Developmental Readings

Cynthia K. Loving

Omega Graduate School

COM-803 Hermeneutics and Communications

Dr. Jim Strecker

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**Assignment #2 – Developmental Readings**

1. Create Developmental Readings from seminal sources and scholarly peer-reviewed journal articles. For this course, use five of the seminal book readings in the Course Resources folder and find at least two articles on a topic of research interest. Review the instructions for Assignment #3, the course essential elements, and course readings to identify selections of provided books and located journals to create entries.

a. Refer to the "Student Guide to Developmental Readings" in the General Helps folder for updated information on sample comments, the grading rubric, and key definitions related to developmental readings.

**Source One:** Adler, M., & Van Doren, C. (1940, 2011). How to read a book: The classic guide to intelligent reading. Touchstone, Simon & Schuster.

**Comment 1:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Adler and Van Doren provide a comprehensive guide to reading comprehension, outlining various levels of reading from elementary to analytical. They emphasize the importance of active reading and offer techniques for understanding and critically engaging with texts across different genres.

**Essential Element:** Reading Techniques for Scholarly Subject Research. The book's focus on active reading and comprehension techniques.

**Additive Analysis:** This source adds to my understanding of effective reading strategies for academic research. Adler and Van Doren's emphasis on active reading and critical engagement provides valuable insights into how to approach scholarly texts. Their techniques for systematic skimming, inspectional reading, and analytical reading offer practical tools for enhancing comprehension and retention. This perspective contrasts with more passive approaches to reading, offering a proactive and methodical model for scholarly research.

**Contextualization:** The study's findings highlight the importance of active reading techniques for academic success. In practical terms, this means that scholars should approach texts with a critical and engaged mindset, using the techniques outlined by Adler and Van Doren to enhance their understanding and analysis. Reflecting on my personal experiences, I have found that applying these reading strategies has improved my ability to comprehend and retain complex information, making me a more effective researcher and learner. This perspective encourages me to view reading as an active and dynamic process, essential for academic and intellectual growth.

**Source Two:** Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. G., Williams, J. M., Bizup, J., & Fitzgerald, W. T. (2016). *The craft of research* (4th ed.). The University Of Chicago Press.

**Comment 2:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** The authors provide a comprehensive guide to conducting research, covering topics such as formulating research questions, finding and evaluating sources, and constructing arguments. They emphasize the importance of clear and effective communication in presenting research findings.

**Essential Element:** Reading Techniques for Scholarly Subject Research. The book's focus on systematic approaches to research and source evaluation.

**Additive Analysis:** This source adds to my understanding of the research process by offering practical strategies for each stage of research, from developing a research question to presenting findings. The authors' emphasis on clear communication and logical argumentation provides valuable insights into how to effectively convey research results. This perspective contrasts with more fragmented approaches to research, offering a cohesive and structured model for scholarly inquiry.

**Contextualization:** The study's findings highlight the importance of a systematic approach to research for academic success. In practical terms, this means that scholars should follow a structured process for developing research questions, finding and evaluating sources, and constructing arguments. Reflecting on my personal experiences, I have found that applying these strategies has improved my ability to conduct thorough and effective research, making me a more competent and confident scholar. This perspective encourages me to view research as a methodical and iterative process, essential for academic and intellectual growth.

**Source Three:** Creswell, J. W., & Clark, V. L. P. (2015). Understanding research: A consumer’s guide (2nd ed.). Pearson Education, Inc.

**Comment 3:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Creswell and Clark provide an accessible introduction to research methods, aimed at helping consumers of research understand and evaluate studies. They cover various research designs, data collection methods, and analysis techniques, emphasizing the importance of critical thinking and informed decision-making.

**Essential Element:** Reading Techniques for Scholarly Subject Research. The book's focus on understanding and evaluating research methods.

**Additive Analysis:** This source adds to my understanding of research methods by offering practical guidance on how to critically evaluate research studies. Creswell and Clark's emphasis on informed decision-making and critical thinking provides valuable insights into how to approach and interpret research findings. This perspective contrasts with more passive approaches to consuming research, offering a proactive and analytical model for understanding scholarly work.

**Contextualization:** The study's findings highlight the importance of understanding research methods for academic and professional success. In practical terms, this means that scholars and practitioners should develop the skills to critically evaluate research studies, using the techniques outlined by Creswell and Clark to make informed decisions. Reflecting on my personal experiences, I have found that applying these evaluation strategies has improved my ability to discern the quality and relevance of research, making me a more effective consumer of scholarly work. This perspective encourages me to view research evaluation as an essential skill for academic and professional growth.

**Source Four:** Elder, L., & Paul, P. (2003). The thinker's guide to how to read a paragraph: The art of close reading. The Foundation for Critical Thinking.

**Comment 4:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Elder and Paul provide a practical guide to close reading, emphasizing the importance of understanding the underlying logic and structure of paragraphs. They outline strategies for analyzing and interpreting texts, encouraging readers to develop critical thinking skills through careful and methodical reading.

**Essential Element:** Reading Techniques for Scholarly Subject Research: The book's focus on close reading and critical analysis.

**Additive Analysis:** This source adds to my understanding of effective reading strategies by emphasizing the importance of close reading and critical analysis. Elder and Paul's techniques for dissecting and understanding paragraphs provide valuable insights into how to approach scholarly texts with a critical mindset. This perspective contrasts with more superficial reading approaches, offering a deep and methodical model for engaging with academic literature.

