Developmental Communications 36A— Spring 2013

Course Information and Requirements

Sect. # 0204 **8:55 - 10:20a.m.** # 0205 **10:35a.m. - 12:00** ***CUL 228***

Instructor: Prof. Curt Riesberg **Drop-in Hours:** MW 12:15-1:00, 4:00-5:00, Tu 12:15-2:45
Email: riesbecd@lamission.edu Office for Drop-ins: **INST 33** *or by appointment*
Phone: (818) 364-7847 **Web Page:** www.lamission.edu/~riesbecd

Course Description and Objectives: This course advances **reading comprehension skills** such as finding main ideas, drawing valid conclusions, making inferences, generalizing, and summarizing. Students will prepare for further college-level coursework by refining reading, study, and critical analysis skills. We will take condensed notes, attack vocabulary through word parts, annotate texts, formulate questions, manage time, and constructively collaborate on teams to help each other learn.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. apply strategies for learning and using new vocabulary.
2. analyze paragraphs and longer passages to identify main ideas, major and minor supporting details and patterns of organization.
3. apply study reading strategies to improve academic performance.
4. evaluate various types of writing to differentiate between facts and opinions and to identify errors of reasoning.
5. analyze and identify elements of narration.

I. Materials: Required:

- *Reading for Results, Eleventh Edition* by Laraine Flemming, 2010
- Paperback *American Heritage Dictionary 4th Edition*
- Paperback *Scholastic Dictionary of Synonyms, Antonyms, and Homonyms*
- Vocabulary bluebook and Reading Lab bluebook/journal
- One pack of full-size, and one pack of short-size Scantron sheets
- Notebook paper
- Black and/or blue pens
- #2 pencils
- *Email address* that you have registered with Admissions & Records Office

Suggested:

- 3-ring binder, preferably with the zip-around feature
- Weekly Planner
- Supplies pouch for the binder
- Small flat pencil sharpener
- Mini-stapler
- Paperclips
- Flat bottle of White Out
- Flat 3-hole puncher for in binder
- Post-it notes (a couple different sizes)
- Pocket dividers for the binder
- USB memory stick to save things from computers
- Highlighter pens (yellow is best)
- Red and/or green ballpoint pens
- 3 x 5 Notecards (great for studying vocab. and reviewing chapters)
- White printer paper
- Flat thin *Dictionary* that fits in the binder
- Hardcover big version *American Heritage Dictionary 4th Edition*
- If you don't have a computer and printer at home... save up and get one.

What NOT to buy:

- **New car** (if you "must" get a car, get a used one like a Honda Civic or Toyota Corolla), or new car bling like a fancy stereo subwoofer boomer (very annoying, btw) or fancy rims
- yet another new cell phone
- more DVD movies, music CDs and a hundred more downloads, more Video Games
- expanded satellite TV service (you won't have much time for TV anyway)
- more jewelry/tats/piercings, more shoes unless you really truly need a pair, more fancy clothes
- gym memberships (there's an excellent gym on campus)
- drinks for all your friends at the bar and/or non-medicinal drugs
- fancy coffee everyday, bottled water, restaurant meals more than a couple times a month (learn to cook and make sandwiches and get a thermos if you like hot coffee, and buy a refillable water bottle)

... you get the picture... ***you need money for textbooks, tuition, and other college expenses*****!!!** **$$$$$$**

II. Homework Assignments

A. One hour per week independent **Reading Lab** assignments is **required**
B. Read and ***annotate*** all materials and complete all exercises and written work ***before*** due.
C. Whatever else the Professor decides is pertinent.

III. Attendance

Attendance is the single biggest predictor of success in college classes, according to research, and this one is no exception. You might not always want to come to class, you are very busy, you might be sick, and you might not find everything we do to be super exciting at the moment... on the other hand:

- you will definitely learn stuff that will help you ***succeed in college and in the job market***
- you will definitely learn to read college texts better (and other materials)
- you will expand your vocabulary (and impress your profs, friends, and family)
- you just might enjoy reading better as you get better at it
- you will pick up interesting examples and previews of materials from a variety of different subjects like History, Sciences, Politics, Psychology, etc.
- you will meet some new people and maybe even make a friend or two
- you will learn to work together (**collaborate**) more effectively with diverse groups
- your speaking and writing skills will improve
- your general life skills will improve *as you practice* the techniques from class
- you might even find an interest in a career or major that you hadn't thought of before
- you might get some laughs and have some fun

- NOTE: College policy allows that you may be dropped/excluded from the class after four absences; it is your responsibility to call or **email** me before class if you cannot attend class that day, but calling still doesn't excuse the absence. ***You are responsible*** *for everything that occurred during your absence, and absences do not mean you can hand in the due work or take the test later*!
- NOTE: Not showing up on the first day of class will result in your being Excluded/Dropped.

