

University of South Alabama
English Language Center
ELC 054: Reading IV
Fall I 2019

Course Information

Course Format: Web-enhanced

Class Hours: Monday 12:20 pm – 1:10 pm
 Tuesday 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm
 Wednesday 12:20 pm – 1:10 pm
 Thursday 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm
 Friday 11:15 am – 12:05 pm

Location: Alpha Hall East Room 144

Instructor Information

- Instructor: Ms. Sandy Wingate
- Cell Phone: (251) 599-6878
- ELC Office phone: (251) 460-7185
- E-mail: sandrajwingate@southalabama.edu
- Office: AHE 225
- Office Hours: Monday, 3:00 – 4:00 pm
 Tuesday/Thursday 8:15 – 9:15 am
 Wednesday/Friday 8:00 – 9:00 am
 or by appointment

Course Communication

The best way to contact me is by:

- **e-mail** at sandrajwingate@southalabama.edu; I check my e-mail throughout the day from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. I also frequently send e-mail reminders out to my students, so it is important that you check your jagmail every day, at least once in the morning and once in the evening.
- **text** at (251) 599-6878; this is my personal cell phone number and I check it throughout the day between the hours of 7:00 am – 8:00 pm.
- come to **my office** in AHE Room 225; I have an open-door policy. Whenever my door is open you are welcome to come see me. I also have specific office hours (see above).

It is my desire to help you succeed in this class. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Course Description

This high intermediate course is the fourth level of a five-level sequence of courses designed to improve student competencies in reading comprehension and vocabulary acquisition. Students will read texts and acquire general reading and vocabulary skills needed for comprehension at that level. Vocabulary will be chiefly derived from the Academic Word List, and texts will be primarily academic in nature. This course corresponds with Common European Frame of Reference level B2.

Course Delivery

This course is delivered in a traditional "face-to-face" method and managed through the Sakai online platform. It is a web-enhanced course, which means that some course materials are available at USA Online on the Sakai learning management system. However, grades and attendance will be recorded through THINKWAVE. Your instructor will assist you in accessing both platforms.

Course Materials

- *Longman Academic Reading 3*
- *Oxford Advanced American Dictionary for Learners of English*
- Pen/pencil, eraser, 8 ½ x 11 notebook and paper
- No smart phones or electronic dictionaries allowed in class.

Thinkwave

All students must have a Thinkwave account. Thinkwave will be used for the posting of grades, class announcements, and other class communications. If you need help registering for Thinkwave, the lab assistants can help you.

Course Topical Outline

Week One August 19 – 23	Class Orientation and Syllabus Students must have their textbooks by Tuesday, August 20. Chapter 1: Business: Steve Jobs, Innovator and CEO
Week Two August 26 – 30	Chapter 1 (continued)
Week Three September 2 – 6	Monday, September 2 – Labor Day – No Classes Chapter 1 Test Vocabulary Charts for Chapter 1 are due at the time of the test. Chapter 2: Psychology: Fears and Phobias
Week Four September 9 – 13	Chapter 2 (continued)
Week Five September 16 – 20	Chapter 2 Test Vocabulary Charts for Chapter 2 are due at the time of the test. Chapter 3: Nutrition Studies: Food Rules
Week Six September 23 – 27	Chapter 3 (continued)
Week Seven September 30 – October 4	Chapter 3 Test Vocabulary Charts for Chapter 3 are due at the time of the test. Chapter 4: Medicine: Pioneers and Heroes Wednesday, October 2 – Last Day of AR Testing and End-of-Term Michigan EPT Thursday, October 3 – Awards Ceremony

Week Eight October 7 – 11	Chapter 4 (continued) Review for Final Exam Monday, October 7 – Last Day of Classes Wednesday, October 9 – Comprehensive Final Exam Exams will NOT be given early! No exceptions! Do not plan to leave/travel before Thursday, October 10, 2019.
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Course Goals and Objectives

Goal: Students will acquire the basic reading skills that they will need to understand complex, multi-paragraph general interest and academic texts of 600-800 words.

