

English 093 Effective Reading and Vocabulary Development 4 credits Fall 2011 (FA230)

Instructor: Crystal McMorris crystalmcmorris@delta.edu Tu & Th: Classroom: S-38, Lab A-124

Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 2- 3:30 p.m., M-W 4-5 p.m. Office: S-30, (989) 686-9151

Welcome! We're going to have a great Fall Semester!

This course is designed for those whose academic and personal needs call for building skills, confidence, greater comprehension, and enjoyment of reading. Includes techniques for understanding and remembering a wider reading vocabulary. Applies reading strategies to a wide variety of reading materials under the guidance of an instructor. Does not earn credit towards graduation. Credit may be earned in ENG 093 or ENG 108, but not both.

Required books & supplies

- **Dictionary**, American Heritage ISBN 0-440-23701-7 Publisher Dell
- **Half A Life**, Strauss ISBN 0-8129-8253-3
- **Flash Fiction Forward**, Thomas ISBN 0-393-32802-3
- **True Grit**, Portis ISBN 1-59020-459-X
- **Verbal Advantage**, Elster ISBN 0-375-70932-0
- A dedicated Notebook that you will turn in twice this semester (spiral or bookbound)
- A pack of 3" x 5" index cards and rubber bands or box
- Pens, pencils and highlighters
- Post-it notes
- A flash-drive or disk to save your works in progress

Classroom Decorum: Students are expected to respect and support other students, their teachers and guests. Many different ideas will be welcomed. However, sexist, racist, and offensive comments will NOT be tolerated.. Further, students are expected to attend to the presenter and/or be an active and polite participant in class discussion. Texting, extended side conversations, playing on computers and other such actions will not be tolerated. Don't talk over me or classmates – wait to be called upon or take turns in open discussions.

Disruptive Students I will give one warning per semester. Second offense leads to loss of participation points for the day. Third offense results in dismissal from class. Repeat offenders may be expelled permanently.

Approach Research shows that the best way to improve reading skills and expand vocabularies is by reading! Therefore, our course will be centered on reading and responding to three fabulous books: a novel, a memoir and a book of flash-fiction. We will also read a variety of other texts, write short papers, complete vocabulary-building exercises, practice note-taking and outlining and watch some movies!

Attendance in class is expected and directly tied to your success. Late arrivals and early departures can be very disruptive and should be avoided. If you have a problem, please see me. If you miss class, YOU are responsible for missed material. Quizzes cannot be made up; exams may be accepted late only in documented emergencies.

Instructor-Initiated Drop: English Division policy encourages the instructor to drop you from the class after you miss *more than 2/15 of the class or the equivalent*. In this class, that means that missing more than four class periods (or the equivalent) could result in your being dropped *from all three classes!* If hardship issues arise, please stop by during office hours, e-mail or call one of your instructors ASAP.

Withdrawal/Drop: To drop this class, you must contact the Registrar's Office. You will be given a full refund if you drop within the first week of class.

Be prompt: All exams, quizzes, and presentations will begin at the start of class. You will have a set amount of time to finish; if you are late you will still be expected to finish at the designated time.

Late Papers: Most of your papers will be submitted electronically, into the e-learning drop box. Deadlines will be known well in advance. Early papers will be accepted. Papers a day late will count as half-credit. Those later than that won't be graded except in extreme emergencies which you discuss with me.

E-learning: Attendance, grades, and key handouts will be posted promptly on e-learning.

E-mail: Please check regularly for updates and messages from your instructors and the college.

Breaks: We'll have breaks. You may check phones and update Facebook pages then. Don't do it in class.

Incompletes: An incomplete will be granted only under very stringent conditions. Students must have completed a significant portion of the class to be considered.

SELECTED DELTA COLLEGE POLICIES and RESOURCES

Academic Misconduct: Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarizing, and deliberately interfering with the work of others. Plagiarizing means representing the work of someone else (such as another student or an author of a book or article) as your own. If you use the ideas or words of someone else, YOU MUST CITE the source of the original information in your speeches and papers! Failure to cite sources will impact your grade. Invented or plagiarized work will result in forfeiting all points for that assignment and possibly result in failure of the course and/or disciplinary action at the division or college level. Please review the policy on Student Rights and Responsibilities at:

<http://www.delta.edu/catalog/Pages/Policies.aspx>

Students with disabilities: Delta College provides reasonable accommodations for all students to succeed, regardless of disability. Please contact Mike Cooper, director of disability services (D 102) at 989-686-9330 or 989-686-9322 for further information.

