Somerset Community College: Developmental Reading Reform Initiative

Acceleration in RDG 20 and RDG 30

For the last three years both RDG 20 and RDG 30 have been taught as hybrid courses with one day a week in the computer lab using My Reading Lab (Pearson) and one day a week in the classroom with a focus on the textbook and supplemental readings. The textbook in use this past year for RDG 30 was *The Master Reader* (D.J. Henry, Pearson) and for RDG 20 was *The Effective Reader* (D.J. Henry, Pearson). All classes read *The Hunger Games* as the common supplemental reading.

At present, the reading faculty is in the process of redesigning these courses to include the following features:

- Combine RDG 20 and RDG 30 students in the same class.
- Maintain the hybrid model of one day of classroom lecture/direct instruction - and one day of computer-based instruction per week.
- Use the text, *The Master Reader* (D.J. Henry, Pearson), for both RDG 20 and RDG 30 students as the basis of instruction during classroom instruction days.
- On Computer Lab days, continue using My Reading Lab (Pearson) geared to the reading level of the student.
- During the first half of the semester, focus on 7 key Reading Skills modules, selections from Reading Level (computer determined) and Test-Taking Skills. The following modules will be made available to students during the first half of the semester: Stated Main Idea, Implied Main Idea, Supporting Details, Purpose and Tone, Inference, Critical Thinking, Test-taking. The goal is to prepare students to take the COMPASS Reading Test at mid-term. Only students who meet the Transitional Education Division's attendance requirement will take the exam (Maximum number of absences to mid-term = 3).
    - RDG 20 students who meet the KCTCS placement score of 70 at mid-term will have the option of moving to RDG 30 for the second half of the semester or waiting to take RDG 30 the next semester.
    - RDG 30 students who meet the KCTCS placement score of 83 at mid-term will take RDG 185 the next semester. In 2014-15 RDG 30 students who meet the KCTCS placement score of 83 at mid-term will have the option of moving to RDG 185 at mid-term.
    - RDG 30 students who meet the KCTCS placement score of 85 at mid-term will have met their developmental reading requirement and do not need to continue with the course.
- During the second half of the semester, the emphasis will be on vocabulary development (Academic Word List) and extensive practice in reading non-fiction text typical of what is expected in community college academic, technical, and professional areas. During the second half of the semester, students will have access to the following modules: Vocabulary, Summarizing and Paraphrasing, Outlining and Mapping, Comparison-Contrast, Cause and Effect, Generalization and Example, Definition and Example, Textbook Reading, Graphics and Visuals.

- At the end of the semester, RDG 20 students who meet the attendance requirement (maximum 7 absences) will take the COMPASS Reading Test again. Those students who score 70 and above will take RDG 30. Those students who score below 70 will take RDG 20 again. They will be advised as to program and certificate options.
- At the end of the semester, RDG 30 students who meet the attendance requirement (maximum of 7 absences) will take the COMPASS Reading Test again. Those students who score 82 and below, but who meet the instructor requirements with grades of A, B, or C, will take RDG 185 the next semester. Those students who score 83 or above will have met their developmental reading requirement.

Since many of the students who are required to take developmental reading also have other life obligations (job, family, etc.), it is anticipated that the opportunity to complete RDG 20 or RDG 30 in half a semester (8 weeks) will be an attractive option and could serve as a motivator to stay engaged with the course.

