

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**RED 0900, BASIC READING II**  
**ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Fall 2009**



**Instructor:** Linda Thomas

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**INSTRUCTIONAL TEXTS AND MATERIALS:**

- **Ten Steps to Improving College Reading Skills**, John Langan, 5th edition, 2008.
- **Justice** by Larry Watson
- One inch three ring binder
- eight section dividers (for use in the three ring binder)
- three hole paper punch & stapler
- 3x5 index cards
- highlighter
- thumb drive
- Collegiate dictionary and Thesaurus (if you do not have direct access to the Internet at home)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

RED 0900, Basic Reading II is designed to enhance student knowledge of word analysis, vocabulary, and comprehension skills. It explores and practices critical reading and thinking. Students will be introduced to study and test-taking strategies that promote academic success. This course builds on students' strengths and is for those who need greater efficiency in the reading skills necessary for academic success. **(This course requires 3 class periods of attendance per week if meet M-W-F or 2 class periods of attendance per week if meet T-R.)** The course is evaluated on a graded system, and **the grade earned will appear on each official transcript**; however, the grade earned is not calculated into grade point average nor is it counted as transferable college credit. Students must earn 80 percent of the total points available to pass the class. The grading scale is A 94-100 %, B 87-93%, C 80-86%, and F below 80%.

**EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES AND RELATED COMPETENCIES:**

Upon completion of this course:

1. The student will reinforce word analysis and vocabulary skills
  - 1.1 The student will analyze words using phonics, word patterns, prefixes, suffixes, roots and compounds
  - 1.2 The student will infer meanings of words using example, synonym, antonym, and sentence context clues
  - 1.3 The student will use idioms, analogies, and figurative language to extend vocabulary development
  - 1.4 The student will use the glossary, dictionary, and the thesaurus to determine pronunciation, syllabication, parts of speech, exact meanings, and synonyms
  - 1.5 The student will develop a study system to develop vocabulary
2. The student will improve comprehension skills
  - 2.1 The student will identify the stated and implied main idea and theme of a written selection
  - 2.2 The student will analyze supporting details

- 2.3 The student will improve comprehension by drawing inferences
- 2.4 The student will analyze paragraphs and essays to determine the main ideas, supporting sentences and conclusion
- 2.5 The student will recognize the organizational patterns used by an author
- 2.6 The student will paraphrase and summarize reading selections
- 2.7 The student will interpret graphs, charts, tables, and maps found in reading selections
  
3. The student will apply study skills
  - 3.1 The student will learn and apply textbook reading strategies
  - 3.2 The student will learn and apply test-taking strategies
  - 3.3 The student will learn a variety of note-taking strategies
  
4. The student will apply critical reading and thinking skills to a text
  - 4.1 The student will analyze the elements of fiction and non-fiction
  - 4.2 The student will apply principles learned in reading comprehension and study skills to academic life

### **REQUIRED RULES FOR SUCCESS:**

1. Attend each class. Arrive promptly for class and stay for the duration of the class.
  - **More than 2 weeks (based on number of required classes per each full week) of absences will result in failure.** Notify the instructor in person, by phone **(815) 224-0478** or e-mail **[linda\\_thomas@ivcc.edu](mailto:linda_thomas@ivcc.edu)** whenever unable to attend class. **In the critical situations of injury or hospitalization, alert the instructor as soon as possible so that an evaluation of the situation can be made on a case-by-case basis. Two times tardy will be considered equivalent to one absence.**
  - Complete and submit all work on time and present it professionally. **One piece of late work or test will be accepted if the student has contacted the instructor about the absence. This late submission must be arranged with the instructor and completed within 48 hours of the due date.**
2. Actively participate in all class activities
3. Exhibit a willingness to share and to respect others' ideas and the classroom setting. Please refer to the **Student Code of Conduct** as outlined in the **Student Handbook**. **Cheating/Plagiarism of any kind will result in failure.**
4. Appreciate the classroom as an active environment of intellectual challenge and exchange.
5. Read all assignments thoroughly and carefully.
6. Come to each class prepared to generate and to share ideas as well as to react to the ideas of others.
7. **Most comprehension question answers and assigned writings must be word-processed.**
8. **Maintain a three ring organizational portfolio** divided into eight sections: **Organize your three ring portfolio into eight sections: (1) Master Schedule, (2) Assignment Framework, (3) Course Syllabus, (4) Vocabulary, (5) Comprehension (6) Note taking, (7) Novel, and (8) Grade/Conference.**

### **COURSE CONTENT:**

1. Vocabulary development through inference, prefixes and suffixes
2. Comprehension development
  - a. Main idea (stated or implied)
  - b. Supporting details
  - c. Organizational patterns
  - d. Paraphrasing
  - e. Summarizing
  - f. Interpretation of graphs, tables, and charts

