

**READ 090 Strategic Reading for College  
ENGL 091 Pre-College Writing**

**Dr. Martha McGovern, Associate Professor**

**Office: Room 0404 G**

**Telephone: work – (304) 424-8000 ext. 493**

**Email: martha.mcgovern@mail.wvu.edu**

**Office Hours: As Posted and By Appointment**

Monday and Wednesday – 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

**Catalog Descriptions**

090. Strategic Reading for College

3 credit hours

Students will develop strategies for reading, studying, and analyzing college material.

Topics addressed: active reading process, text structure, style and purpose, vocabulary, critical thinking. (Graded: pass/fail.) (Prerequisite: Placement test.)

091. PRE-COLLEGE WRITING

3 credit hours

Developing skills necessary to complete a college-level writing course: usage, grammar, punctuation, sentence formulation, paragraph development, and basic essay development. (Graded: pass/fail.) (Prerequisite: pass grade in LA 065 or appropriate score on English placement test.)

**Required Texts**

To Purchase in Bookstore

Goodman, D.J., Nist, S.L., & Mohr, C. (1997). *Improving vocabulary skills* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). West Berlin, NJ: Townsend Press.

Langan, John. (2008). *College writing skills with readings* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.

On Reserve in Library

A book for the thematic portion of the course.

**Course Objectives for READ 090**

Students will demonstrate

1. use of vocabulary development strategies.
2. use of active reading strategies for literal, critical, and creative comprehension and retention of information.
3. use of writing to learn tactics.
4. use of metacomprehension to tailor reading/study strategies to various academic disciplines and purposes.
5. use of critical reading/thinking skills.

## **Course Objectives for ENGL 091**

Students will be able to

1. write a single paragraph organized around one clearly defined idea.
2. write single paragraphs which flow logically from sentence to sentence using appropriate repetition and transitions.
3. coordinate and subordinate ideas correctly in relation to controlling ideas of paragraphs.
4. write a five-paragraph essay which meets the standards of unity, support, coherence and correct sentence skills.
5. define, identify and write paragraphs which contain simple, compound, and complex sentences in a variety of patterns.
6. maintain the proper sequence of tense(s) within individual sentences and paragraphs.
7. identify the subject-verb cores in sentences and write complete sentences.
8. write sentences which have correct subject-verb agreement.
9. write simple, compound, and complex sentences which demonstrate the correct use of the comma, the colon, the semicolon and end punctuation.
10. identify and correct the “fragment,” the “run-on,” and the “comma splice.”
11. use correctly the principal parts of commonly used irregular verbs.
12. correct common problems with pronouns, adjectives and adverbs, capitalization, possession, contraction, and usage.

## **Course Requirements for READ 090**

### **1. Vocabulary Strand**

Each student will compile a record of vocabulary learning. The record will include (a) completed vocabulary development activities from the text and (b) vocabulary word web entries. Each word web entry will include the selected word web, the sentence in which it occurred, the dictionary definition, and the student’s associations with the word’s meaning.

### **2. Reading/Study Skill Application Assignments**

Each student will complete application assignments that correspond to specific reading/learning tactics.

### **3. Thematic Book Log**

Each student will utilize critical reading skills to read a thematic book and to make notes in a reading log.

### **4. In-Class Application Assessments**

Each student will complete in-class activities to demonstrate mastery of literal, inferential, and critical reading power development.

### **5. Final Exam**

Each student will complete a final in-class exam for READ 090 to determine mastery of reading/study tactics.

## **Course Requirements for ENGL 091**

### **1. Writing Process Papers and Presentation**

Each student will use the writing process steps to complete at least five papers. One paper will involve use of print and electronic resources related to the thematic book. For this paper, each student will also make a presentation to the class using technology or audiovisual aids.

### **2. Writing Skill Application Assignments**

Each student will complete writing assignments that correspond to specific grammar, mechanics, usage, and paragraph skills.

### **3. In-Class Application Assessments**

Each student will complete in-class activities to demonstrate mastery of sentence skills and progress in expository writing.

### **4. Final Exam**

Each student will complete an in-class exam for ENGL 091 to determine mastery of writing skills.

## **Grading Policies:**

### **READ 090**

In order to pass the course, a student must demonstrate reading/study competencies of C-quality or higher on the final exam and earn at least 760 points for the semester.

### **ENGL 091**

In order to pass the course, a student must demonstrate satisfactory writing competency on the exam and demonstrate progress and competency to earn at least 760 points during the semester.

### **BOTH READ 090 and ENGL 091**

1. Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period of the designated date.
2. Scores for assignments turned in late will be recorded as 90% of the achieved score. Late assignments should be turned in within a week of the due date.
3. All assignments for the semester must be turned in by the last regular meeting of class.
4. Missed presentations or in-class writings/tests/exam will be recorded as a score of zero.
5. Academic honesty is expected of all students, and serious consequences will result from a breach of that ethic.
6. If you have concerns about scoring/grading, please schedule a conference.

**Total Points for the Semester = 1000 in each course.**

**Grading Scale for the Semester:**

<b>Pass: 1000 – 920</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>919 – 840</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>839 – 760</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Repeat: 759 – 680</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>679 – 000</b>	<b>F</b>		

**Courses are scored separately. For each course, Passing is a score of 760 or higher.**

**Attendance Policies:**

1. A learning community depends on the consistent punctuality, attendance, preparation, and participation of its members.  
**Sign-in:** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. For accurate record, it is the student's responsibility to sign in before class starts.
2. Students are expected to attend all classes except in cases of sickness, accident, or other situations of extreme urgency.
3. Students are expected to be punctual, prepared, and willing to participate in class activities.
4. When students are absent, they are responsible for attaining class materials and notes.
5. The final course grade can be adversely affected by a record of excessive absences. Such a record of absence from class may result in failure to pass the course.  
"Excessive absences" is defined as any number of absences that exceeds the number of class meetings that are scheduled in one week.
6. Each tardiness and early departure equals ½ absence.
7. If there are extenuating circumstances for attendance problems, the student is responsible for arranging a conference and providing documentation.

**Social Justice Statement**

West Virginia University at Parkersburg is committed to social justice. I concur with that commitment and expect to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Our University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color, or national origin. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration.

**Special Needs Statement**

If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise me and make appropriate arrangements with the Office of Disability Services in Room 1019 or call 424-8378.

If you are having difficulty in this course or others, the Learning Center offers services to students, free of charge, Monday through Friday. Peer tutoring is available as scheduled individual and group sessions and as drop-in sessions. For more information, visit the Learning Assistance Center in Room 0404, call 424-8278, or see the website: <http://www.wvup.edu/LearningCenter/>.

Professional counselors are available to assist you with either personal or academic problems. To arrange an appointment, visit the Student Advising Center in Room 1213 or call 424-8310.

**Campus Safety**

When the building fire alarm is activated, all occupants must exit to a safe position a minimum of 100 feet away from the building.

- If you will need assistance during an emergency evacuation, notify your instructor so that arrangements can be made in advance.
- Familiarize yourself with the locations of emergency exits. Information is posted in or by each classroom.
- Notice that emergency call buttons are located in each room on the main campus.