

**ACADEMIC SKILLS AND GENERAL STUDIES DIVISION****CONTACTS AND COMMITMENT**

619-4240, Division Dean

619-4331, Secretary

*To offer curriculum and instructional methods that guide each learner  
to develop the skills and attitudes leading to academic and career success.*

**ACSK 0033 COLLEGE READING**

An upper level reading course designed to help students gain skills they can apply to college textbook and everyday reading requirements. Vocabulary, comprehension, and thinking and study strategies are emphasized along with an introduction to the library. Successful completion allows entry into college level studies.

PREREQUISITE: Preparing For College Reading with a C or better, or minimum placement score: ACT-14, or ASSET-36, or COMPASS-61.

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3 credit hours, none counting toward any degree requirements.

**TARGET AUDIENCE AND TRANSFER:** In accordance with state law, entering students are directed into reading courses appropriate for addressing their academic needs and guiding them toward college success. A student in ACSK 0033 College Reading may enroll in one 1000 level course requiring college reading skills. College Reading is a non-transfer course.

**CORE COURSE OBJECTIVES:** All NWACC College Reading sections focus on and measure demonstrated student learning in these core areas:

1. Actively seek information before, during, and after reading an assignment.
2. Recognize and distinguish between main ideas and supporting details
3. Increase vocabulary by identifying roots, prefixes, suffixes and context clues
4. Summarize materials using a variety of techniques
5. Identify common methods of textbook paragraph development
6. Practice a variety of learning skills such as note-taking, outlining, test taking, and marking texts
7. Draw conclusions based on reading
8. Recognize and evaluate critical reading criteria

**REQUIRED/OPTIONAL TEXTS AND STUDENT RESOURCES:**

Required: Opening Doors, Understanding College Reading, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, by Joe Cortina and Janet Elder, 2002  
Other text supplements: Opening Doors Interactive CD-ROM for students. Offers video and audio clips, puzzles, journaling, quizzes, Internet primer and Web links.

**REQUIRED FORMS OF ASSESSMENT:** A beginning and end semester assessment for all College Reading classes provides grouped statistics regarding overall student learning in the course. To assess the primary goal for the College Reading course, an ACSK Developmental Performance Report indicates that students who are successful in College Reading succeed in reading intensive general education college courses at a rate comparable to that of students placed directly into those college level courses.

**TOPICS (REQUIRED COVERAGE):**

- SUCCESS IN COLLEGE
  - COLLEGE READING AND A COLLEGE-LEVEL VOCABULARY
  - COLLEGE ASSIGNMENTS
  - TOPIC AND MAIN IDEA
  - IMPLIED MAIN IDEAS
  - SUPPORTING DETAILS
  - AUTHORS' WRITING PATTERNS
  - READING CRITICALLY
  - THINKING CRITICALLY
  - STUDYING TEXTBOOKS
- TEST PREPARATION