It is up to you to contact me and also to contact at least one classmate for missed material and class notes.

Quote of the semester: "**College is an exercise in stepping up.**"

RULES NOTE: Arriving at class late, leaving early, and walking outside (except for urgent restroom use) during class are unacceptable behaviors that distract others. **Cell phones**, laptops, etc. must be **turned off** during class; ***cell phone use and texting are serious violations of academic decorum*** and users will be removed from the class and counted as UNEXCUSED ABSENCE(s) and may lead to Exclusion.

Let me repeat: **Cell phones and texting are NOT ALLOWED in class. Cell calls NOT allowed in Lab and/or Library either.** If you have a real problem with this rule, then drop this class right now, please.

(and btw, please **turn OFF your cell phone** at movies, concerts, etc.... thank you for not being rude.)

IV. Grading

- In-class participation, attendance, and completion of homework assignments including weekly Reading Lab work with RL Journal and Vocabulary Journal will be considered during grading.
- There will be a quiz for each chapter we cover.**
- ****note**: *Any quiz or test can also asses material from previous* chapters, lectures, classroom activities or any and all other types of assignments; therefore, *it is students' responsibility to constantly be reviewing all material covered.*
- There will be a "Midterm" Comprehensive Test covering the material presented during the first part of the session. The **F**inal will cover the material presented during the second half of the session *and some selected material from the first half.*
- **To pass the course, you must earn at least 70% of the possible points.**
- **NOTE:** ***Failure to take the Midterm or Final or failure to submit a Short Story Report will result in NO CREDIT even if you get all other possible points. Same goes for Reading Lab (if you choose not to do it, you will get NC). These are required to pass.***

Points:

-Lab Activities – *NOTE*: **Hours cannot be made up if not completed when they are due.**
Quizzes-- ... note: no coming the next session and saying "Can I make up the quiz?" No, you can't.
-First Draft of Short Story--- and Final Draft Short Story Report--
-Midterm Exam-- *Comprehensive* through the first half of class
-Annotations of text and Completion of Exercises-- also, ongoing Review Questions (2x5RQs)
-Final Exam-- *Comprehensive* - covers the entire semester
-Vocabulary— and Vocabulary Journal: 10 entries per chapter with definition and example sentences
- Student Services Assignment and presentation
- Other Assignments as assigned by professor

E. Basis of Grading: Credit/No Credit (you need 70% of total points to pass with Credit)

V. Important Dates

DROP Dates (16-week classes)
Drop classes without receiving a "W" ..... February 18
Drop classes with a "W" In Person .... May 3 Internet ..... May 5
NOTE: Limit is now three times to take a class including substandard grades and Ws.

HOLIDAYS (College CLOSED)
President's Day – February 15-18
Cesar Chavez Day – April 1
Spring Break – March 29-April 5
Memorial Day – May 27

VI. Some important notes:

- If you stop attending a class (or you wish to drop a class), **you must drop the class yourself**. Failure to do so may result in a grade of NO PASS in this class.
- Please make sure that the *email address on file with the college* is accurate; if you change your address, please update your email address by using the Student Portal.
- Please keep graded papers such as quizzes and tests in a safe place. You should keep them at least until final grades have been posted.
- *If you are a student with a disability and require classroom accommodations, please see me immediately to discuss arrangements. The sooner I am aware that you are eligible for accommodations, the more quickly I will be able to provide them. If you have not done so already, you may also wish to contact the Disabled Students Programs & Services Office in Instructional Building 1018. Phone (818) 364-7732/TTD (818) 364-7861 and bring a letter and/or documentation stating the accommodations that are needed.*

About the Learning Center…

If you need help while you are working on your assignments, visit ***The Learning Center****, located on the first floor of the Library/Learning Resource Center. Tutors can assist you in many areas: writing, math, reading, research, and homework assignments.*

