

111-2 National Tsing Hua University

Advanced English: Discussion and Reading

Spring 2023

Sample syllabus – SUBJECT TO MINOR CONTENT CHANGES based on students' learning responses					
Course Number	11120FL 102804	Credits	2	Classroom	人社 B303
Class hours	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> 8:00A.M. – 9:50A.M. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10:10 A.M.-12:00 A.M.				
Course Type	<input type="checkbox"/> EGP (English for general purposes) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EAP (English for academic purposes) <input type="checkbox"/> EOP (English for occupational purposes)				
Language Level	<input type="checkbox"/> B1 (中級) <input type="checkbox"/> B2 (中高級) <input type="checkbox"/> B2+ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C1				

Instructor & Contact Information:

Name	Email	Office & Tel	Office Hour
Nga Khing Lim	yclin2005@gmail.com	emails preferred	class hours

Course Description

The course aims to cultivate students' English proficiency in academic readings and discussions so as to help them develop academic reading and speaking competence, improve the abilities to synthesize learned skills into their own writings and become eloquent academic English readers and speakers. To achieve the goal, students will be guided to learn reading skills such as skimming and scanning as well as vocabulary skills such as prefix and collocation through course planners in the textbook. Steps by steps, students will thus acquire academic vocabulary and usages to express their opinions in discussions and speaking practices. Along with the proficiency enhancement trainings is the emphasis on critical and independent thinking of the learners.¹ For each text, students are expected to probe the depth and width of each topic and offer their reflective and rational thinkings in this regard. They are encouraged to question notions and debate their classmates' opinions as they are exchanging ideas in classroom discussions. Overall, students will turn out to be proficient English users as well as cultured persons.

Texts included in the textbook and hence discussed in classes are adoptions from authentic, well-known sources such as *the Wall Street Journal*, *Popular Science*, and *The New York Times*, which will further build up students' proficiency in reading advanced writings from aforementioned prestigious publishers once they are already well-equipped after the course. Over the semester, students will gain advanced academic reading and writing skills and emerge from the course eloquent to perform upper-level reading, writing and speaking missions.

¹ See <https://www.skillsyouneed.com/learn/critical-thinking.html>

Course Textbook

Burgmeier, Arline. *Inside Reading Book 4* (2nd edition). Oxford University Press, 2013
ISBN: 978-0-19-441630-6

Recommended Materials

1. Langan, John. *Ten Steps to Improving College Reading Skills*. Taipei: Bookman's 2003.
2. McWhorter, Kathleen T. *College Reading and Study Skills*. New York: Longman, 1997.
3. English Thesaurus and English-English Dictionaries

Grading Scheme

1.	In-class Discussions (including attendances and presentations)	25%
2.	Midterm and Final Exams	50%
3.	Assignments (such as outline, summary, short essays)	25%

Teaching Activities

- Lectures 口頭講授 ■ Pair/Group discussion 配對 / 分組討論 ■ Assignments 作業
■ Student presentations 學生報告 □ Quizzes 小考 □ Projects 專題

Detailed Syllabus

WEEK	DATE	Class Activities / Assignments
1	2/15	Course Orientation
2	2/22	Introduction to Vocabulary and Reading Skills
3	3/01	Unit 1: The Strength to Survive # Reading 1 Reading strategy: skimming and scanning; outlining
4	3/08	Unit 1: The Strength to Survive # Reading 1&2 Reviews and Discussions
5	3/15	Unit 1: The Strength to Survive # Reading 1&2 Student Presentation
6	3/22	Unit 2: Your Attention, Please # Reading 1 Reading strategy: finding the main ideas, isolation causes and effects
7	3/29	Unit 2: Attention, Please # Reading 1&2 Reviews and Discussions
8	4/05	Intercollegiate Activities (no class)
9	4/12	Unit 2: Attention, Please # Reading 1&2 Student Presentation
10	4/19	Midterm Exam (Unit 1: Reading 1&2, Unit 2: Reading 1&2)
11	4/26	Midterm Reflection

12	5/03	Unit 4: The Power of Music # Reading 1 Reading Strategy: Finding the Perpetrator
13	5/10	Unit 4: The Power of Music # Reading 1 Reviews and Discussions
14	5/17	Unit 4: The Power of Music # Reading 2 Student Presentation
15	5/24	Unit 6: Boom and Bust # Reading 1 Reading Strategy: Summarizing and Reporting
16	5/31	Unit 6: Boom and Bust # Reading 1&2 Reviews and Discussions
17	6/07	Unit 6: Boom and Bust # Reading 1&2 Student Presentation
18	6/14	Final Exam