

**Georgia Perimeter College
Learning Support
Comprehensive Course Guide**

COURSE: READ 0098

TITLE: ADVANCED READING SKILLS

CREDIT HOURS: 4 (*institutional credits--does not count toward a degree*)

PREREQUISITE: Placement by the University System of Georgia Placement Examination

COURSE DESCRIPTION : This course emphasizes inferential, interpretive, and critical reading comprehension strategies. It also focuses on analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of text as well as efficient reading, study, and test-taking skills. Lecture and group participation methods are used in this course.

ENSL NOTE: Students whose native language is not English should see an ENSL advisor immediately. ENSL advisors are located on the Clarkston and Dunwoody campuses.

REQUIRED TEXTS: to be determined by instructor (**ALL TEXTS MUST BE NEW**)

OPTIONAL TEXTS: to be determined by instructor

OPTIONAL MATERIALS: (see instructor's syllabus)

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS – Resources in Learning and Tutoring Center include print and non-print materials which may be prescribed by the instructor for the individualized development of students.

COURSE OBJECTIVES – At the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Determine word meaning using context clues, structural analysis, and dictionary skills.
2. Formulate the thesis, stated or implied, in extended text.
Assess the role of transitional devices which signal relationships among sentences and paragraphs.
3. Identify common patterns of organization to understand the interrelationship of ideas in reading materials.
4. Distinguish between statements of fact and statements of opinion in a reading selection.
5. Analyze valid arguments and draw logical inferences and conclusions.
6. Determine the author's purpose in extended texts as related to modes of discourse, such as description, argumentation, exposition, and narration.
7. Detect the author's tone and point of view in fiction and nonfiction.
8. Synthesize text by summarizing and paraphrasing.
9. Evaluate text and adjust reading rate according to the reader's purpose.
10. Apply metacognitive strategies when reading by activating prior knowledge, predicting outcomes, and monitoring the reading process.
11. Use effective test-taking strategies.
12. Interpret and evaluate information from maps, graphs and charts.
13. Demonstrate a variety of study skills, such as SQ3R, annotating, mapping, and outlining.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS – To pass Reading 0098 students must satisfactorily meet the following requirements:

1. complete pre- and post-reading tests
2. complete textbook and written assignments
3. complete appropriate lab assignments
4. participate in class
5. attend class regularly in accordance with attendance policy
6. attain at least a 70% course average
7. pass the exit test (COMPASS with a score of 78 or higher)

Students who do not take the required exit examination must repeat the course.

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM EXIT EXAMS – Students who fail the COMPASS exit exam will be allowed to retest once, regardless of their original score. Students must wait a minimum of twenty-four hours between the initial test and the retest. The retest must occur within 3 business days from the initial test date. To be permitted to take the exit examination, students must present a GPC I.D..

POLICIES

1. **ATTEMPTS** – Students must complete Reading 98 in no more than two attempts or eight semester hours, whichever occurs first, or they will be suspended from Georgia Perimeter College and all University System institutions for one (1) year. Attempts are cumulative within the Regents' System.

Students in attendance at GPC prior to August, 2011 will be given the opportunity to exit Learning Support reading under the new rules. All prior attempts will be expunged and attempts will be set by to zero. In other words, as of August, 2011 all Reading 98 students will be given two attempts to exit or risk suspension of one (1) year.

2. **ATTENDANCE** – Students are expected to attend class regularly and punctually. Students who arrive late should report to the instructor at the end of the class.

Minimum attendance policy:

- At the midpoint, students absent for more than 10% of the classes for the term, may be withdrawn with a grade of W for the term.
- Ten percent is five absences for full-term classes that meet three times a week; three absences for full-term classes that meet two days a week; and two absences for half-semester classes. The number of allowed absences varies in hybrid courses and during the summer depending upon the number of weeks in the term.
- After midpoint, students who violate the instructor's attendance policy may receive an F for the term. For example, students in a Monday/Wednesday class whose third absence occurs on the day of midpoint may fail the class.

Instructors may have a stricter attendance policy.

3. WITHDRAWALS:

- a. When withdrawals are initiated by the mid-term deadline, students will receive a grade of W.
- b. Students who are taking both learning support and collegiate-level courses and withdraw or are withdrawn before mid-term will also be withdrawn from all collegiate-level courses except HEDS 1011 and activity PE classes.
- c. Students may, however, drop a collegiate-level course and remain in the learning support course(s).
- d. Students who are taking only learning support courses may withdraw from a course or courses to reduce course load.
- e. Students who withdraw from a learning support course after mid-term will receive a grade of WF, except in the cases of hardship which must be approved by the campus Dean for Academic Services.

4. EARLY REGISTRATION – Students who pre-register and are unsuccessful in Reading 98 will be removed from all classes and must re-register.

5. MAKE-UP WORK – The make-up policy for this course will be determined by the instructor.

6. GRADES – Grades will be assigned as follows:

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- IP = 60-69 (or failing the exit Compass for Reading)
- F = 0-59 (or having violated the attendance policy after mid-term)
- W = Withdrawal by mid-term
- WF = Student-initiated withdrawal after mid-term

Note: Students who earn a grade of IP, F, W or WF must repeat the course. All grades except W count as attempts.

7. EVALUATION:

- Students will be assessed in their critiquing of reading materials, participation in group collaboration, out-of-class assignments, and teacher-constructed tests.
- A departmental final exam prepared by the Reading Discipline Committee will be used to determine 20-25% of the course grade. The final exam will include reading passages and questions similar to those encountered on the University System Exit Exam.
- Students who attain a 70% course average (including class work, tests, and the final exam) will be eligible to take the University System Exit Exam. A student must meet the exit requirement on the University System Exit Exam to pass the course.
- Students needing individual help should arrange conferences with their instructor. Additional help is also available in the learning laboratories on each campus.

8. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY – Cheating includes any attempt to defraud, deceive, or mislead the instructor in arriving at an honest grade assessment. Plagiarism is a form of cheating that involves presenting as one's own, the ideas or work of another. Academic Dishonesty Procedures have been established by Georgia Perimeter College to insure due process in cases of cheating or

plagiarism. A copy of these procedures can be found in the Student Handbook. Cheating of any kind may result in a penalty ranging from a grade of zero for the work in question to a grade of F in the course, AND the alleged violation will be referred to the College Court for assignment of penalty which may include suspension from the College. Referral to the College Court is required whether the student admits or denies the violation.

9. COPYRIGHT – All copyrighted software is protected by state and federal legislation. Any reproduction of this software without written permission is a violation of the law.

10. ACADEMIC RESPECT – The College exists to foster educational excellence. To this end, a classroom atmosphere which supports learning must be maintained. Students are expected to be active, attentive participants in the class. Students are also expected to abide by class policies and procedures and to treat faculty and other students in a professional, respectful manner. Students are expected to be familiar with the student conduct code published in the Student Handbook.

11. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT STATEMENT – Students who are disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act and require assistance or support services, should seek assistance through the Center for Disability Services. A CDS Counselor will coordinate those services.

12. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT – No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, creed, national origin, age, or disability, be excluded from employment or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by Georgia Perimeter College.

13. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT – Georgia Perimeter College adheres to affirmative action policies designed to promote diversity and equal opportunity for all faculty and students.

14. ELECTRONIC DEVICES – All electronic devices must be turned off during class time.

15. All electronic communication with instructors requires either the use of the student's official GPC email address or iCollege.

UPDATED July, 2011