



Southern Arkansas University Tech

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www.sautech.edu

ONLINE COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

Course Number: CO0143

Course Title: Introduction to Language Arts

Course Description:

This course is designed to prepare students for college level critical thinking through reading and writing. Successful completion is necessary to qualify for Composition I; however, Introduction to Language Arts does not earn college credit toward a degree plan.

Instructor: Lida A. Criner

Instructor Bio: Office: Off-Campus Internet

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Following a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and Religious Studies, with a minor in English from the University of Colorado, at Boulder, Criner earned 36 graduate hours in philosophy at the University of Arkansas. She earned the Master of Education in Adult Education, followed by the Doctor of Education Degree in 1992 at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. She conducted an experimental study to measure critical thinking and reasoning in adult college students at North Arkansas Community College. Her graduate program focused on literacy, retention, education leadership, distance education, the change process in education, and teaching methodologies for nontraditional students. Prior to being hired at SAU Tech (2002) to teach philosophy and to develop and teach Internet courses (Reading, Writing I, Writing II), she taught college survival skills, world religions, ethics, logic, and introductory philosophy at North Arkansas Community College/Arkansas State University at Mountain Home. Presently, she teaches courses in Language Arts at Southern Arkansas University Tech. She teaches Introduction to Philosophy, Journalistic Writing, World Religions, and Logic at Northwestern University (Center for Talent Development). While a graduate student and teacher, she conducted independent research, published journal articles and presented papers at national and international education conferences. She regularly presents best practices' roundtable discussions for teaching fully-online remedial reading and writing at Arkansas Blackboard Users Group (ARBUG). She lives at Limestone in northwest Arkansas in the Boston Mountains, Newton County, near the Buffalo River and the Boxley Valley Elk Preserve. Her hobbies include writing, piano playing, sewing, and painting portraits and landscapes in oil and watercolor.

Prerequisite:

To be eligible to take Introduction to Language Arts, students must have satisfied the scores in Reading and Writing in one of the following standardized tests.

Standardized Test	English/Writing	Reading
ACT	15 or below	15 or below
SAT	380 or below	469 or below
ASSET	37 or below	38 or below
COMPASS	38 or below	73 or below

Textbook Information: Required e-text, other materials, and handouts: Kirszner, Laurie G., Mandell, Stephen R., *Patterns for College Writing: A Rhetorical Reader and Guide, 12th ed.*, Cengage, 2012.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Proficiency in reading, writing, speaking and listening
2. Computer literacy skills
3. A historical, cultural, social, and global perspective
4. Critical thinking and problem solving skills: scientific, mathematical, social, and personal
5. Research skills

Course Objectives:

1. Students will demonstrate critical thinking by reflection through response to a variety of readings.
2. Students will demonstrate critical thinking by analysis of various readings through examination, comprehension and evaluation.
3. Students will demonstrate critical thinking by research through finding evidence, supporting analysis, and synthesizing ideas.

On-Campus Requirement

The final exam must be taken at an approved proctor site. Visit the college website at www.sautech.edu for detailed information.

Modes of Interaction

Discussion Board, Online Assignments, Email, Journals, Videos, Group Activity, Virtual Classroom, Multimedia

Methods of Assessment:

Standard Blackboard Learn methodology, with a focus on reading comprehension, and critical thinking to include application of patterns' techniques in teacher-to-student, student-to-student, and student-to-teacher interaction assignments and activities.

Patterns Learning System (Computer Assisted Instruction Lab): Class-wide Book Companion Website quizzes in the *Patterns for College Writing* e-book allow ongoing practice and study. Student-teacher interaction is accomplished via daily email messages in Blackboard Learn. **Methods of Testing:** Students will take a diagnostic test to determine reading comprehension level during the first week of class. They will take five multiple-choice Unit Exams electronically scored in Blackboard Learn, and will read five specific essays, and write essays using six of eight different patterns of organization described in the textbook. Early in the course, students will begin a personal writing journal within Blackboard and progress in steps to the final research paper (using a rubric and MLA formatting). Other assignments include a Student reading-and-writing Project, Vocabulary Exam, Discussions, Virtual Classroom problem-solving meeting, and a Group Activity (Argument). In addition, student learning will be assessed in the Comprehensive Proctored Final Exam.