Objectives: Using assigned texts, students will be able to:

- 1) relate new information to prior knowledge.
- 2) make predictions about the content of texts that they are about to read.
- 3) skim and scan to determine main ideas, text patterns, and location of specific information within a text.
- 4) differentiate main ideas from major and minor supporting details in written materials.
- 5) derive valid information from maps, charts, graphs, and diagrams within texts.
- 6) demonstrate increasing word power by acquiring new vocabulary and the ability to guess new words from context clues and word parts/forms, then applying this knowledge through subsequent practice exercises in new contexts.
- 7) draw inferences.

Attendance

Class attendance is required as a condition of the F-1 visa. It is also vital to a student's success. Students are not allowed to miss more than **four classes** for any reason. Any student with five or more absences in any class will be placed on probation for lack of compliance with immigration policies (failure to attend 85% of all scheduled classes). If the attendance does not improve during the subsequent term, the student will be dismissed from the program.

Any student with ten consecutive absences or a total of fifteen nonconsecutive absences in any class will be dismissed from the program.

Punctuality is also crucial to student success. Students will be marked tardy if they arrive after class begins. They will also be marked tardy if they leave class for any reason without previously arranged permission from the instructor. Previously arranged permission means meeting with the instructor in ample time BEFORE class begins. If students are **tardy three times**, they will earn the equivalent of one absence. When students miss more than 20 minutes because they leave or are late for class, they will be counted absent.

Students with serious medical conditions that necessitate excessive absences should either consider medical leave of absence or register with the Office of Special Student Services to receive appropriate accommodations based on their disability.

Any exception to this policy must be approved ahead of time by the Director of the English Language Center.

Leaving Class

Students are expected to be in class on time and to remain in class until the class is dismissed. You have a break between classes. This is when you should go to the restroom and take care of other personal matters. If you must leave class and you return in fifteen minutes or less, you will be counted tardy for that day.

Make-up work

Make-up work is on a case-by-case basis. If you are absent on a test day, you will not be able to make it up unless you have arranged it with the teacher in advance.

Homework

All homework is expected to be completed at home and on time. If a student chooses to do homework during class or does not do it, then the grade will be **zero**.

Assessment

In order to pass to the next level, students must meet the learning outcomes of this class with a final grade of 70%. **Students can read AR books between levels 4.0 and 6.0, but they will get an AR Certificate ONLY if they finish the term reading at AR Level 4.0 or higher and acquire 20 points or more with an 80% or higher test average.**

PLEASE NOTE: Wednesday, October 2, is the last day for AR testing, so students must make sure to finish all testing by this date.

Students can only take ONE AR test a day. If students take more than one test, the second test will not count towards their grade.

Each chapter test will be worth 100 points. Each quiz will be worth a maximum of 10 points and limited to one quiz per chapter.

The final course grade is determined based on the following:

Comprehensive Final Exam	30%
Chapter Tests and Quizzes	55%
Accelerated Reading (AR)	10%
Other: graded homework assignments, participation, etc.	5%

A= 90-100% B= 80-89% C= 70-79% U= 69% or lower

Remember, as a student, studying is your job! What you do in class is only part of the work. You need to manage your time carefully. You should be spending about two hours studying on your own each day for every hour you spend in class.

Final Exams

Final examinations must be taken at the scheduled times at the end of the term. The schedule of exams is posted at the beginning of each term and in the class syllabus. Examinations will not be given early because of personal travel plans or other similar personal reasons. Students who miss final exams will receive a grade of zero (0) on the exam.

Additional Information

For information regarding changes in course requirements, student honor code, academic disruption policy, student academic conduct policy, or students with disabilities, please refer to the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/additionalcoursepolicies-pdf>.

Emergency Response Information

To report an emergency on campus, call the USA Police at (251) 460-6312 (from any phone) or at 511 (from landline phones on campus only). You can also call for help at 911 from any phone for any emergency anywhere, on campus or off campus.