

English 162: Developmental Reading
Ohlone College, Fall 2009
Section 01, Room 2207, MWF 11:15am-12:15pm

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Office Hours: MWF 10:00-11:00am --No appt. needed, just drop in!

ELC Hours: Friday, 2nd floor, Hyman Hall, 9-11am & 12:30-1:00pm
I'm the English instructor in the ELC, available to help students

Books

Buy the books for the class in the Ohlone College Bookstore as soon as possible. If a book is not on the shelf, ask a bookstore employee for assistance.

- Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus, by John Gray
- Night, by Elie Wiesel (translated by Marion Wiesel)--Be sure to buy the new translation

Other Materials

- Passport to College Reading (access to the online reading program)
- scantrons (1 package)
- a good college dictionary--highly recommended!

Course Description

There are many reasons to read--for fun and pleasure, to learn information or to understand new ideas. In this class, we will focus primarily on reading for college which, by the way, can also be fun! Specifically, class work will focus on reading for study and learning purposes. You will understand how academic texts are structured and the differences between academic and nonacademic texts. You will learn various reading strategies to improve comprehension and vocabulary. You will be able to explain the author's main idea and respond to the author with ideas of your own. You should gain skill and confidence reading for your college classes.

Student Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, you should be able to do the following:

1. Identify stated and implied main ideas and supporting details in various readings, such as essays, newspaper and magazine articles, textbooks, short novels or nonfiction works.

2. Identify the differences between fact and opinion, make appropriate inferences and draw reasonable conclusions.
3. Identify the thesis and understand the organizational pattern in longer works.
4. Use context clues, word analysis, and the dictionary to increase reading vocabulary.
5. Use the appropriate study skills for college course work, including summarizing, outlining, and taking notes from texts.

Homework

Plan to spend about 6 hours each week doing homework for this class: 3 hours of reading and homework for the class, plus 2 hours of the online reading program and 1 hour for assigned reading programs in the English Learning Center.

Homework assignments are listed on the syllabus under "Reading Due" and "Homework Due." Most of your homework will be reading and writing assignments based on the books for the class or on short readings and articles given out in class. Homework should be neatly written or typed and turned in on the day it is due.

Homework will be evaluated and awarded points based on the following criteria:

- √+ **(5 pts.)** = Homework is complete and well written. All answers are correct or have been corrected properly.
- √. **(4 pts.)** = Homework is complete and clearly written. Most answers are correct or have been corrected properly.
- √.- **(3 pts)** = Homework may be incomplete or poorly written. Some answers are not correct or have not been corrected.
- 0 (0 pts.)** = Homework may be incomplete, unreadable, or answers suggest a serious lack of understanding of the material.

NOTE: Late homework will be accepted and “graded” using the check system, but will lose one point for being late. For instance, a late assignment that receives a Check Plus would only earn 4 points, not 5.

Tests

After each reading unit, you will have a test. Tests will be based on the readings in the unit and very similar to the homework exercises throughout the unit. If you keep up with the reading, complete the homework, and understand the material, you should do well on tests. If you are absent the day of a test, you must be prepared to take the test the day you return, during the instructor’s office hours.

Reading Lab/English Learning Center

In addition to class work and homework, you will have reading activities you can complete on your own that will supplement the coursework.

Online Reading Lab: You will need to complete 2 hours each week of readings in Passport to College Reading, which is an online program.

English Learning Center: You will need to complete 1 hour each week working on assigned programs in the English Learning Center.

Class Attendance

It is necessary to attend class so you can fully understand assignments. If you miss more than **6 classes**, you will probably not receive credit for the course. Missing class is not an excuse for coming unprepared or for not doing work. Check the syllabus to keep up with class work. It is your responsibility to withdraw if you feel you are unable to complete the course. The instructor, however, reserves the right to withdraw a student who misses too many classes or assignments.

Grades

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| Tests: | 70% |
| Reading Lab Work: | 25% |
| Homework/Classwork: | 5% |

Note: Students must earn at least a 70% average on their tests to pass the class.

Academic Honesty

Students should be aware of Ohlone College's Academic Integrity Policy and know that violating this policy may result in failing this class and/or in a letter being placed in the student's academic record. The policy states, in part:

Academic dishonesty occurs when a student attempts to show possession of level of knowledge or skill which he or she does not possess. The two most common kinds of academic dishonesty are "Cheating" and "Plagiarism." Cheating is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means. An example of cheating would be copying, in part or in whole, from someone else's test. Plagiarism is representing the work of someone else as your own and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements. An example of plagiarism would be incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or part of another person's writings, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as your own work.