



Reading Critically for Success:
a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

This five year project (2007-2012) has one goal:

To improve the reading comprehension of traditional undergraduate students

... and two related objectives:

- 1. establish a faculty development track in the field of reading strategies;**
- 2. change students' attitudes toward reading.**

In addition to instructor training and courses centered on college reading, the University offers co-curricular opportunities, including Newspapers on Campus, Authors on Campus, book discussions, and reading centers.

Co-Curricular Events

Newspapers on Campus: Students pick up free copies of *USA Today* and the *Richmond Times Dispatch*.

Reading Zones

- Book and magazine exchange at campus locations
- Blount Library *New & Notable* circulating collection

Authors on Campus

Bart Ehrman: 600 attendees in Fall 2007

Joanna Scott: 55 attendees, Spring 2008

Sharyn McCrumb: 375 attendees, Fall 2008

Jeffrey Eugenides: 165 attendees, Spring 2009

What are you Reading? Annotated reading lists from Averett faculty and staff.

Human Resource Development

Peer Tutor Training—11 upperclassmen and 8 graduate students participated in Fall 2007. More training is scheduled for Fall 2009

Faculty Workshop—75 faculty participated in Fall 2008, with guest reading specialist Dr. Eric Hobson.

Faculty Workshop—15 faculty trained with a reading consultant for the Summer 2009 *Successful Reading* course

Two faculty who have taught the *Successful Reading* course will train another cohort of 15 faculty.

... and so on, through Fall 2011.

Faculty will meet with a consultant in Spring 2010 to reflect on results of the *Successful Reading* course and develop strategies to improve the quality of instruction.

In Fall 2010, the QEP Director and the Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness will share longitudinal data with faculty and develop changes for use of results in the reading seminars.

Faculty will meet with a consultant in Spring 2011 to reflect on results of their experience and longitudinal data from student reading assessment (ACT CAAP Reading Test).

Reading Courses

Spring 2009

QEP Director and Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness meet with faculty to develop rubric for reading seminars.

Two faculty develop Successful Reading course, to be administered online by two faculty for 30 students, in Summer 2009.

Fall 2009

Freshmen will participate in one-credit Reading Seminars

Spring 2010

Seventy-five students will participate in three credit Reading Seminars

Summer 2010

Fifty students will participate in the online *Successful Reading* course.

2010-11 and 2011-12

Additional students will participate in one and three-credit *Reading Seminars*.

Accepted students will participate in the online summer *Successful Reading* course.

Assessment of Student Learning

ACT CAAP Reading Test

Fall 2007 - 219 Freshmen

Spring 2008 - 10 Seniors

Fall 2008 - 225 Freshmen

Spring 2009 - 160 Seniors

Reading Strategies Questionnaire

Pretest Spring 2009

100 students will participate each semester
through Spring 2012

Assessment of Reading Comprehension in *Reading Seminars*

Fall 2009 through Spring 2012

Please direct questions or comments to Dr. Larry Wilburn,
Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences and Director of *Reading
Critically for Success*. 791-4993, lwilburn@averett.edu