I. Course Name: Effective Reading I
Prefix and Number: GST 121
Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours - 3 contact hours

Catalogue Description:
This course is designed to improve a student’s understanding of reading fiction and non-fiction and to increase the student’s interest in reading. Emphasis is placed on the development of vocabulary skills along with literal and critical comprehension skills. Specific instruction is based upon assessment of the student’s current level of performance. Class size is limited to provide opportunities for individualization and/or small group instruction.

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives:

Learning Outcomes:
-- To provide instruction and practice that will improve students’ reading skills as well as further their interest in reading
-- To improve comprehension
-- To improve vocabulary strategies

Relationship to Academic Programs:
Effective Reading (GST 121) counts as General Elective credit and supports reading across the curriculum.

College competencies addressed by the course:
Writing                        Ethics/Values
Oral Communication             Global Concerns
Reading                         Citizenship
Computer Literacy              Information Resources

III. Methods of Instruction:

Types of Course Materials:
Textbook(s): No specific textbook is required. Types of materials may include newspaper, magazine, journal, traditional textbooks, print and on-line articles, books of fiction and non-fiction.

Methods of Instruction:
Instructional strategies may include lecture, group discussion, guest speakers, videos, and computer technology.

Assessment Measures:
Formal and informal assessment measures will be used during the course to assess the following:
- Students will exhibit the development of improved reading skills.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to use various read-study systems.
- Students will demonstrate increased reading comprehension.
- Students will demonstrate improved vocabulary strategies
- Students will exhibit the ability to transfer reading strategies to various content areas.

**Methods of Evaluation:**
A variety of evaluations may be used and may include quizzes, examinations, summaries, responses, book reviews, and projects.

**IV. General Outline of Topics Covered:**

I. Student reading Inventory
   A. Self assessment
   B. Role of miscues
   C. Exposure to a variety of genres

II. Comprehension skills topics
   A. Main idea/supporting details
   B. Topic sentences
   C. Organizational patterns
   D. Distinguishing fact/opinion
   E. Developing inferential thinking
   F. Identifying author’s tone/purpose
   G. Making judgments
   H. Drawing conclusions
   I. Identifying author’s style
   J. Interpreting figurative language

III. Vocabulary strategies
   A. Context clues
   B. Structural and phonetic analysis
   C. Use of dictionary and thesaurus

IV. Development of active reading strategies
   A. Textbook strategies such as SQ3R, marking, annotating
   B. Techniques for fiction
   C. Techniques for non-fiction