# Critical Reading & Summary Writing (ESLC 0240)

## Course Description

Research shows that good reading skills can lead to well written assignments. In this course, students will learn reading strategies to understand and retain information, to understand the organization of reading passages, and strategies for learning and retaining vocabulary.  Building on these basic strategies, students will develop skills to critically analyze texts.  In addition, students will practice and develop paraphrasing and summarizing skills. Students will receive ongoing feedback on their assignments throughout the course.

## Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

• Apply reading strategies to understand academic texts
• Improve the ability to interpret academic texts by using critical reading techniques
• Develop effective paraphrasing and summarizing skills
• Use the reading and writing skills practiced in class to analyze academic readings, and integrate ideas into their own writing

## Assignments

Details of all assignments will be provided in class.

## Attendance & Letter of Completion

Students will receive a "letter of completion" at the end of this course, providing s/he attends a minimum of 80% of classes (8/10 classes).  Please note that there will NOT be a record of this course on your U of M transcript.

## Grading

Although homework will be assigned, assignments/presentations will not be formally graded. Instead, you will receive constructive feedback from the instructor.  The emphasis in this course is on student improvement in the language areas covered in class.

## What Will I Learn in Class?

READING

**Literal Comprehension Module**

• Vocabulary
• Literal Recall (Reading Comprehension)
• Reading Strategies
• Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Review
• Speed Reading (time permitting)

**Critical Comprehension Module**

• Fact/Opinion
• Intent
• Attitude
• Tone
• Bias
• Inference
• Conclusions

WRITING

**Paraphrasing and Summarizing Module**

• Paraphrase & Summary
• Critical Response (Time Permitting)

**Affective (Emotional) Comprehension Module** (Time Permitting)