This course is for students who want to build stronger foundational reading skills. This Writing Center lab course is designed around the PLATO reading software program, a computer based curriculum. This course covers a variety of reading skills, encourages active reading, and develops critical thinking skills. Open entry/open exit.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. Perform question/answer strategies in reading.
2. Distinguish between facts and opinions.
3. Select and apply computer-based learning strategies.
2. use context clues to find word meanings.
3. use roots, prefixes, and suffixes to understand word meanings.
4. apply prior knowledge to understanding literature and expository texts.
5. distinguish between facts and opinions.
6. apply question/answer strategies in reading.
7. make inferences about texts.
8. locate and distinguish main ideas and details of texts.
9. summarize texts.
10. understand graphics in relationship to text meanings.

COURSE CONTENT:

LECTURE CONTENT:

A. Orientation--to familiarize and train students to use the program

B. Reading--activities will include:
   1. exposure to a variety of texts, literature and expository, that increase in level of difficulty
   2. comprehension activities
      a. Using active reading strategies of highlighting, questioning, commenting
      b. Answering questions that range from basic understanding of events, characters, and meanings to critical thinking applications.
   3. written responses to reading (these may be completed outside of the lab as homework)
   4. visualization exercises

C. Vocabulary Building--activities will include:
   1. application of knowledge to text content and understanding words
   2. answering multiple choice questions
   3. word games
   4. written vocabulary log: list of words with definitions, and original sentences using new words (these may be completed outside of the lab as homework)

LABORATORY CONTENT:

A. Orientation--to familiarize and train students to use the program

B. Reading--activities will include:
   1. exposure to a variety of texts, literature and expository, that increase in level of difficulty
   2. comprehension activities
      a. Using active reading strategies of highlighting, questioning, commenting
      b. Answering questions that range from basic understanding of events, characters, and meanings to critical thinking applications.
   3. written responses to reading (these may be completed outside of the lab as homework)
   4. visualization exercises

C. Vocabulary Building--activities will include:
   1. application of knowledge to text content and understanding words
   2. answering multiple choice questions
   3. word games
   4. written vocabulary log: list of words with definitions, and original sentences using new words (these may be completed outside of the lab as homework)

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

A. Lab:
B. Independent Study:
INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES:

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

Out-of-class Assignments

Writing Assignments

1. Short answer responses to comprehension questions
2. Written summaries of readings and vocabulary log
3. Individual contact with instructor to review written work and progress

Reading Assignments

Assigned readings found in the computerized PLATO reading program

METHODS OF STUDENT EVALUATION:

Final Exam
Short Quizzes
Written Assignments
Problem Solving Exercises
Skills Demonstration

Demonstration of Critical Thinking:

1. Completion of practices, quizzes and tests
2. Individual contact with instructor where student must explain his/her activities and discuss new knowledge

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration:

1. Short answer responses to comprehension questions
2. Written summaries of readings and vocabulary log
3. Individual contact with instructor to review written work and progress

TEXTS, READINGS, AND RESOURCES:

Other:

1. Writing Center course syllabus and assignments that correlate with the computer course.

LIBRARY:

Adequate library resources include:

Comments:

Attachments:

Attached Files