Accelerated Path to Meeting Reading Requirement

Compass Reading Test Score of 51 to 69

Enroll in RDG 20

- Complete My Reading Lab modules:
    - Stated Main Idea
    - Implied Main Idea
    - Supporting Details
    - Purpose and Tone
    - Inference
    - Critical Thinking
    - Test-taking
- Complete Reading Level passages from My Reading Lab as assigned
- Attend class – maximum of 3 absences before mid-term
- Re-take Compass Reading Test during the week prior to mid-term. (Students who have not met attendance and class assignment requirements are not eligible to accelerate at mid-term and will not re-take the Compass Reading Test.)
    - Score 85 or above: Reading requirement completed; no further reading courses are needed
    - Score 83 to 84: RDG 20 completed; Take RDG 185 the next semester
    - Score 70 to 82: Proceed to RDG 30 for second half of semester
    - Score 69 or below: Continue with RDG 20 for second half of semester
        - Complete My Reading Lab modules:
            - Vocabulary
            - Summarizing and Paraphrasing
            - Outlining and Mapping
            - Comparison – Contrast
            - Cause and Effect
            - Generalization and Example
            - Definition and Example
            - Textbook Reading
            - Graphics and Visuals
        - Read non-fiction text as assigned
        - Complete Sublist 1 through 8 of the Academic Word List
        - Attend class – maximum of 7 absences for the course
        - Re-take the Compass Reading Test which will serve as the final exam. Eligible students will receive a certificate to re-take the Compass Reading Test during the last week of classes or finals week. (Students who have not met attendance

and assignment requirements are not eligible to take the final exam – Compass Reading Test – and will be required to repeat the course.)

- Score 85 or above: Reading requirement completed; no further reading courses are needed
- Score 83 to 84: Take RDG 185 the next semester
- Score 70 to 82: Take RDG 30 the next semester
- Score 69 or below: Meet with advisor to discuss certificate and program options; retake RDG 20 if so advised

Compass Reading Test Score of 70 to 82

Enroll in RDG 30

- Complete My Reading Lab modules:
    - Stated Main Idea
    - Implied Main Idea
    - Supporting Details
    - Purpose and Tone
    - Inference
    - Critical Thinking
    - Test-taking
- Complete Reading Level passages from My Reading Lab as assigned
- Attend class – maximum of 3 absences before mid-term
- Re-take Compass Reading Test during the week prior to mid-term. (Students who have not met attendance and class assignment requirements are not eligible to accelerate at mid-term and will not re-take the Compass Reading Test.)
    - Score 85 or above: Reading requirement completed; no further reading courses are needed
    - Score 83 to 84: RDG 30 completed; Take RDG 185 the next semester
    - Score 82 or below: Continue with RDG 30 for second half of semester
        - Complete My Reading Lab modules:
            - Vocabulary
            - Summarizing and Paraphrasing
            - Outlining and Mapping
            - Comparison – Contrast
            - Cause and Effect
            - Generalization and Example
            - Definition and Example
            - Textbook Reading

        - Graphics and Visuals
    - Read non-fiction text as assigned
    - Complete Sublist 1 through 8 of the Academic Word List
    - Attend class – maximum of 7 absences for the course
    - Re-take the Compass Reading Test which will serve as the final exam. Eligible students will receive a certificate to re-take the Compass Reading Test during the last week of classes or finals week. (Students who have not met attendance and assignment requirements are not eligible to take the final exam – Compass Reading Test – and will be required to repeat the course.)
        - Score 85 or above: Reading requirement completed; no further reading courses are needed
        - Score 83 or 84 and grade of A, B, or C in RDG 30; Reading requirement completed; no further reading courses are needed
        - Score 83 or 84 and grade of F or MP in RDG 30; Take RDG 185 the next semester
        - Score 82 or below and grade of A, B, or C in RDG 30: Take RDG 185 the next semester
        - Score 82 or below and grade of F or MP in RDG 30: Take RDG 30 again; Meet with advisor to discuss certificate and program requirements

Compass Reading Test Score of 83 or 84

Enroll in RDG 185

- Complete required assignments, including the final project
- Attend class – maximum of 7 absences
- Re-take the Compass Reading Test which will serve as the final exam. Eligible students will receive a certificate to re-take the Compass Reading Test during the last week of classes or finals week. (Students who have not met attendance and assignment requirements are not eligible to take the final exam – Compass Reading Test – and will be required to repeat the course.)
    - Score 85 or above: Reading requirement completed; no further reading courses are needed
    - Score 84 or below and final grade of A, B, C or D: Reading requirement completed; no further reading courses are needed
    - Score 84 or below and final grade of E: Take RDG 185 again