

A: Division: **Education and Student Services**  
 B: Department: **Student Services & Student Development**  
 Program:

Date: **15 April 1997**  
 New Course: \*  
 Revision of Course Information form:

C: **DVST 245** D: **Reading and Writing for Student Success** E: **1.5**

Subject & Course No. Descriptive Title Semester Credit

F: Calendar Description:  
 This is a seven week reading, writing and student skills course designed to assist those needing preparation for 200 and 300 level course work. Skills introduced/reviewed will include basic reading strategies appropriate to success and guided writing experiences designed to develop greater volume, clarity and precision of expression. Attention will be given to developing attitudes and behaviors appropriate to academic success. Reading materials will include newspaper and periodical articles and published essays as well as student essays.

Summary of Revisions: (Enter date & section) Eg: Section C,E,F

G: Type of instruction: Hrs per week /

Lecture:	Hrs.
Laboratory:	Hrs.
Seminar:	Hrs.
Clinical Experience:	Hrs.
Field Experience:	Hrs.
Practicum:	Hrs.
Shop:	Hrs.
Studio:	Hrs.
Student Directed Learning:	Hrs.
Other (Specify)(7 weeks):	4 Hrs.
Total:	Hrs.

H: Course Prerequisites:  
**DVST assessment or instructor permission**

I: Course Corequisites:  
**None**

J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:  
**None**

K: Maximum Class Size:  
**18**

L: College Credit Transfer   
 College Credit Non-Transfer \*   
 Non-Credit

M: Transfer Credit: Requested:  None  
 Granted:

Specify Course Equivalents or Unassigned Credit as appropriate:  
 U.B.C.  
 S.F.U.  
 U. Vic.  
 Other:

Course Designer(s)  
  
 Director/Chairperson

Divisional Dean  
  
 Registrar

Subject and Course Number

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N. Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students (Use Bibliographic Form):

Materials supplied by instructor

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Complets Form with Entries Under the Following Headings: O. Course Objectives; P. Course Content;

Q. Method of Instruction; R. Course Evaluation

O. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The aims of this course are for students:

STUDENT SKILLS

- a) To begin to develop appropriate attitudes and student skills necessary to academic success.
- b) To acquire an initial familiarity with and some confidence in the discussion of ideas in an academic context.

READING

- a) To begin to develop an awareness of varied kinds of texts and to employ strategies appropriate to aid comprehension.
- b) To use title, subheads, illustrations and topic sentences to forecast meaning and scope.
- c) To begin to use context cues as well as the dictionary/thesaurus to extend receptive vocabulary.
- d) To begin to identify the author's main idea/thesis.

WRITING

- a) To begin to use webbing and free writing as prewriting strategies.
- b) To begin to identify and self-correct sentence fragments and run-ons.
- c) To move toward multi-paragraph compositions.
- d) To improve depth and specificity in the writing of well-formed paragraphs.
- e) To begin to make use of a thesaurus as a writing aid and as a means of moving receptive vocabulary into active use.
- f) To begin to distinguish oral forms from the Standard English required for academic writing.
- g) To actively consider audience in every writing assignment.

P. COURSE CONTENT

Reading

Students will be provided with guided experiences in:

Reading critically and carefully materials from a variety of sources at varied levels of difficulty.

Identifying the main idea/thesis,

Identifying topic sentences,

Distinguishing main ideas from supporting details,

Recognizing biased, emotionally loaded language,

Using context to deal with unfamiliar terms in reading,

Text-marking techniques.

Writing

Students will be provided with guided experiences in:

Free writing as a journaling and a prewriting technique,

Webbing as a prewriting technique,

Writing personal narratives and opinion pieces,

Revising for clarity and vividness,

Editing for those areas of mechanics and usage where there are demonstrated problems,

Assessing positively each other's writing to identify areas of strength,

Using audience response to inform the personal development of writing style and structure.

Student Skills

Experience and modeling will be provided in:

Being punctual

Arriving for classes prepared

Meeting deadlines

Using appropriate participation skills and developing cooperative learning skills.

Q. METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

Classroom instruction will include brief lectures, small and large group discussion, individual in-class and outside assignments. Students will keep a portfolio of course work, particularly writing, which will be regularly examined by the instructor. Feedback to students will be provided in class, in individual conference times and within the portfolio.

R. COURSE EVALUATION

Ongoing progress will be monitored by the instructor and frequent feedback provided to each student. Portfolio contents will form the basis for a more thorough assessment and development of strategies for success. Course credit will be granted to students who consistently work toward course objectives and improve their readiness.