

IELI 2360 - Reading Authentic Texts

Catalog Description

Focuses on comprehension of academic and popular-media texts including articles from newspapers, magazines, and web pages. Awareness of discourse organization and development of academic vocabulary are emphasized.

Course Goals

Students will . . .

- improve reading comprehension at an intermediate level of language proficiency
- increase awareness of typical patterns of discourse organization in authentic texts
- learn techniques for visually representing organization and content of text
- build academic vocabulary

Expected Learner Outcomes

1. Students demonstrate improvement in reading comprehension by . . .
 - identifying main ideas and supporting details in outline or other visual form
 - summarizing main ideas in writing
 - answering questions about content
2. Students demonstrate awareness of the discourse organization of various authentic texts by completing tasks such as:
 - identifying typical patterns (e.g., topic/subtopic, chronological order, process/procedure, comparison-contrast, cause-effect, problem-solution, etc.)
 - creating visual representations of content such as tree diagrams, timelines, T-charts, flow charts, etc.
3. Given a text, students can visually represent its organization and content by . . .
 - using conventional graphic organizers such as tree diagrams, timelines, T-charts, flow charts, etc.
4. Students demonstrate knowledge of academic vocabulary through tasks such as . . .
 - matching of academic target words to synonyms
 - fill-in-the-blank exercises
 - using the target words in context
 - answering questions using the target words

Typical Classroom Topics/Activities

- Main idea & details
- Summarizing and paraphrasing
- Graphic organizers such as tree diagrams, timelines, T-charts, flow charts, etc.
- Rhetorical modes: classification, cause-effect, comparison-contrast, process, etc.
- Exercises such as matching, fill in the blank, etc.
- Jigsaw reading
- Extensive reading (novels, Internet articles, etc.)
- Vocabulary journals & dictionary practice
- Word mapping (i.e., using different forms of word)
- Framing exercise