

OHLONE COLLEGE
ENGLISH 163-02 (05962) – Techniques of College Reading
Summer 2014 MTWTH: 11:00a.m.-1:05p.m. (HH-207)

Instructor: Rakesh Swamy
Office: N/A
Phone: (510) 979-7457
Office Hours: By appointment only (I will be in the ELC from 9-11am M-TH)
E-mail: rswamy@ohlone.edu
Other Contact: <http://rswamy.wikispaces.com> (Most important site)

TEXTS:

Mather & McCarthy	<u>Reading and All That Jazz</u> 5 th ed.
Dubus III, Andre	<u>The House of Sand and Fog</u> (Novel)
Nist, Sherrie	<u>Advancing Vocabulary Skills</u> 4 th ed. Short Version

Lab Work URL: <http://www.ohlone.edu/instr/english/elc/engl163/>

OBJECTIVE:

The purpose of this course is to develop college-level skills in vocabulary, comprehension, critical reading and thinking, study strategies, and reading rate.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Determine the stated or implied thesis, and understand the organizational pattern in various readings such as essays, newspaper and magazine articles, textbooks, short novels or nonfiction works.
2. Demonstrate critical reading and critical thinking ability by analyzing articles, selections, and essays; making inferences; drawing comparison and contrasts; determining bias, tone, and purpose; separating fact from opinion; formulating conclusions; and making evaluations.
3. Synthesize reading information by means of discussion and writing. Develop college-level academic vocabulary and understand how to use context clues, word analysis, and dictionary skills to determine the meaning of new words.
4. Apply study skills by taking careful notes, using strategies for remembering and concentrating, and developing an effective system for studying and text materials, such as outlining and summarizing.
5. Develop a faster reading rate and use flexible reading skills, such as skimming and scanning.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Classwork & Homework

Homework assignments will be handed out in class. Homework assignments must be done **before** class begins or at the beginning of class and are due on the date given. Most assignments will be discussed and corrected during class. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** Students who have been absent must turn in their assignments one class meeting after their return. Do not come to class and hurriedly try to finish your homework. It is called “homework” for a reason.

Label all your written work very clearly. You must include your full name, course and section number, text, chapter, exercise numbers and page numbers clearly on the top right-hand corner of your paper. Staple any assignment that is more than a page. Unstapled work with loose pages will not be accepted nor graded. **DO NOT SUBMIT INCOMPLETE WORK!**

You will be required to dedicate a lot of out-of-class hours doing extra reading and completing assignments. *Summer sessions are very short; therefore, you will have to be dedicated and committed to getting the work done on time. NO EXCUSES!*

Recreational Reading

Recreational reading (for the purpose of this class) refers to novels and other readings of personal interest to you. This is very important in the development of comprehension skills, vocabulary and reading fluency. You should be reading something that you enjoy.

TESTS AND QUIZZES:

Make-up tests must be arranged with the Instructor the day you return from an absence. **You may make up only one missed test from RATZ or the novel. No make-ups will be given on vocabulary tests and quizzes. Repeat: NO MAKE-UPS ON VOCABULARY.** Based on the calendar, you will know when quizzes and tests will take place, so you **should not be absent** on those days. Any makeups should be done within two days of your return.

GRADING:

Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Tests and Quizzes	40%
Classwork & Homework	10%
Attendance & Participation	10%
Lab Work	25%
Final Exam	15%

The following grade scale is used:

90% -- 100%	= A
80% -- 89%	= B
70% -- 79%	= C
60% -- 69%	= D
0% -- 59%	= F

Students must average 70% or better on their test scores, quizzes, and final exam in order to demonstrate reading proficiency and to receive a grade of **C** or better in the class. Once the 70% is achieved, your classwork, homework, attendance and participation, and lab work grades will be added to determine your final grade.

ATTENDANCE & ETIQUETTE:

Because most of the skill building activities for the development of good reading skills must be done during class hours, class attendance is essential. **BE ON TIME**. Since this is a college course, students are required to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner.