Enrollment Procedures:

SAU Tech is an open admissions college; however, we have several items that you must provide in order to be admitted:

- Submit application for admission.
- Submit a high school transcript or GED, and official college transcripts from all previously attended colleges (if applicable).
- Provide proof of two immunizations against measles, mumps and rubella.
- Take a placement test. Students enrolling must submit ACT, SAT, ASSET or COMPASS scores. Students can take the ASSET or COMPASS test at SAU Tech.

Students are responsible for all tuition and fees at the time of registration. Students must officially drop by written notice or in person in order to reduce their balance owed. If students never attend class, he/she will still be assessed partial tuition and full student processing fees, unless he/she completely withdraws during the 100% refund period.

In order for a student to drop a class, he/she must complete a drop form or send written request to his/her advisor. A \$10 drop fee is assessed for drops that take place after the registration period ends.

Admissions Office Website: <http://www.sautech.edu/studentResources/admissions.aspx>

Course Registration Website: <http://www.sautech.edu/studentResources/advising.aspx>

Technical Requirements and Resources: Students will need Internet access and have the ability to send and receive e-mail attachments using the e-mail within Blackboard.

Library Website: <http://www.sautech.edu/lrc/index.aspx>

Bookstore Website: <http://sautech.textbooktech.com>

Adult Learner Resources: Online library and bookstore services can be obtained at the library and bookstore websites. Advising services can be obtained at <http://www.sautech.edu/studentResources/advising.aspx>.

Student Support and Learning Resources: Online library and bookstore services can be obtained at the library and bookstore websites. Advising services can be obtained at <http://www.sautech.edu/studentResources/advising.aspx>.

Other Considerations

Students will need Internet access and have the ability to send and receive e-mail attachments using the e-mail within Blackboard.

All first time online students are required to complete Learning Strategies before they will be allowed to take their online course(s). The purpose of Learning Strategies is to teach students how to use Blackboard and provide information about other systems that students will use while a student at SAU Tech.

There are computer programs and other things that you will need if you are taking an online course from SAU Tech. To make it easier for you, we have compiled a list of these things. Before beginning your online course, you should go ahead and make sure each of these programs listed below are loaded on every computer that you will use while taking your online course(s).

- Microsoft Word—used to complete assignments and submit to instructor
 - Can be accessed via SkyDrive inside your student email account. **FREE**
 - Can be purchased from WalMart or other software vendor and will need to be loaded onto your computer
 - There is also a **free** product that works just as good as the Microsoft Office Suite. You can download it at <http://download.openoffice.fm/free/?pk=26976>
- Adobe Reader 7.0 or higher—used to read files in pdf format
 - Cost: Free
 - Can be downloaded to your computer from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>
- Adobe Flash Player (7 or higher)—used to view study activities and demonstrations in Learning Strategies course
 - Cost: Free
 - Can be downloaded to your computer from http://www.adobe.com/shockwave/download/download.cgi?P1_Prod_Version=ShockwaveFlash
- Macromedia Shockwave Player 8.5.1—used for interactive quizzes, animations and activities
 - Cost: Free
 - Can be downloaded to your computer from <http://www.macromedia.com/shockwave/download/download.cgi?>
- Windows Media Player—used to listen/play audio files
 - Cost: Free
 - Comes as part of your Windows operating system
- Java—a technology that is required in order for Blackboard to function properly as well as some other programs that SAU Tech uses with its online classes (**Note: Only one version of Java can be running on your computer at a time.**)
 - Cost: Free
 - Can be downloaded to your computer from <http://javashopim.sun.com/ECom/docs/Welcome.jsp?StoreId=22&PartDetailId=jre->