

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**National Tsing Hua University**  
**Advanced English: Reading and Discussion**  
**Fall 2019**

**Instructor:** I-Tsen Huang

**Email:** [itsen1213@gmail.com](mailto:itsen1213@gmail.com)

**Course description**

Through intensive and extensive reading exercises, the course aims to sharpen students' abilities to comprehend and analyze advanced reading materials and expand their vocabulary. The emphasis is placed on making sense of figurative meaning, thinking and reading critically, and guessing meaning from context.

**Course objectives**

1. To train students to make inferences, identify contextual cues, and recognize the main idea, topic sentences, and supporting details.
2. To promote reading fluency by training students to read chunks of text.
3. To build on and enlarge students' knowledge of academic vocabulary.
4. To expose students to various types of figurative language.
5. To refine students' reading strategies.

**Required textbook**

Douglas, N., Huntley, H., Rogers, B. & Bohlke, D. (2015) Reading Explorer 5 (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Boston: Cengage Learning.

**Grading policies**

1. **Attendance and participation – 20%**
  - a. Success in this class depends on regular and punctual attendance.
  - b. Each late arrival will result in a 2-point deduction of the semester grade.
  - c. Each unexcused absence will result in a 5-point deduction of the semester grade.
  - d. Students are required to email the instructor to request a leave of absence. The grant of a leave of absence is within the discretion of the instructor.
  - e. Two unexcused absences will result in a failing grade. A total of four absences will result in a failing grade.
  - f. Missing 15 minutes of class—arriving late, departing early, or leaving during class—counts as half an absence.
2. **Weekly assignments – 30%**
3. **Vocabulary quizzes – 20 %**
4. **Reading comprehension tests – 30 %**

**Information about assignments and classroom activities**

- An excused absence does not negate the student's responsibility for classroom activities or assignments due during his or her period of absence.
- Late submission of assignments is not accepted.
- Use of mobile devices is strictly prohibited.

**Weekly schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Main Topic</b>
1.	9/13	<b>Holiday</b>
2.	9/20	Unit 1
3.	9/27	Unit 1
4.	10/4	Unit 2
5.	10/11	<b>Holiday</b>
6.	10/18	<b>Vocabulary quiz 1</b> <b>Reading comprehension test 1</b>
7.	10/25	Unit 3
8.	11/1	Unit 4
9.	11/8	Unit 5
10.	11/15	<b>Vocabulary quiz 2</b> Unit 6
11.	11/22	<b>Reading comprehension test 2</b> Unit 7
12.	11/29	Unit 8
13.	12/6	<b>Vocabulary quiz 3</b> Unit 9
14.	12/13	Unit 10
15.	12/20	Unit 11
16.	12/27	Unit 12
17.	1/3	<b>Vocabulary quiz 4</b> Unit 12
18.	1/10	<b>Reading comprehension test 3</b>