

**UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: ENGL 386 Adult Literacy Tutoring: Issues and Methods**

Date Submitted: 05/08/09

Proposed Effective Date: 08/25/09

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**COURSE INFORMATION:**

change		current	proposed
<input type="checkbox"/>	course number(s)	ENGL 386	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	formal title	Adult Literacy Tutoring: Issues and Methods	Adult Literacy Tutoring: Theory and Practice
<input type="checkbox"/>	transcript title (≤24c)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	prerequisite	ENGL 100 or equivalent with a grade of “C” or better and permission of the Shriver Center.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	credits	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	max. repeat credits	0	
<input type="checkbox"/>	grading method(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail	<input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

**CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

This course explores principles and techniques pertaining to adult literacy tutoring. It introduces students to basic tutoring methods, provides background in the cultural, political, and social causes of illiteracy, and it serves as a forum for discussion of issues surrounding civic literacy and social responsibility. Students will apply the concepts and skills they develop to actual tutoring experiences. The fieldwork component of this course requires that students spend four hours per week serving as tutors to functionally illiterate adults. Also listed as EDUC 386.

**PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**  no changes  change in description

Students in this course will discuss theories of language and literacy acquisition pertaining to adult learners. They will then apply these theories in actual tutoring experiences. In addition, students will read and respond in writing to contemporary research concerning the social, political, and economic causes of illiteracy as well as suggested ways to ameliorate illiteracy on the social and individual levels. Authors whose work students may read include Paulo Freire, John Dewey, W.E.B. DuBois, Mike Rose, Glenda Hull, and Denny Taylor. This course requires that students spend four hours per week serving as tutors to adult literacy learners in a Baltimore City community center. Also listed as EDUC 386.

**RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:**

The current description does not sufficiently reflect the way in which this course is taught. In specific, it downplays the reading and writing component, which in fact serves as the basis, not the “background,” to the spectrum of adult literacy issues covered. The department decided that the new description better reflects the theory-centered nature of this course.