutive two-week period, the instructor will submit an administrative withdrawal.

Unconditional Withdrawal-During the first third of any given semester, you will have the ability to drop any course for which you are registered. You will be required to complete the necessary drop form and obtain the appropriate signature (advisor and instructor). You will receive a “W” at this point.

Conditional Withdrawal-During the middle third of any semester, you will have the ability to drop any course for which you are registered. You will be required to complete the necessary drop form and obtain the appropriate signatures (advisor and instructor). You will receive “WP” or “WF” at this point.

No Withdrawal-During the final third of any given semester, you will not be allowed to withdraw from any registered course work. Exceptions to this procedure will only be granted in extreme circumstances (medical emergency). You will be required to complete the necessary drop form and obtain the appropriate signatures (advisor, instructor, division head, Associate Vice President of Academic Services, and Vice President of Academic Services).

NOTE: The official drop date will be the date that the form is received in the registrar’s office.

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 student.

Mission Statement and Competencies for the General Education Core

Mission:

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.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is defined as the act of plagiarizing. That is to say stealing the work of another and passing it on as your own original work. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action, which may also result in failing the course.