



Columbia West College

Course Syllabus

Level 4 Reading & Writing

This Course Syllabus outlines course-specific information. For program-wide information, please refer to the Program Syllabus, which can be accessed at www.columbiawestcollege.edu → Students → Syllabi and Curriculum Guides.

Prerequisite: Placement by assessment or successful completion of Level 3.

Course Objectives: The goal of this course is for you to gain confidence in your ability to 1) understand and communicate in a variety of contexts related to daily life, including some that are unfamiliar 2) produce clearly developed text on a wide range of subjects and 3) explain a viewpoint on a topical issue, giving the advantages and disadvantages for various opinions.

Learning Outcomes: After you finish this course, you will be able to:

1. Take notes in a variety of styles;
2. Make predictions about topics and details;
3. Categorize main ideas;
4. Scan and locate supporting details;
5. Make inferences about the author's viewpoint;
6. Find similarities and differences between two texts and/or between texts and outside experiences;
7. Form and express opinions based on the text by using topic sentences, supporting details, description, figurative language, parallelism, and transitions and;
8. Write a variety of intermediate pieces (usually paragraphs) which detail and offer support for opinions, compare and contrast two points of view, convince the reader of a personal point of view, and/or respond to interview questions.

Program Length: ESL Level 4 is divided into 3 modules, and each module is 4 weeks in length. However, the length of your individual educational program depends on your commitment to the school.

Required Textbooks:

English, Andrew K. and Laura Monahon English. *NorthStar Reading and Writing, Level 4*. 4th ed. White Plains: Pearson Education, 2014. Print.



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Curriculum Guide Level 4 Reading & Writing

| MODULE | WEEK 1 | WEEK 2 | WEEK 3 | WEEK 4 |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|
| A | Unit 1 Genius: Nature or Nurture? | Unit 1 Genius: Nature or Nurture? | Unit 2 Facing Life's Obstacles | Unit 2 Facing Life's Obstacles |
| B | Unit 3 Making Medical Decisions | Unit 4 Instinct or Intellect? | Unit 5 Too Much of a Good Thing? | Unit 5 Too Much of a Good Thing? |
| C | Unit 6 Making a Difference | Unit 7 The Empty Classroom | Unit 8 Managing Your Smartphone | Unit 8 Managing Your Smartphone |

Textbook: English, Andrew K. and Laura Monahon English. *NorthStar Reading and Writing, Level 4, 4th ed.* White Plains: Pearson Education, 2014. Print.

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