

De Anza College
Reading 200.03

Instructor: Anne Argyriou **E-mail:** argyriouanne@deanza.edu
Term: Fall 2013 **Office Location:** PE 666 (next to locker rooms)
Days/Times: M-F 9:30 – 10:20 **Office Phone:** 864-5340
Office Hours: MWF 1:00 – 2:00 & TuTh 1:30 – 2:20 (or by appointment)

Course Description

This course will improve and make effective your silent reading skills. You will be provided instruction and class practice in methods of increasing reading rate and comprehension, developing recall and interpretation skills, efficient study techniques, and the relationship of reading to writing across all content areas.

The main goal of this class is to encourage you to build your interpretive and analytical skills; in other words, my goal is to assist you in developing your reading and thinking processes, not to tell you what to read and think. To do so, we will engage in a lot of class discussion and group work during the class period. Homework will consist of work you complete by yourself, which you will share with your classmates. Occasionally, I will lecture, but the majority of the course will consist of the ideas you contribute and because of this, *your participation is essential*. I expect you to attend class, to prepare your homework, and to participate in class activities.

Course objectives:

Reading abilities

- to increase the ability to organize information in a way that makes sense to you
- to improve comprehension rate (which improves overall reading comprehension)
- to improve your vocabulary
- to read actively

Analytical abilities

- to increase your ability to identify and support your view of the author's purpose and thesis
- to take risks in interpreting material without assuming a "right" answer
- to recognize the underlying structure in an essay, article, or textbook chapter
- to determine the writer's basic assumptions
- to evaluate the validity of the writer's argument or reasoning
- the ability to set your own purposes for reading and to adopt appropriate reading strategies
- to recognize how well you understand what you are reading

Required Materials

Textbook: Becker and Gillespie, *Across Cultures*, 8th edition

Handout Collection: pay at bookstore, but may need to pick up at Print Services

Fiction book: Gail Tsukiyama, *The Samurai's Garden*

Dictionary: preferably a college dictionary

Computer access:

- students will need to be able to use a computer to print out assignments.
- assignments will need to be typed & printed out to receive credit.
- please be aware that the on-campus computer facilities now charge for printing.
- on-campus computer labs require students to possess a DASB card to use them.

Pass/No Pass

Though this class is a pass/no pass class, I keep your accumulated credit on a letter basis. Your transcript will read "Pass" if you receive A, B, or C credit, and "No Pass" if you receive a D or F.

Grading:

- 1) In-Class Work – 25%
- 2) Homework Assignments – 50%
- 3) Midterm Exam(s) – 10%
- 4) Final Exam – 15%

All exams (midterm, final) are MANDATORY. You must take the exams in order to pass the class.

Final Course Grades (percentage of the total points possible):

A=90 % B=80% C= 70% D=60%

Assignments

- Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the class. **Work turned in after I have collected it will lose points, up to the full value.**
- Written homework assignments **must be typed**, unless a handout is provided.
- **No late homework allowed**, except when students have proof of legal absence (court papers, military orders, etc.). Work is due the day student returns to class.
- Students who miss class **will not be able to make up** missed classwork.

Plagiarism: Please use your own words to express your own ideas, examples, and logical reasoning. When you find it necessary to use an author's words, quotation marks and appropriate citations must be included. We will review this during the quarter.

Student assignments that contain **any** amount of **unattributed** writing from other sources will have points deducted, up to the entire value of the assignment. This same goes for work that is copied from other classmates. **Multiple instances of plagiarism (or any other form of cheating) may result in failing the course (receiving a No Pass grade).** Additionally, students may be referred to the College administration for disciplinary measures.

Attendance

If you are absent during the first week, you will be dropped from the class, so that others from the wait list can be added.

Attending class regularly is very important, so no more than 5 absences are permitted. **Six (6) absences may result in either being dropped or failing the class.** Please arrive promptly, as tardies may count towards your absence limit.

Cell phones: Turn off your cell phone before you enter the classroom. Students who use cell phones during class (for any reason) will **lose points from their overall course grade.** They will also be asked to leave the class for the day, and not be allowed to make up any missed class work.

Dates to Remember

Add Deadline:	Oct. 5
Drop Deadline:	Oct. 6
Withdrawal Deadline:	Nov. 15
Holidays:	Nov. 28 - Dec 1

**Final Exam: Thursday, Dec. 12
9:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.**