3. Study Strategies
  - a. test-taking
  - b. note-taking
  - c. textbook reading
4. Critical reading and thinking

**METHODS OF EVALUATION AND COURSE GRADES:**

The course will involve reading and coming to understand a wide variety of issues and content areas. Letter grades will be assigned to each student based upon attendance, the percentage of total points earned, and the final conference. Please see the listing below:

**COURSE GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

- A = 94-100%**
- B = 87-93%**
- C = 80-86%**
- F = 79% or less**

**APPROXIMATE POINT DISTRIBUTION**

• Vocabulary Tests	100
• Comprehension Tests (Langan Text)	200
• Combination of in class work, journals, evaluations, presentations, conference, portfolio checks, and written or on-line assignments	140
• Post Accuplacer Test (to earn the 50 points, your results must show placement into RED 1008 or higher, 40 points awarded for significant improvement just short of RED 1008 placement, 25 points awarded for some improvement, 0 points awarded for same placement or placement lower than first placement score)	50
• Final exam (Part III & final novel pages Vocab & Comp./project)	80
• Required five different support services meetings by mid-term	25
• Required final conference	<u>10</u>
*Student must maintain attendance requirement	Total points
	<b>605</b>

**\*Bonus Points Perfect Attendance 10**

**Seeking assistance when you need help in your reading course is a college success strategy. You are required to complete five different support service meetings by mid-term, October 8, 2009. Make sure to get verification from the instructor, tutor, coordinator, or librarian. \*Seven support services are described on the next page.**

This course is designed to support diversity of learners. My hope is to create a safe environment for all students. If you want to discuss your learning experience, please talk to me as early in the term as possible. **Each student is required to attend or to complete by mid-term, October 8, 2009, a support service session with five of the seven different services described below.** \*Extra Credit awarded for completing six (5 points) or all seven (10 points) of the support services described below.

1. Seek reading assistance from the instructor, Linda Thomas, in B-325 during office hours.
2. To get help with your reading course, use the free on campus Peer Tutoring Center available to all IVCC students under the directorship of Cathi Nelson at 224-0479 in D-201. [cathi\\_nelson@ivcc.edu](mailto:cathi_nelson@ivcc.edu)
3. Use the free on campus Writing Center available to all IVCC students under the directorship of Tara Coburn at 224-0335 in D-201 with writing or planning reading presentations. [tara\\_coburn@ivcc.edu](mailto:tara_coburn@ivcc.edu)
4. If you know you have, or suspect you have a disability for which you may need accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible. In addition, you will need to consult with the Disability Services Office in B-204. Tina Hardy ([tina\\_hardy@ivcc.edu](mailto:tina_hardy@ivcc.edu), 224-0284) and Judy Mika ([judy\\_mika@ivcc.edu](mailto:judy_mika@ivcc.edu), 224-0350) are the professionals that will help determine if you are eligible for support. Support services could include such accommodations as extended test time, a note taker, texts on tape, a test reader, etc. \*If you are an **English Language Learner** (English is not your native language), you may also qualify for services.
5. The Basic Computer Skills Inventory is free to IVCC students. Many of you took this inventory when you took the placement exam. It assesses your computer concepts, file management, word processing, Internet, email, PowerPoint and keyboarding skills. If you have not taken this inventory, please contact the Assessment Center in room E-215 and make an appointment to complete the inventory. Once the inventory is taken, get assistance to build your skills as needed to fulfill this support service.
6. Attend a STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ORIENTATION Session in D-201.  
TO LEARN YOUR COMPUTER ACCOUNT USERNAME AND PASSWORD  
TO ACCESS U:\drive on and off campus  
TO LEARN Bart, student e-mail account, and  
TO LEARN Blackboard.  
\*These sessions last approximately 50 minutes. To find out about these orientations, go to the IVCC home page. Click on the SEARCH tab at the top left of the screen. In the search box type: Student Technology Orientations.
7. Register for and attend a Jacob's Library Orientation. To find the schedule of orientations go to the IVCC home page. Click on the Quick Links drop down menu. Click on Library to open the Jacob's Library home page. Look for the orientation schedule and register for an orientation.

#### **WITHDRAWAL POLICY:**

1. To withdraw from a class, request the withdrawal from the instructor in person by seeing the instructor during an office hour. Failure to assume this responsibility could result in a failing grade. Read the Illinois Valley Community College catalog for details of the withdrawal policy. The instructor reserves the right to withdraw a student from this course. **Final date for a student to request withdrawal from this course is Friday, November 6.**

**Withdrawal from a course might affect financial aid. Students who receive financial aid should seek the advice of an advisor in the Financial Aid Office before withdrawing from a course.**