Attendance:

To succeed in this class, your regular attendance and participation is necessary. Your thoughts and insights are important because they provide different perspectives. Also, to become better readers, it is necessary to practice reading. ***If you are absent for any reason, it is your responsibility to get the assignments.*** You are allowed only two absences. For your information, **three absences will result in dropping one letter grade. Excessive absences (4 or more) will result in a failing grade.**

Coming to class late is disruptive, so you should plan on being in class at least five minutes before the beginning. Part of your classroom grade will be based on your attendance when roll is taken at the beginning of class. **No credit will be given if you are not on time. Any form of disturbance that interferes with learning in the classroom WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**

Review the Summer 2014 Schedule of Classes or consult the Admissions and Records office for all dates regarding withdrawals. ***I will not withdraw any student from the class; therefore, it is your responsibility to meet any withdrawal dates. I will drop disruptive students!***

The following are some deadlines you must be aware of:

- June 22 deadline to drop a class and receive a refund
- June 22 deadline to drop a class without a grade
- July 15 deadline to drop a class and receive a "W" (withdrawal)

English Learning Center (ELC)/(Reading Lab)

You are **required** to complete all the required work in the English Learning Center (ELC) starting the first week of the term; **failure to do so will result in a failing grade.** You can proceed through the lab work as rapidly as you can, but you must put thought and effort in your work. Be sure to have the ELC personnel initial your lab assignment sheet to verify your attendance. In addition to the ELC staff, reading instructors are also scheduled to work in the ELC to assist you with questions you may have about reading. There will be a detailed orientation to the Reading Lab given by your instructor. All due dates for lab assignments will be provided on a separate sheet and these dates will be entered on the course calendar.

Here are some very important things to pay attention to:

1. When you are assigned a reading, please DO NOT come to class without reading.
2. All written assignments should be done in its entirety. Half-hearted attempts will not receive any credit. If a question has a few parts, answer all the parts. **Staple all work; I will not collect nor give credit for any unstapled and incomplete work.** Buy a stapler and some staples.
3. Make-up homework or tests are to be made up as soon as possible. I do not allow late make-ups of any sort. You are allowed **only ONE make-up test** from RAZ and the Novel. No make-ups from the *Advancing Vocabulary Skills* text. Make-up should be completed within two days after your return.
4. Part of your college experience is to learn to respect time. I DO NOT LIKE people coming to my class late. **If you come late during a quiz or test, you will not be allowed to take the quiz or test.** Success in life (work, relationships, family, etc.) comes to those who respect time and do things in a timely manner. Our goal here at Ohlone is to model real-life challenges you are likely to face beyond college. One way to do this is to help you manage your time.
5. Leaving early: **I dislike people leaving my class early.** You have made a commitment to spend 2hrs and 5 minutes/class with me for four days a week; I will hold you to that commitment. **If you leave early, you will be marked absent and no credit will be given for any assignment or quiz done in class.** For extreme emergencies, you should make prior arrangements with me. **NO LAST MINUTE NOTICES!**
6. I HAVE ZERO TOLERANCE FOR CHEATING OF ANY TYPE IN MY COURSE. Plagiarism is also considered a form of cheating. If you are caught cheating in this course, you will receive no credit for your work, dropped from the course, and reported to the VP of Student Services for disciplinary action.
7. Technology: We will be using a certain amount of technology in this course. We will be using the computers for certain activities. If you have your own laptop, you can bring it to class. Remember, when using technology in the classroom, it is for the prescribed academic purpose only. They **should NOT** be used for personal emails, social-networking sites, or other inappropriate or unapproved content. You will use the computers when asked to do so for class-related work. Even if you use your own computer, you must adhere to the technology policies of the college. Remember, you are connected to a college network.
8. All electronic items should be turned off before class begins. If your phone rings by accident, TURN IT OFF. Do not look to see whose calling or do not answer your phone; it is very rude. Your class is one of the most important events of your life. **Put your phone out of sight. If I see your phone anywhere (in your hand, on the desk, on the floor, etc.), I will take it away. It will affect your participation grade negatively. I am very serious about this. I find it very annoying!**
9. Listen, Listen, and Listen! It is imperative that you listen and pay attention. It is VERY RUDE to talk when I am talking or when a classmate is trying to contribute to the class. Besides, it doesn't help your participation grade.

