

## English 002: Foundations of Reading – Spring 2012

**Instructor:** Phillip J. Fox

**Class Time:** Mondays and Wednesdays, 8 – 9:40AM

**Class Location:** E227

**Instructor Office and Hours:** By appointment.

**Instructor E-mail:** [pfox@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:pfox@trcc.commnet.edu) (e-mail is a great way to reach me)

### Required Texts:

\*Henry, D. J. The Master Reader. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New York: Pearson Longman, 2011.

Isay, Dave, Ed. Listening is an Act of Love: A Celebration of American Life from the StoryCorps Project. New York, Penguin, 2008.

### Required Supplements:

\*Dubbe`, Mary. The Lab Manual to accompany The Master Reader. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New York: Longman, 2011.

\*Note: Your textbook and lab manual are workbooks. I will need to check assignments, and you will need to keep the book to do assignments. Please plan accordingly.

### Additional Material:

1. A regular, weekly or bi-weekly publication—that is, a newspaper or magazine. For example, the New York Times, Washington Post, Sports Illustrated, etc. Many of these publications are free of charge on the internet
2. A college dictionary/thesaurus, a highlighter, a notebook, folders.
3. *Mywritinglab.com access / Blackboard Access - Mandatory (please work out any access issues the 1<sup>st</sup> day).*
4. A method for backing up your work on a computer (e.g. a USB thumb drive)

### Course Description:

This is a fundamental course in understanding the ideas of others as well as expressing one's own ideas. This course provides instruction in reading, discussing, and writing skills, which develop thinking and ideas. Through participating in the three processes, students will come to understand how one supports the other, and how clear and directed thinking relates to academic work. This course is preparation for ENG 100, ENG 101, and other college credit courses that require critical thinking and the communication of ideas.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

*Upon successful completion of ENG 002, students should be able to:*

### ***Read and think critically***

- understand the connection between the reading and writing processes
- recognize different genres of non-fiction, such as editorials, speeches, and essays
- comprehend and summarize college-level reading material to develop their own ideas

### **Apply the foundations of strong academic skills**

- develop and use academic reading and speaking vocabularies
- use clarity and variety in word choice, word order, and sentence structure
- understand the importance of asking questions that reveal their engagement and understanding of the material being covered
- use tools appropriately related to reading and writing, such as dictionaries, thesaurus, and writing handbooks
- utilize word processing programs, including proofreading software, in the writing process
- produce documents according to MLA formatting conventions
- employ strategies for effective editing, including attention to grammar, mechanics, usage, and the conventions of standard American English
- collaborate with others in developing points of views and analyzing writing
- employ effective annotation skills
- use writing and reading for inquiry, learning, thinking, and communicating in a college setting
- utilize strategies for writing with time constraints

### **Note on Reading:**

Reading is an important means of communication. It helps one to think, write, and communicate better. Just as there are different skill levels in any sport, reading has different skill levels and achievement as well. This course will help you to understand the different kinds of reading, help you to appreciate the importance of improving your reading skills, and show you how to improve your reading. By working together, we can accomplish our goals.

### **Set goals and evaluate them.**

As a student, you have basic responsibility for your success. Ask, “Why am I here? What do I want to do? Where do I see myself in two years? What are my long-term goals?” Have a clear understanding of where you are. Have a reasonable plan involving realistic goals and a realistic time frame.

### **Know what it takes to be successful.**

This is what it takes to be successful. Do them consistently!

- Attend class regularly.
- Complete all assignments by the due date.
- Participate fully in class.
- Schedule regular outside study time.
- Use college survival skills information.
- Participate in college life outside class.
- Request help when needed.

## Course Policies

Grading includes the following:

### **Class participation – 20%**

Completed assignments; myreadinglab.com; attending and participating in **all** classes, group work, and assigned writings; arriving on time and prepared. Please arrive **on time and prepared** for class. There is a sign-in sheet at the front table. Be sure to sign your name legibly.

### **Assignments – 10%**

Exercises assigned from the lab manual, text book, in-class, and myreadinglab.com

### **Non-fiction book – 10%**

A book you select and read. This assignment includes an oral presentation, weekly reading responses, completion of the book, book club discussions, and completing any additional assignments related to the book.

### **Mastery Tests** (will drop the lowest grade of one test) – **50%**

A series of end-reading, mastery tests.

### **Final Exam – 10%**

The final examination is both comprehensive and reflective. Specific instructions and review for the final examination will be covered in class.

