

Reading 英文閱讀 (Fall 2009)

Dr. Yun-Pi Yuan (Group A, Room: LB306)

Office hours: Tue.8-10 am, 1-4:30 pm; Wed. 8- 4:30 pm;

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Thurs. 8- 4:30; Fri. 1-4:30 pm; or by appointment

In this class you will improve your reading ability in English by reading as much as you can, at a level which is not difficult for you. Much of class time will be devoted to reading, and you will be expected to read a lot outside of class. Research shows that reading a great deal will not only help your reading ability improve, it will also improve your writing, vocabulary, listening, and speaking. It is excellent for increasing your cultural background knowledge for your studies in the English Department as well. Most importantly, you'll be able to enjoy reading in English. In the department Materials Room (LB 303) there are many books you can choose from, and you can also borrow books from the library and buy your own from bookstores (and then trade them with your classmates). **Happy reading!**

GRADING

1. Total number of pages read (at least 5 books, including 1 nonfiction book)..... 30%
2. Reading Journal & Reading Record..... 25%
3. Exercises (scheduled and unscheduled)..... 25%
5. Midterm exam..... 10%
6. Final exam..... 10%
7. Attendance: Each unexcused absence = -2 points from semester grade; Each unexcused lateness = -1 point; **five unexcused absences = failing grade. Any form of cheating (including plagiarism) = failing grade.**

OTHER REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

1. Borrow and return books directly from the department library (times to be announced), with the assistance of the staff. **Return books as soon as you finish them.** Other people may be waiting to read them.
2. **READ OUTSIDE OF CLASS**, not only in class. Remember the more you read, the more you will improve, and the higher grade you will have for total number of pages read.
3. Participate actively in conferences with the teacher—talk about what you think about the book you're reading, what the book is about, how the book relates to what you know and what you have read before, and any questions you have. Bring your reading journal (with the reading record) & your book to the conference.
4. **ALWAYS** bring **A BOOK TO READ, your READING JOURNAL & READING RECORD** to class.
5. Write journal entries as soon as you finish reading a book. Pages of a book you read will not be counted unless you write two entries for the book. (The same rule applies to any book that you give up reading). Always turn in your journal with the **READING RECORD**. Any journal without a reading record will not be accepted. **DO NOT PLAGIARIZE.** (See *MLA Handbook*, 6th ed., Chapter 2: Plagiarism.)
6. All borrowed books (from the dept. materials room) must be returned to LB303 on **January 14** (Thursday), before the final exam; otherwise, you will not be allowed to take the final exam.
7. **Always** come to class **ON TIME**.
8. Homework assignments are due **ON TIME at the BEGINNING of class**. Late homework is not accepted without evidence of a serious reason for being late.
9. If your **cell phone** rings in class, you will be counted absent (unexcused). If no one admits it was their cell phone, everyone will be counted absent. It is fine to listen to music with **earphones** while reading in class; however, anytime the professor or a student is addressing the class, or we are doing an activity, all earphones must be out of your ears, or you'll be counted absent.
10. What to do if you feel sleepy while reading in class: see 9 (music); get up and move around; chew gum (quietly); write in your Reading Journal; write some Vocabulary Notes; talk to the professor about your reading.

SELECTED NONFICTION: Early Humans, Sport, Never Cry Wolf, Where Did I Come From? Cry Freedom, What's Happening to Me? How to Win Friends and Influence People, The Diary of Anne Frank, Black Like Me, Discovering the Human Mind, Tuesdays with Morrie, You Be the Jury and many others in the library/bookstore.

SCHEDULE

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|---|------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | 9/18 | Introduction |
| 2 | 9/25 | Reading |
| 3 | 10/2 | Know Your Book / Reading |
| 4 | 10/9 | Reading [Know Your Book exercise DUE] |

- 5 10/16 Reading [Parsley submit their Reading Journals]
- 6 10/23 Reading [Sage submit their Reading Journals]
- 7 10/30 Reading [Rosemary submit their Reading Journals]
- 8 11/6 Reading [Thyme submit their Reading Journals]
- 9 11/13 Midterm Book Check / Reading
- 10 11/20 Reading
- 11 11/27 From Character to Drama [From Character to Drama Notes DUE]
- 12 12/4 From Character to Drama / Reading [Vocabulary list and questions DUE]
- 13 12/11 Reading [MLA format list DUE]
- 14 12/18 Individual vocabulary quizzes / Reading
- 15 1/8 Cultural clues / Reading [Cultural Clues Notes DUE]
- 16 1/5 Final exam

In your **READING JOURNAL**: Reading Record; at least two responses to each book you read; Vocabulary Notes. Response types: summary (keep it short), personal response (What do you think about the book? How does it make you feel? What does it make you think about? Do you have related experience or memories? What did you learn? How would the story be different if you were the main character? Copy out sentences or short passages you like, and explain why you like them. Draw a picture based on the book, with an explanation. Describe how to adapt the book for a movie, including the actors to use, the locations for filming, background music, parts of the book to leave out, and so forth. Write a different ending, with an explanation.) Vocabulary Notes: After you have finished reading for the day, or finished a chapter or a whole book, go back and scan the text for words that are new for you. Choose 5-10 words each time. Write them in your notes, with the source, the meaning (a definition, synonym, antonym, or even a picture), the sentence you found the word in, and any other relevant information. These notes will be the basis for your individual vocabulary quiz.

Reading Record SAMPLE:

	Author	Title	Place of Publication: Publisher, Year	Reading level	Start date/ Finish date	Level for you (Easy/Good/ Kind of hard/ Too hard)	Rating (Excellent/ Good/ Fair/Lousy)	Pages
1	Saint-Exupéry, Antoine de	The Little Prince	San Diego: Harcourt Brace, 1943.	Original	9/19- 10/9	Kind of hard	Good	97
2	Dahl, Roald	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	NY: Puffin-Penguin, 1964.	Original	10/7- 10/17	Good	Good	155
3	Twain, Mark	The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Taipei: Caves, 2006	Graded 1	10/16- 10/22	Easy	Excellent	94
4	Foster, Thomas C.	How to Read Literature	NY: Quill-HarperCollins 2003.	Original (non-fiction)	10/24- 11/21	Kind of hard	Excellent	307

		Like a Professor						
5	Hardy, Thomas	Tess of the d'Urberville	Oxford: OUP, 2008 (1891).	Graded 6	11/10-12/4	Good	Fair	119
	Total Pages							772