Course Description

HDEV 1110 - Reading and Learning Strategies is a one-semester, one-credit, graded course which counts as a university free elective. Designed to improve reading and learning efficiency, HDEV 1110 is directed to first-year through junior students who want to acquire advanced reading and learning techniques. Students will apply a variety of reading and learning techniques to the demands of their other courses to enhance their opportunity for academic success.

A diagnostic pre- and post-test determine starting learning skill levels and measure progress during the semester. Self-assessment allows each student to set individual objectives and to build on individual strengths, developing a personalized study system. Out-of-class assignments enable students to address ongoing academic challenges by applying HDEV 1110 strategies to their other courses. Increased rate and comprehension, in combination with improved study strategies, can reduce needed study time and produce better learning with higher grades. This course can help any student to become a more effective, efficient reader and learner.

Course Objectives

Students will work to:

- improve TIME MANAGEMENT by using long-range, mid-range, and short-range tools
- create a personal system for ORGANIZATION
- determine LEARNING PREFERENCES in order to identify the most effective learning strategies
- use a textbook study-reading system to build CONCENTRATION, COMPREHENSION, and RETENTION
- take and use effective lecture and reading NOTES
- enhance TEST PREPARATION and TEST TAKING proficiency
- improve MEMORY and use MNEMONIC TECHNIQUES to readily retain and retrieve information
- use FLEXIBLE READING RATES, including skimming and scanning, suited to different materials and purposes
- improve overall READING RATE

Course Policies

The course will be graded A-F based on both attendance and assignments.

Attendance

This course requires engagement and participation to fully advance your reading and learning efficiency. Attendance is mandatory and any absences in excess of two will lower your final grade. After the second absence, five points will be deducted from your final grade for each additional absence. In addition, three tardies equals one absence. Being more than twenty minutes late counts as an absence.

If you anticipate missing classes due to a university-sponsored activity, notify your instructor immediately and provide written verification. Students must take the learning strategies post-test (see date on page 6) to complete the course.
Assignments
Assignments and quizzes are worth a total of 100 points. All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Late assignments will be accepted up to 48 hours after the due date, and students will have the possibility of earning up to half credit.

Assignments: 65 points
Participation: 20 points
Quizzes: 15 points

Final grades will be based on this scale:
A = 93 to 100 points
A- = 90-92
B+ = 87-89
B = 83-86
B- = 80-82
C+ = 77-79
C = 73-76
C- = 70-72
D+ = 67-69
D = 63-66
D- = 60-62
F = 59 or fewer points

COURSE ACTIVITIES
Class activities include lectures, discussions, demonstrations, online tools, and timed reading exercises to build comprehension and rate. Other class time will be spent on individual work, prescribed on the basis of pre-test and self-assessment, and on applying new reading and learning strategies to your other courses.

REQUIRED MATERIALS


2. Purchase Ace Reader online for $10 at [https://smu.acereader.com/](https://smu.acereader.com/). Directions will be given in class.
• **Disability Accommodations:** Students needing academic accommodations for a disability must first register with Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies (DASS). Students can call 214-768-1470 or visit [http://www.smu.edu/Provost/ALEC/DASS](http://www.smu.edu/Provost/ALEC/DASS) to begin the process. Once registered, students should then schedule an appointment with the professor as early in the semester as possible, present a DASS Accommodation Letter, and make appropriate arrangements. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and require advance notice to implement.

• **Religious Observance:** Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence. (See [University Policy No. 1.9](#))

• **Excused Absences for University Extracurricular Activities:** Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity should be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination or other missed assignment for making up the work. (See [2018-2019 University Undergraduate Catalogue](#))

