

Course title	Reading Skills Enhancement I			
Course type	Required			
Level	Foundation			
Year / Semester	1 st Year / 1 st Semester			
Teacher's name	Isavella Chrysodonta			
ECTS	N/A	Lectures / week	3	Laboratories / week N/A
Course purpose and objectives	<p><u>Course Purpose</u></p> <p>This module will focus on improving students' reading skills. Students will read a variety of academic texts, such as research articles, essays, and literary pieces, to enhance their reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. They will learn how to analyze and interpret texts, identify main arguments, and draw basic conclusions. They will learn strategies how to extract key information, and making inferences from different texts. They will learn how to recognise a text that provides factual information and when it seeks to convince readers of something. They will learn how to recognize different structures in discursive text: contrasting arguments, problem-solution presentation, and cause-effect relationships. They will learn how to obtain information, ideas and opinions from sources within their field. They will develop strategies for efficient reading and effective note taking.</p> <p><u>Course Objectives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To provide students with the necessary skills to read and interpret written text efficiently and accurately, including non-academic material; ▪ To ensure students have the adequate abilities of comprehension, required for higher education course materials; ▪ To understand the structure and organization of different types of texts, including recognizing how ideas are presented and linked together. ▪ To learn and apply different reading strategies such as skimming, scanning, and predicting to comprehend texts more efficiently. ▪ To increase familiarity with a wider range of vocabulary encountered in various reading materials, thereby improving overall language proficiency. 			
Learning outcomes	<p>By the end of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grasp the main points, general meaning, and key information presented in texts related to familiar topics or everyday situations. ▪ Comprehend specific details, facts, opinions, attitudes, and intentions conveyed in written texts on familiar subjects. ▪ Understand a range of text types such as articles, reports, narratives, and instructions, and be able to identify different writing styles and purposes. ▪ Deduce meaning from context, recognise implied information, attitudes, emotions, and intentions conveyed in written discourse. 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop efficient skimming and scanning skills to quickly locate specific information within longer texts. ▪ Begin to critically analyse and evaluate information, arguments, or viewpoints presented in texts, forming personal opinions or interpretations. ▪ Comprehend advanced academic material both accurately and efficiently; ▪ Extract information from a variety of sources with confidence; ▪ Interpret tone, style and intention of written communications and published works; ▪ Source and identify reliable information for the purposes of their studies
Course content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding Reading Strategies and effective note-taking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduction to various reading strategies (skimming, scanning, predicting, etc.) for effective comprehension. ▪ Practice exercises to familiarize students with different approaches to reading. ▪ Develop mechanisms for effective note-taking. 2. Main Ideas and Detail Comprehension: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engaging with texts to identify main ideas and extract specific details through guided exercises. ▪ Discussions and activities focusing on identifying supporting information in passages. 3. Vocabulary Enhancement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activities aimed at expanding vocabulary through context clues and exposure to new words in reading materials. ▪ Vocabulary-building exercises and word analysis tasks. 4. Inference and Implied Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exercises emphasizing the ability to infer implied meanings, attitudes, and emotions from texts. ▪ Discussions and analysis of passages to identify implied information. 5. Understanding Text Structure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Analysis of various text structures (narrative, descriptive, expository, etc.) and their elements. ▪ Identifying how ideas are organized within different types of texts. 6. Critical Analysis and Evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Practice in critically analyzing information presented in texts, including arguments, viewpoints, and opinions. 7. Cultural Awareness through Reading:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reading texts that offer diverse cultural perspectives, social issues, or historical contexts. ▪ Discussions and reflections on cultural aspects depicted in reading materials. <p>8. Independent Reading Practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encouraging independent reading habits with recommended materials aligned with students' interests and preferences.
<p>Teaching methodology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guided Reading: Engage students in guided reading sessions where the instructor models reading strategies and encourages active participation. ▪ Group Discussions: Encourage discussions on reading materials to share interpretations, opinions, and insights, fostering a deeper understanding of texts. ▪ Varied Text Types: Introduce a range of text types (articles, essays, short stories, infographics, etc.) to expose students to different styles and purposes of writing. ▪ Authentic Materials: Utilize authentic materials such as newspaper articles, online blogs, or excerpts from novels to reflect real-world reading experiences. ▪ Explicit Teaching of Strategies: Teach specific reading strategies like skimming, scanning, predicting, and inference, and provide opportunities for practice. Students will be encouraged to read efficiently, under timed conditions. ▪ Vocabulary Enhancement: Integrate vocabulary-building exercises to enhance comprehension and expand students' lexicon. ▪ Online Resources: Utilize online platforms, digital libraries, or educational websites to access a wide range of reading materials and interactive exercises. ▪ Cultural Awareness: Explore texts that highlight cultural diversity, social issues, historical events, or perspectives from different cultures, fostering cultural understanding.
<p>Bibliography</p>	<p><u>Required Textbook:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Christien Lee, <i>Reflect Reading & Writing 4, 1st Edition</i>, 2022, National Geographic. ▪ Online Resources/Activities through the National Geographic website. <p><u>Additional Material:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Katrina Gormley, <i>Ultimate English B1+ Student's Book</i>, 2020, Hamilton House. ▪ Katrina Gormley, <i>Ultimate English B1+ Workbook</i>, 2020 Hamilton House. ▪ Authentic Academic Material including research papers, articles and lectures.
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Continuous assessment methods are designed to offer a holistic view of students' language development.</p> <p>The assessment of students is made up of two components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ final exam (50 marks) ▪ continuous assessment (50 marks) <p>The 50 marks of the continuous assessment is comprised for example of:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ quizzes and tests▪ homework assignments▪ reading comprehension tasks▪ participation <p>The final written exam carries 50 marks and takes place at the end of each academic semester. This exam tests the whole content of a course taught in the current semester. The final mark for each course is the sum of the continuous assessment mark and the final written exam.</p>
Language	English