

Hacettepe University
Faculty of Letters
Department of English Language and Literature
SYLLABUS

Title of the Course: IED 147 (01) Reading Skills I

Course Credits: 3 (national), 6 ECTS

Course Status: Elective

Semester: Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. Sinan AKILLI

Office Hours: Thur. 13:00-14:45

Campus Phone: 0 312 297 8475 – Ext. 133

Email Address: sinanakilli@gmail.com

Class Schedule: Tue. 14:00-16:45 – Zeynep Nur Gürsoy Hall

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION (Aim and Content): The aim of the course is to help students develop effective reading and comprehension skills, to reinforce their ability to analyse, comment and argue, and to enrich their vocabulary by getting them to engage texts with different features and themes.

II. COURSE OUTLINE

Week I (Oct. 2) General Introduction

Week II (Oct. 9) Reading strategies, theoretical concepts

Week III (Oct. 16) IPA, prefixes and suffixes, Latin words and phrases, vocabulary

Week IV (Oct. 23)

A. Vocab and pronunciation exercise

B. “The Sun Still Rises in the Same Sky: Native American Literature,” “The Sky Tree,”
“The Earth Only,” “The House Made of Dawn,” and “Coyote Finishes His Work”

C. (Description) “The Discus Thrower” by Richard Selzer

Week V (Oct. 30)

A. Vocab, phrase and pronunciation exercise

B. “Of Plymouth Plantation” and “An American Story”

C. (Narration) “A Hanging” by George Orwell

Week VI (Nov. 6) MIDTERM I

Week VII (Nov. 13)

A. Phrase, sentence and pronunciation exercise

B. “A Narrative of Captivity”

C. (Illustration) “Tricks! Treats! Gangway!” by Ray Bradbury

Week VIII (Nov. 20)

A. “The History of the Dividing Line”

B. (Comparison and Contrast) “The Two Ismo’s” by Russell Baker

C. (Theme: War and Peace) “Atomic War or Peace” by Albert Einstein

Week IX (Nov. 27)

A. “The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano” and “Africa”

B. (Definition) “Fun, oh Boy. Fun. You Could Die from It.” by Susanne Britt Jordan

C. (Theme: High Technology) “Computer Addicts” by Dina Ingber

Week X (Dec. 4) MIDTERM II

Week XI (Dec. 11)

- A. (Classification) “Friends, Good Friends – And Such Good Friends” by Judith Viorst
- B. (Theme: Out of Time and Space) “Were Dinosaurs Dumb?” by Stephen Jay Gould

Week XII (Dec. 18)

- A. (Cause-and-Effect) “The Dazzle of Lasers” from *Newsweek*
- B. (Theme: Fads and Fancies) “The Jeaning of America – and the World” by Carin C. Quinn
“Made in Heaven” by Leigh Montville

Week XIII (Dec. 25)

- A. (Argumentation and Persuasion) “I want a Wife” by Judy Syfers
- B. (Theme: Television) “The Plug-in Drug” by Marie Winn
“Our Need for a ‘Dynasty’” by Mark Muro

Week XIV (Jan. 1) Official Holiday, no class.

III. METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: Lectures, discussion, take-home assignments, in-class pair and/or group work.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND STUDENT CONDUCT: Class attendance is obligatory and failure to attend one-third or more of the class hours will result in an F1. “No shows” on exam or in-class work days will not be compensated for by assignment of extra work, so do not ask for it. If a student has documented excuse accepted by the Faculty Academic Board in accordance with University Regulations, a make-up exam will be given. Questions, discussion, and disagreement are all encouraged in this class. However, any kind of disruptive behavior will never be tolerated.

Likewise, academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. This includes all forms of plagiarism, cheating on assignments or exams, turning in work that has been written partially or entirely by someone else (this includes websites), failing to appropriately represent and document sources, fabricating information or citations, or helping another student commit an act of academic dishonesty.

V. ASSESSMENT: There will be two midterm examinations (15% each), three to five pop-quizzes (10 %) and a final exam (50%). Participation to discussions in class will make up 10% of the final grade. For a passing grade, students must get at least 50 out of 100 in the final exam. Up to 10% of the total score in each exam will be deducted for poor English (e.g. bad grammar, worse spelling, etc.).

VI. REQUIRED TEXTS: There is no textbook for this course. Students are required to obtain photocopies of the assigned texts. Additional material will be provided by the instructor.