Course Outline – English 163 (02)

Textbooks:

Mather & McCarthy	<u>Reading and All That Jazz</u> (RATZ) 5th ed.
Dubus III, Andre	<u>The House of Sand and Fog</u> (HSF) (Novel)
Nist, Sherrie	<u>Advancing Vocabulary Skills</u> (AVS) 4 th ed. Short Version

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>TEXT</u>
1	Introduction – Diagnostic Testing Vocabulary Chs. 1&2 Exercises How We Learn: Finding out about Ourselves Vocabulary in Context Vocabulary Quiz Vocabulary Exercises Chs.3&4 Topic, Main Idea, and Details Lab Orientation <i>Begin Reading Lab Work (English Learning Center)</i>	Chs.1&2 (AVS) Ch.1 (RATZ) Ch.1 (RATZ) Chs. 1&2 (AVS) (AVS) Ch. 2 (RATZ)
2	<i>Begin Group Work on Critical Thinking presentations</i> Vocabulary Quiz Topics, Main Ideas, and Details Begin: The House of Sand and Fog Quiz Vocabulary Ch. 5 Exercises Determining an Author’s Purpose Tone Vocabulary Unit 1 Quiz Vocabulary Exercises Chs. 6&7 House of Sand and Fog Chs. 6-10	Ch. 3&4 (AVS) Ch. 2 (RATZ) Chs. 1-5 (HSF) Ch. 5 (AVS) Ch. 3 (RATZ) Ch. 4 (RATZ) Ch. 1-5 (AVS) Chs. 6&7 (AVS) Chs. 6-10 (HSF)
3	PQ3 R Video and Quiz Vocabulary Quiz Vocabulary Exercises Chs. 8&9 The House of Sand and Fog Worksheet Vocabulary Quiz Inference Vocabulary Exercise Ch.10 The House of Sand and Fog	Chs 6&7 (AVS) Ch. 8&9 (AVS) Chs. 11-15 (HSF) Chs.8&9 (AVS) Ch. 5 (RATZ) Ch. 10 (AVS) Chs. 16-20 (HSF)
4	Vocabulary Quiz Unit 2 The House of Sand and Fog Vocabulary Exercises Chs. 11&12 Figurative Language Vocabulary Quiz	(AVS) Chs. 16-20 (HSF) (AVS) Ch. 6 (RATZ) Chs. 11&12 (AVS)

	Vocabulary Exercises 13&14	Chs. 13&14 (AVS)
	The House of Sand and Fog	Chs. 21-25 (HSF)
	The House of Sand and Fog	Chs. 26-30 (HSF)
5	Vocabulary Quiz	Chs. 13&14 (AVS)
	Vocabulary Exercises	Ch. 15 (AVS)
	Fact and Opinion	Ch. 10 (RATZ)
	The House of Sand and Fog	Chs. 36-40
	Reading Rate	Video and Quiz
	House of Sand and Fog	Chs. 41-45 (HSF)
	Vocabulary Quiz Unit 3	Chs. 11-15 (AVS)
	Vocabulary Exercises	Chs. 16& 17 (AVS)
	Bias	Ch. 11 (RATZ)
6	Vocabulary Quiz	Ch. 16 &17 (AVS)
	Propaganda Techniques	Ch. 12 (if time allows)
	Vocabulary Exercises Chs. 18-20	Chs. 18-20 (AVS)
	The House of Sand and Fog	Chs. 46-50 (HSF)
	The House of Sand and Fog	(Movie & Discussion)
	Vocabulary Quiz Unit 4	Chs. 16-20 (AVS)
	Critical Reading and Thinking Group Presentations	
	Review	

Buy enough scantrons for different quizzes in this course. If you do not have scantrons, you will not be allowed to take the tests and quizzes.

Final Exam: Thursday, July 24, 2014 11:00a.m. – 1:05p.m.

*** Note: This course outline is subject to change as the semester progresses. Extra reading taken from RATZ and other relevant sources will be added or taken away.**