In the ***Academic Success Center****, the writing and reading specialists are excited about helping you to succeed. In the Writing Lab, tutors can assist you with MLA or APA styles and in developing writing assignments, lab reports, book reports, essays, and research papers.*

The Reading Lab offers free assessments of your reading skills using ***Reading Plus****, interactive software that provides individualized learning to enhance your reading skills.* ***This online program can also be accessed from home.*** *Make a Reading Lab appointment to learn how.*

The Learning Center is FREE for all students. Call 818-364-7754 to make AN APPOINTMENT or visit the Information Desk. Visit the Learning Center early and use the FREE assistance all term.

AND, ESPECIALLY FOR DC 1 other Grammar STUDENTS, *there are interactive computer tutorials to help you develop your grammar and sentence-writing skills. To access these exciting tutorials, visit http://www.lamission.edu/learningcenter/devcomlinks.aspx*

OTHER COLLEGE **RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS**

Admissions and Records: Students can register for classes, request transcripts, file petitions for graduation, and drop classes at this office. For more information call 818-833-3322 or visit: http://www.lamission.edu/admissions/

Assessment Center: Offers student assessments in English, English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) and Mathematics. Please contact the Assessment Center at (818) 364-7613 for more information or visit http://www.lamission.edu/assessment/

Bookstore: For hours of operation, book availability, buybacks, and other information call 818-364-7767 or 7768 or visit http://eagleslanding.lamission.edu/default.asp

Counseling Department Office: For appointments and information call 818-364-7655 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/counseling/

Disabled Students Programs and Services (**DSP&S**): For appointments, eligibility and information call 818-364-7732 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/dsps/

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (**EOPS**): For appointments, eligibility and information call 818-364-7645 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/eops/

Financial Aid: For information and applications call 818-364-7648 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/financialaid/

Library: For information on hours, resources, workshops, and other services contact 818-364-7106 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/library/

Tutoring Services in Learning Center: Laboratories for Learning, Writing, Math &Science. Walk-in and appointments offered. Call 818-364-7754 or visit www.lamission.edu/learningcenter/

ALSO note: Health Center, Child Development Center, Veterans Affairs, ASO, etc.

NOTES TO SELF: ...

CLASSMATE CONTACT LIST: Classmates to contact if absent or want "study group friends":

Name _____Phone _____ Email _____

Name_____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name_____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name_____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name_____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name_____ Phone _____ Email _____

Weekly Schedule Sheet : A normal school week.

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	
6a.m.								6a.m.
7a.m.								7a.m.
8a.m.								8a.m.
9a.m.								9a.m.
10a.m.								10a.m.
11a.m.								11a.m.
12p.m.								12p.m.
1 p.m.								1 p.m.
2 p.m								2 p.m
3 p.m								3 p.m
4 p.m								4 p.m
5 p.m								5 p.m
6 p.m								6 p.m
7 p.m								7 p.m
8 p.m								8 p.m
9 p.m								9 p.m
10p.m								10 p.m
11p.m								11 p.m

Developmental Communications – Reading Student Survey

Name _____ Date _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____
email _____

In order to help you succeed in this course, it would be helpful to have some information about you. ***Please answer the following questions. All responses are confidential!***

Did you take the assessment test on the internet in the basement of Campus Center? Yes No
If no, then where did you take it? _____

If you have not taken the assessment test, you should do so *immediately*.

- If you took the assessment test, when did you take it? this semester
  last semester
  at least a year ago
  not sure

- Did you place into Dev. Com. 36A? Yes No Don't know

- **If you did not place into Dev. Com. 36A, please see me immediately.**

What other Dev.Com. classes are you taking now?_____

Have you taken this class before? Yes No

Have you taken any other Dev. Com. classes before? Yes No

If yes, which one(s)? _____

Was your previous educational program primarily in English? Yes No

Have you taken ESL classes? What level have you completed? Where?
_____

Do you have a high school diploma or GED? Yes No

The Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS) office can assist students with physical or learning disabilities. If you have a physical or learning disability, have you contacted DSPS?
Yes No Not applicable

- If you answered "no" to the previous question, do you want a referral to the Mission College DSPS office? Yes No

What other factors that might affect your performance in this class?

_____

"I have received and accept the syllabus."
(please sign)> _____