

## Syllabus: “Academic Reading”

International School, Summer Semester 2023/24

Dr. Fernanda Korovsky Moura

### (a) Inhalt und Ansatz | Content and Approach

- The course is designed to prepare students to approach different texts in an academic context. We will explore the four levels of reading (Elementary, Inspectional, Analytical and Syntopical), and investigate different reading techniques to achieve the highest level of engaging with an academic text (skimming, active reading, note-making, outlining, criticizing, aids to reading, etc.). We will also focus on the use of English in academic contexts through vocabulary exercises.
- Students require at least an upper-advanced level of English in order to follow the lessons.
- Teaching methods are oriented towards student-centred learning and include activities such as lectures, group work, peer review, and consultations with the instructor.
- The course will be offered as an online session.
- Completion of assignments and regular attendance (at least 80% of all sessions) is required for exam admission.
- For the successful completion of the course, the student will be awarded 3 ECTS. Therefore, students should be prepared to spend considerable time working with the study content.
- It is recommended (though not obligatory) to attend this course alongside the “Academic Writing” course offered at the International School.
- Participants are required to register for the course via StudIP, where all teaching resources will be made available. If there are problems with the registration via StudIP please contact Dr. Fernanda Korovsky Moura via fernandakm@gmail.com.
- The students are expected to have their own copy of the following books to be used in the online classroom and for self-study:
  - *How to Read a Book: The Classical Guide to Intelligent Reading*, Mortimer J. Adler and Charles van Doren. Simon & Schuster, 2014 (or another edition of this book).
  - *Academic Vocabulary in Use*, Michael McCarthy and Felicity O’Dell. Second edition. Cambridge University Press, 2016.

### (b) Qualifikationsziele | Learning Objectives

- The course aims at improving students’ reading comprehension in an academic context.
- Students will become familiar with various extensive and selective reading techniques.
- Students will enhance their academic vocabulary.

### (c) Kursstruktur | Course Structure

- The course schedule is composed of two online sessions per week on Monday and Tuesday (with the exception of Week 2, in which we'll meet on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday) from 20/05 to 24/06.
- The online access to the course will be made available via StudIP in the course profil.
- The course schedule is as follows:

#### o 20/05 10:00-12:30

Introduction to Academic Reading

Required reading: The Activity and Art of Reading (*How to Read a Book*, chapter 1, pp. 3-15)

In the classroom: What is special about academic English + Key nouns (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 10-13)

#### o 21/05 10:00-12:30

Required reading: The Levels of Reading (*How to Read a Book*, chapter 2, pp. 16-20)

In the classroom: Key verbs + Key adjectives + Key adverbs (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 14-19)

#### o 27/05 10:00-12:30

Required reading: The First Level of Reading: Elementary Reading (*How to Read a Book*, chapter 3, pp. 21-30)

In the classroom: Phrasal verbs in academic English + key quantifying expressions (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 20-23)

#### o 28/05 10:00-12:30

Required reading: The Second Level of Reading: Inspectional Reading (*How to Read a Book*, chapter 4, pp. 31-44)

In the classroom: Words with several meanings + Metaphors and idioms (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 24-27)

#### o 30/05 10:00-12:30

Required reading: How to Be a Demanding Reader (*How to Read a Book*, chapter 5, pp. 45-55)

In the classroom: Nouns and the words they combine with + Adjective and noun combinations + verbs and the words they combine with (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 28-33)

**o 03/06 10:00-12:30**

Required reading: Pigeonholing a Book (*How to Read a Book*, chapter 6, pp. 59-74)

In the classroom: Prepositional phrases + Verbs and prepositions + Nouns and prepositions (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 34-39)

**o 04/06 10:00-12:30**

Required reading: X-Raying a Book (*How to Read a Book*, chapter 7, pp. 75-95)

In the classroom: Chunks (useful phrases) + Abbreviations and affixes (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 40-43)

**o 10/06 10:00-12:30**

Required reading: Coming to Terms with an Author + Determining an Author's Message (*How to Read a Book*, chapters 8 and 9, pp. 96-135)

In the classroom: Academic courses + E-learning (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 48-51)

**o 11/06 10:00-12:30**

Required reading: Criticizing a Book Fairly + Agreeing or Disagreeing with an Author (*How to Read a Book*, chapters 10 and 11, pp. 136-165)

In the classroom: Study habits and skills + Money and education (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 52-55)

**o 17/06 10:00-12:30**

Required reading: Aids to Reading (*How to Read a Book*, chapter 12, pp. 166-184)

In the classroom: Identifying goals + Planning a piece of work (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 56-59)

**o 18/06 10:00-12:30**

Required reading: The Fourth Level of Reading: Syntopical Reading + Reading and the Growth of the Mind (*How to Read a Book*, chapters 20 and 21, pp. 301-336)

In the classroom: Describing methods + Using sources (*Academic Vocabulary in Use*, pp. 60-63)

**o 24/06 10:00-12:30**

Final exam

#### **(d) Kontakt | Contact**

- E-Mail: fernandakm@gmail.com

#### **(e) Studien- und Prüfungsleistungen | Course Assessment**

- The final exam is a written exam of 120 minutes composed of two parts: reading comprehension and use of academic vocabulary.
- The exam will be held on 24.06.2024 from 10:00 to 12:30. The online access will be announced over StudIP.
- For the successful completion of the course, the student will be awarded 3 ECTS.