Attached is a tentative course calendar. All due dates are in **bold**.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day/date</th>
<th>In class</th>
<th>Due dates and reading for our next class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M, 8/26</td>
<td>Syllabus and course calendar A-LEC Resources Canvas Introduction Ace Reader Introductions Discuss Canvas Exercises Learning &amp; Study Strategies Inventory (LASSI)</td>
<td>Purchase Textbook and bring to next class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W, 8/28</td>
<td>Interpret LASSI results Goal Setting and Motivation Time management</td>
<td>Course Chart due W, 9/4 Read Ch. 3, pgs. 57-63 Canvas Exercise due W, 9/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M, 9/2</td>
<td>NO CLASS- University Holiday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W, 9/4</td>
<td>Canvas Exercise due (3.3 Clarifying Your Goals, p. 73) Course Chart due Time management Organization Discuss class participation and reading quizzes Ace Reader Module 1 #1-10 due by 11:59pm</td>
<td>Semester at a Glance due M, 9/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M, 9/9</td>
<td>Semester at a Glance calendar due Time management Reading Drill 1</td>
<td>Time Awareness schedule due W, 9/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W, 9/11</td>
<td>Time Awareness (24/7 schedule) due Note taking Reading Drill 2 Ace Reader Ace Reader Module 1 #11-20 due by 11:59pm</td>
<td>Read Ch. 1, pgs. 1-20 Canvas Exercise due M, 9/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M, 9/16</td>
<td>Canvas Exercise due (Reflection 1.12, pgs. 21-22) Strategic Studying Reading Drill 3</td>
<td>Cornell Notes due W, 9/18 Read Ch. 5, pgs. 106-111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W, 9/18</td>
<td>Cornell Notes due Strategic Reading Concentration Reading Drill 4 Ace Reader Module 1 #21-30 due by 11:59pm</td>
<td>Read Ch. 6, pgs. 131-146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M, 9/23</td>
<td>Test Preparation Skimming Drill 1 Reading Drill 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W, 9/25</td>
<td>Reading Quiz #1 (in class) Test Preparation Flexible reading rates Reading Drill 6 Ace Reader Module 1 #31-40 due by 11:59pm</td>
<td>5 Day Test Prep Plan due M, 9/30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day/date</td>
<td>In class</td>
<td>Due dates and reading for our next class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| M, 9/30  | **5 Day Test Prep Plan due**  
Learning Preferences  
Reading Drill 7  
Skimming 2 | |
| W, 10/2  | Memory  
Reading Drill 8  
Skimming 3  
**Ace Reader Module 1 #41-50 due by 11:59pm** | |
| M, 10/7  | Memory  
Brain Games: Remember This  
Reading Drill 9  
Skimming 4 | **Test 1 Analysis due W, 10/9**  
Read Ch. 7, pgs. 153-159; 169-174 |
| W, 10/9  | **Test 1 Analysis due**  
Information Literacy and Speaking  
Reading Drill 10  
**Ace Reader Module 1 #51-60 due by 11:59pm** | |
| M, 10/14 | **NO CLASS – Fall Break** | |
| W, 10/16 | Skimming 5  
General Education  
Educational Planning  
**Ace Reader Module 2 #1-10 due by 11:59pm** | **Read Ch. 8, pgs. 179-197** |
| M, 10/21 | Critical Thinking Skills  
Skimming Drill 6 | |
| W, 10/23 | **Reading Quiz #2 (in class)**  
Critical Thinking Skills  
**Ace Reader Module 2 #11-20 due by 11:59pm** | **Read Ch. 6, pgs. 145-147**  
**Read Ch. 9, pgs. 219-225** |
| M, 10/28 | Managing Stress and Test Anxiety  
Skimming Drill 7 | **Canvas Exercise due W, 10/30** |
| W, 10/30 | **Canvas Exercise due (College Stress: Identifying Sources and Solutions, pgs. 230-231)**  
Final exam preparation: successfully managing the last month of the semester  
Individual Conferences  
**Ace Reader Module 2 #21-30 due by 11:59pm** | |
| M, 11/4  | Conferences/ Ace Reader  
**Ace Reader Module 2 #31-40 due by 11:59pm** | **Read Ch. 9, pgs. 203-211** |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day/date</th>
<th>In class</th>
<th>Due dates and reading for our next class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| W, 11/6  | Social and Emotional Intelligence  
Ace Reader Module 2 #41-50 due by 11:59pm | Read Ch. 9, pgs. 214-218 |
| M, 11/11 | Reading Quiz #3 (in class)  
L.A.S.S.I. post-test (REQUIRED to pass)  
Brain Games: Attention |  |
| W, 11/13 | Canvas End of Semester Exercise due  
Post-test results and personal gains  
Review goals and revise  
Evaluate this course  
Ace Reader Module 2 #51-60 due by 11:59pm |  |