Additional help: Free tutoring in any subject is available through the Teaching/Learning Center and the Writing, Reading and Information Technology Center, both of which are located in the library. Walk-ins are welcome; student ID is required.

Printing: Each student is allowed 100 pages of printing as part of his/her tuition package. (Note: front/back only counts as one page.) Beyond that, students may purchase additional prints online. Go to MyDelta > Students > Other Resources > Request for Printing to download the form. Go green and think before printing extraneous materials!

Adverse weather policy: In the event of a closing due to weather, Delta contacts local radio and TV stations and its own TV station. There is also a weather line at 686-0179, although this may not be as up to the minute as the local media. Closings are very rare.

General Education is the process by which a student acquires the core knowledge and fundamental skills to become an educated person and life-long learner. CORE KNOWLEDGE is the understanding and appreciation of the social, cultural, technological and scientific developments of society. The educated person has the ability to apply this core knowledge and to function effectively and creatively in every aspect of life. The goal of general education is to prepare you to be academically well rounded and emotionally intelligent. For more information visit the Delta College General Education web site at: <http://www.delta.edu/academicservices/general-education>

Coursework and Grades

You may earn 1,000 points this semester.

Attendance & participation: 150 points. Earn 5 points each day that you arrive on time, participate in discussion and other activities, and stay until the end of class.

Reader's notebook: 100 points. I will collect your notebook twice this semester, at midterm and final. Earn up to 50 points for a notebook that is neat and complete and demonstrates effort in writing assignments.

Annotation: 50 points. Earn 50 points for writing in your books.

Vocabulary cards & wordlists, 150 points. Each day, you will bring 3 vocabulary cards to class. You create these at home from unfamiliar words you encounter in that day's assigned reading. These cards will be used for a variety of tasks in class each day – not having them will cause you to lose participation points. At the end of each book, you'll submit your cards along with a list of the words, typed and in alphabetical order. Each packet & list will be worth up to 50 points.

Vocabulary.com. 50 points. You will earn 1 point for every 500 points you rack up on this web site, which features an interactive tutorial program for learning new words and their meanings. We will create accounts in lab and have time during class, occasionally, to work on this, but most of the sessions will be done on your own time. 15 points of extra credit will be awarded to the person with the highest total score, 10 points for second-highest, and 5 for third.

Quizzes: 150 points We will regularly have quizzes worth 5, 10 or 20 points. These will be based on assigned readings, lecture information and *Verbal Advantage* words. Some will be announced; others will be surprises. You may be allowed to use your reader's notebook for some quizzes. Quizzes will be given 5 minutes after class begins and no makeups are allowed.

Short Paper 1: Memoir OR Fiction: 50 points. .

Short Paper 2: This I Believe essay: 50 points.

Short Paper 3: True Grit book review 50 points.

Peer Editing, 50 points.

Teaching to Learn: 50 points. Each student will create and execute a lesson in class, centered on a text of student's choosing and including an activity and discussion.

Final Exam: 100 points. ‘

Your final grade will be based on the percentage of the 1,000 points possible that you earn. To pass this course you need a C or better.

A= 94-100 • A- = 90-93 • B+ = 87-89 • B = 84-86 • B- = 80-83 • C+ = 77-79 • C = 74-76 • C- = 70-73 • D+ = 67-69 • D = 64-66 • D- = 60-63 • F = 0-59

Outcomes and Objectives

Students in English 93 will:

Apply appropriate active reading strategies to a variety of texts by:

- A. Previewing and predicting
- B. Accessing prior knowledge
- C. Questioning
- D. Annotating
- E. Mapping and creating graphic organizers
- F. Summarizing and reviewing

Demonstrate the ability to make meaning from a variety of texts by:

- A. Recognizing main ideas, key supporting points, and organizational patterns
- B. Exploring applications and purposes

Apply various techniques for learning and using both self-selected vocabulary and teacher-assigned vocabulary through:

- A. Pronunciation and read-aloud fluency
- B. Context clues
- C. Word parts
- D. Paper and electronic references

Access, analyze, and use information appropriate for a specific purpose.

Demonstrate an awareness of how reading can be relevant, important, and enjoyable.

Write to learn through activities such as:

- A. Freewriting
- B. Writing reader responses
- C. Informally summarizing and synthesizing