

Common Course Outline

ACLT 052

Academic Literacy

5 Contact Hours

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

ACLT 052 - 5 billable hours, 0 credits - Academic Literacy provides intensive instruction in critical thinking, reading, and writing in preparation for English 101 and other 100-level courses. Using theme-based readings from a variety of genres, coursework will emphasize independent reading of complex academic texts, critical response to ideas and information in academic texts, and writing essays that integrate ideas and information from academic texts. NOTE: Course offered every fall, spring, and may be offered during additional sessions.

5 billable hours, 0 credits; 5 lecture hours per week

Prerequisite: To be eligible for enrollment in ACLT 052, students must be placed into ENGL 051 or ENGL 052 and RDNG 051 or RDNG 052. Students must also demonstrate secondary level skills in order to remain enrolled in ACLT 052. Students must earn a “C” to pass the course.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. use pre-reading strategies to facilitate understanding of texts;
2. read actively and critically, and effectively use textual annotation;
3. identify and deconstruct abstract ideas found in complex academic texts;
4. formulate and explain valid inferences based on information from texts;
5. write and evaluate arguments for validity and credibility;
6. synthesize ideas and information from multiple sources and varying points of view;
7. write well-organized, unified, coherent essays with a clear, purposeful thesis statement;
8. support ideas with adequate and varied evidence;
9. tailor language to address a specific audience; and
10. detect and correct major grammatical and mechanical errors.

Major Topics

- I. Academic literacy and academic discourse
- II. The reading-writing process
- III. Organization
- IV. Critical reading, writing, and thinking

- V. Reader response
- VI. Using source materials
- VII. Writing and evaluating arguments
- VIII. Grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage
- IX. Audience awareness

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Students must achieve a minimum overall average of 70%. Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

1. At least one research-based project requiring the synthesis of three or more sources.
2. At least one in-class writing assignment.
3. At least one presentation.
4. At least one technology-based assignment.
5. At least four (4) essays, worth 40% of the final grade, comprised of a minimum of four (4) paragraphs that make a convincing argument, and demonstrate critical analysis of academic texts.
6. A common end-of-semester portfolio assessment, worth 30% of the final grade, which will include:
 - a. Two (2) previously submitted essay assignments-- revised as necessary
 - b. Final Essay
 - c. Self-reflection

Assignments 1-5 can be combined.

Written Assignments: Students are required to utilize appropriate academic resources.

Other Course Information

This course fulfills the requirements of Reading 051, 052 and English 051, 052.

This course is partially taught in a computerized environment.

Date Revised: 5/8/20