COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH 118
Analytical Reading

I.   **Catalog Statement**

English 118 provides students with the techniques to analyze and critically evaluate written and oral communication, to make logical judgments about the material, and to reach independent conclusions on the views an ideas that have been presented.

Units -   3
Lecture Hours -   3

Prerequisite: Eligibility for English 101

II.   **Course Entry Expectations**

Skills Level Ranges: Reading 6; Writing 6; Listening/Speaking 6; Math 1

Prior to enrolling in this course, the student should be able to:

1.   organize and write thesis-based essays
2.   use detailed examples, facts, logical explanations, and other appropriate support for thesis statements
3.   critically analyze selected prose works dealing with important contemporary issues
4.   summarize, analyze, and synthesize information, express and apply standards for judgment, compare and contrast, and evaluate evidence in order to form and state reasoned opinions
5.   gather and organize information through library research demonstrate a command of grammar, diction, syntax, and mechanics sufficient for college level work as specified by the English 120 rubric.

III.   **Course Exit Standards**

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1.   identify the issue and the conclusion as presented by the writer/speaker,
2.   identify and evaluate the reasons used to support the conclusion,

3. evaluate the reasons and conclusion for ambiguity, assumptions, and valid reasoning,
4. identify and evaluate value conflicts and value preferences on the part of the writer/speaker and the reader/listener,
5. evaluate the information presented and that which may be omitted to arrive at a well-supported judgment of the issue.

IV. **Course Content**

A. Reading actively 6 hours
  1. filter method
  2. paragraph functions
  3. summarizing
  4. paraphrasing
  5. annotating
B. Analyzing the use of words 12 hours
  1. denotation and connotation
  2. purr words and snarl words (semantic argument)
  3. figurative language
  4. ambiguities/equivocation
C. Evaluating the thinking process 12 hours
  1. assumptions
  2. inferences
  3. evidence
  4. induction/deduction
  5. fallacies
  6. use and misuse of statistics
D. applying the techniques 18 hours
  1. analyzing editorials
  2. analyzing speeches
  3. analyzing persuasive essays
  4. using library research to analyze opposing views on current issues.

V. **Methods of Presentation**

The following instructional methodologies will be used in the course:
1. Classroom lecture and discussion
2. Collaborative learning

VI. **Assignments and Methods of Evaluation**

1. Students will have one multiple choice/matching/providing definitions exam on the terms presented in class
2. Two essay examinations based on evaluating the organization, language and logic of specific editorials or speeches
3. The final exam will be a written evaluation of a persuasive essay.

VII. **<u>Textbooks</u>**

<u>Preface to Critical Reading</u>, Richard D. Altick, 6th ed.
<u>The Language of Argument</u>, Daniel McDonald, 4th ed.
<u>Asking the Right Questions,</u> Browne and Keeley, 2nd ed.