

Far-western University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Undergraduate

Course Title: **Reading, Critical Thinking and Writing**
Course Code: CENG 231.1
Semester: Third

Credit Hour: 3 (45 hours)
Full marks: 100
Pass marks: 45

1. Course Introduction

This is a compulsory course for undergraduate students in third semester. The course is organized into five thematic units and introduces students to a selection of masterpieces by western and non-western writers of different academic areas, skills and intellectual flavours.

This course, **Reading, Critical Thinking and Writing**, aims at imparting multicultural reading skills from a wide variety of sources on different topics for various purposes among the students. The rationale behind the choice of readings is that the process of thinking can be learnt by interacting with varieties of creative texts from different genres to encourage students for their response in the readings. In addition to this the readers can develop their thinking ability along with reading and writing by attempting the exercises in the texts. The texts selected for this compulsory course can provide examples of effective writing in different disciplines and readers can see and learn how skilled writers apply language to achieve their estimated academic goals.

This course allows the readers an opportunity to practise close and critical reading. The selected texts stimulate the readers to reflect on their own experiences and think about how they can use the readings to use them in their own writings. In this course the students analyse characteristics of written academic texts, develop awareness of academic culture and learn to avoid plagiarism. The course also aims to develop independent learning skills and critical thinking and allows for personalisation of learning.

2. General Objectives

General objectives of this course are

- a) engage the students into genre based academic interactions with texts,
- b) teach students to multicultural readings from wide variety of sources,
- c) engage the students learn academic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing,
- d) explore social issues, cultural values and historical contexts underpinning the prescribed texts.

3. Contents with Specific Objectives

Specific Objectives	Contents in Detail
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• explain the basic concepts of academic skills• talk about the academic culture religion and national identity of people	Unit One: Culture and Society (9hrs) 1. New Nepal 2. Looking for a Rain God 3. Shooting an Elephant

	4. The Parrot in the Cage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • study the impacts on environmental entities • learn about freedom of humanity in science • understand the animal rights in the physical world 	Unit Two: Science and Environment (9hrs) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Root Cellar 2. The Etiquette of Freedom 3. Just Like George Bernard Shaw 4. The Rights of Animals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand the scope of child psychology in family health • read about women empowerment in the present context • understand men and women relations through literature 	Unit Three: Gender and Women (9hrs) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Use of Force 2. The Stronger 3. Here I Love You 4. The Kiss
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be familiar with violence and their impacts • refer to the diverse aspects of people • share ideas about the meaning of life • describe the essence of life, memory and mortality 	Unit Four: Life, Death and Beyond (9hrs) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jest and Earnest 2. The Old Man at the Bridge 3. The Hundredth Dove 4. The Lunatic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • get ideas on art and beauty • get and exposure on aesthetic of prose reading • understand the life against severity of time 	Unit Five: Art and Philosophy (9hrs) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Clock Tower 2. Beauty 3. The Allegory of the Cave 4. Her First Ball

4. Methodology and Techniques

Modes of instruction:

- Lecture
- Seminar
- Exercises
- Guided study
- Tutorial
- Independent study
- Project work

Modes of learning:

- Attending lectures,
- Doing assignments,
- Writing papers,
- Independent and private study,
- Reading books, reviewing journals and papers,
- Critiquing

- Group study
- Peer discussion

5. Evaluation Scheme

- Internal 40%
- External 60%

The internal examination will be conducted as follow:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| a) Regularity and class participation | 5% |
| b) Quizzes: 3 | 5% |
| c) Class presentation: 1 | 20% |
| d) Term paper/assignment: 1 | 20% |
| e) Mid-term Exam | 20% |
| f) Investigative Project Work: 1 | 20% |
| g) Group Work and Pair Work/Group Project: 1 | 10% |

6. Prescribed Texts

Lohani, Shreedhar. ed. (2021). *Visions: A Thematic Anthology*. Bidhyarthi Pustak Bhandar.

Additional Readings:

Paul, R. & Elder, L. (2019). *The international critical thinking reading and writing test*. Rowman & Littlefield.