**Additional Grading** – Students must earn a “C” or better to pass this course and continue on to ENG 100.

**Assessment / Test Make-Up Policy** - If you miss a test, you must inform me and make an appointment at the Testing Center by calling 860-885-2318 or dropping by the Welcome Center (A-105) to make an appointment. Arrive 10 minutes before scheduled appointment. Check in at room A-117. Bring a photo ID.

**Additional Attendance Notes** – Class begins promptly. Please arrive on time and leave on time. Arriving and leaving early affect the final grade.

## Special Needs and Learning Disabilities

If you have a question regarding a disability that may affect your progress in this course, please contact one of the college's Disability Service Providers as soon as possible. Chris Scarborough (892-5751) generally works with students who have learning disabilities or attention deficit disorder. Kathleen Grey (885-2328) generally works with students who have physical, visual, hearing, medical, mobility, and psychiatric disabilities. Matt Liscum (383-5240) also works with students who have disabilities.

## The Writing Center/TASC

Room C117 (next to the Library).  
(860) 892-5713 or (860) 892-5769  
TRWritingCenter@trcc.commnet.edu  
Online tutoring: <http://www.etutoring.org/>

**You are strongly encouraged to work with tutors at the Writing Center, including Jon Brammer, the Writing Center Coordinator**

## Technology:

Turn off your cell phone, please. Please do not access unrelated content while working on assignments in class. **I cannot accept any final assignment through e-mail.**

## College Withdrawal Policy:

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course once class has met must provide notice to the Registrar. Withdrawal forms are available at the Registrar's office and at the office at the Sub-base. Non punitive "W" grades are assigned to withdrawal requests. An instructor's signature is required after the deadline has passed. No withdrawals are permitted after the last class preceding the final exam. Students who do not obtain an official withdrawal, but simply stop attending classes, receive an "F" grade for the course.

## Weather Cancellations:

Call (860) 886-0177 or go online to: [www.trcc.commnet.edu](http://www.trcc.commnet.edu).

## Late Work:

Work is due on the dates stated in the course outline or by instructor. Late work without a documented reason will **not** be accepted.

## Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of another person's words or ideas in your writing. If you use any ideas, thoughts, writing, quotes, or even paraphrase some other writer's thinking, you must acknowledge that person. Whether conscious or unconscious, plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Consequences for plagiarism can range from failing the assignment to failing the course.

## **Course Schedule**

There are many things that can and do change from the time I write this schedule to the time each date occurs. Please understand this schedule is tentative and subject to change. An up-to-date schedule of the week's activities can be found on mycommnet, in our Blackboard course. In fact, students are strongly encouraged to use the Blackboard calendar for daily assignments and reminders.

### **Major Due Dates:**

January 23, 2012 – First day of class. Verify Blackboard access. Purchase all texts. Set goals for what you want to get out of this course. Reading strategies. Introduction to texts.

January 25, 2012 – Chapter 1

January 30, 2012 – Chapter 1 Test. Listening is an Act of Love.

February 1, 2012 – Chapter 2

February 6, 2012 – Chapter 2 Test.

February 8, 2012 – Chapter 3

February 13, 2012 – Chapter 3

February 15, 2012 – Chapter 3 Test.

February 20, 2012 → Washington's Birthday, Holiday, No Classes

February 22, 2012 – Chapter 4

February 27, 2012 – Chapter 4

February 29, 2012 – Chapter 4 Test.

March 5, 2012 – Chapter 5

March 7, 2012 – Chapter 5 Test.

March 12, 2012 – Chapter 6

March 14, 2012 – Chapter 6 Test.

March 19, 2012 → Spring Recess, No Classes

March 21, 2012 → Spring Recess, No Classes

March 26, 2012 – Chapter 7

March 28, 2012 – Chapter 7 Test.

April 2, 2012 – Chapter 8

April 4, 2012 – Chapter 8 Test.

April 9, 2012 – Chapter 9

April 11, 2012 – Chapter 9 Test.

April 16, 2012 – Chapter 10

April 18, 2012 – Chapter 10 Test.

April 23, 2012 – Chapter 11

April 25, 2012 – Chapter 11 Test.

April 30, 2012 – Chapter 12

May 2, 2012 – Chapter 12 Test.

May 7, 2012 – Chapter 13

May 9, 2012 – Final Exam Preparation (critical self-analysis piece).

May 14 – Final Exam.

**Best wishes in future endeavors.**