**Contextualization:** The study's findings highlight the importance of close reading techniques for academic success. In practical terms, this means that scholars should develop the skills to analyze and interpret texts at a granular level, using the strategies outlined by Elder and Paul to enhance their understanding and critical thinking. Reflecting on my personal experiences, I have found that applying these close reading techniques has improved my ability to engage with complex texts, making me a more effective and insightful reader. This perspective encourages me to view reading as an active and reflective process, essential for academic and intellectual growth.

**Source Five:** Haack, D. (2009). A practical method of Bible study for ordinary Christians, Revised. Ransom Fellowship Publications.

**Comment 5:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Haack provides a simple yet effective method for Bible study, aimed at helping ordinary Christians engage more deeply with Scripture. He emphasizes the importance of observation, interpretation, and application, offering practical steps and questions to guide readers through the process of studying the Bible.

**Essential Element:** Faith-Integrated Hermeneutics: Reading for Worldviews: The book's focus on a structured approach to Bible study that integrates faith and interpretation.

**Additive Analysis:** This source adds to my understanding of how to approach Bible study in a systematic and meaningful way. Haack's emphasis on observation, interpretation, and application provides a valuable framework for engaging with Scripture on a deeper level. This perspective contrasts with more casual or superficial approaches to Bible study, offering a structured and intentional model for spiritual growth.

**Contextualization:** The study's findings highlight the importance of a structured approach to Bible study for spiritual formation. In practical terms, this means that Christians should follow a systematic process for observing, interpreting, and applying Scripture, using the steps outlined by Haack to enhance their understanding and spiritual growth. Reflecting on my personal experiences, I have found that applying these Bible study techniques has deepened my engagement with Scripture and enriched my spiritual journey. This perspective encourages me to view Bible study as an active and intentional process, essential for spiritual development and faith integration.

**Source Six:** Hauman-Ramirez, R. (2016). Writing research. Wallwork. <https://richardhuaman-ramirez.com/english-for-writing-research-papers-useful-phrases-2/>

**Comment 6:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Hauman-Ramirez provides a comprehensive guide to writing research papers, focusing on the use of clear and effective language. He offers practical phrases and techniques to help researchers articulate their ideas and findings in a scholarly manner.

**Essential Element:** Scholarly Writing Techniques/APA Style: The book focuses on effective writing strategies for research papers, which is directly related to improving scholarly writing skills and adhering to proper academic conventions, including APA style.

**Additive Analysis:** This source adds to my understanding of how to effectively communicate research findings through clear and concise writing. Hauman-Ramirez's emphasis on practical phrases and techniques provides valuable insights into how to structure and articulate research papers. This perspective contrasts with more general writing guides, offering a targeted and practical approach to scholarly writing.

**Contextualization:** The study's findings highlight the importance of clear and effective writing for academic success. In practical terms, this means that researchers should develop the skills to articulate their ideas and findings in a structured and coherent manner, using the techniques outlined by Hauman-Ramirez. Reflecting on my personal experiences, I have found that applying these writing strategies has improved my ability to communicate complex ideas and research findings, making me a more effective and confident writer. This perspective encourages me to view writing as an essential skill for academic and professional growth.

**Source Seven:** Zimmermann, J. (2015). *Hermeneutics: A very short introduction*. Oxford University Press.

**Comment 7:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Zimmermann provides an accessible overview of hermeneutics, the science and methodology of interpretation. He explores the historical development of hermeneutics, major figures and theories, and the application of hermeneutic methods in various academic disciplines.

**Essential Element:** Faith-Integrated Hermeneutics: Reading for Worldviews: The book's focus on understanding interpretive methods from a faith-based perspective.

**Additive Analysis:** This source adds to my understanding of hermeneutics by providing a comprehensive overview of its historical development and key theories. Zimmermann's accessible writing style makes complex ideas more understandable, offering valuable insights into the application of hermeneutic methods in various academic disciplines. This perspective contrasts with more specialized texts on hermeneutics, offering a broad and introductory approach to the subject.

**Contextualization:** The study's findings highlight the importance of hermeneutics in academic research and interpretation. In practical terms, this means that scholars should develop the skills to understand and apply hermeneutic methods to their research, using the insights provided by Zimmermann. Reflecting on my personal experiences, I have found that understanding hermeneutic principles has enhanced my ability to interpret and analyze texts, making me a more effective and insightful researcher. This perspective encourages me to view hermeneutics as a foundational skill for academic and intellectual growth.

Applying Zimmermann's insights to faith-integrated hermeneutics, we recognize that interpreting religious texts is not just about uncovering the original author's intent but also about understanding how these texts can be meaningfully applied in contemporary contexts. This involves considering the reader's worldview, cultural background, and the societal challenges they face. A truly transformative approach seeks to bridge the gap between ancient wisdom and modern realities, fostering a more relevant and impactful integration of faith and society. This transformative mindset is a critical skill for anyone seeking to lead effectively, or to minister wisely.

**Source Eight:** Tajuria, G., Dobel-Ober, D., Bradley, E., Charnley, C., Lambley-Burke, R., Mallen, C., Honeyford, K., & Kingstone, T. (2024). Evaluating the impact of the supporting the advancement of research skills (STARS) programme on research knowledge, engagement and capacity-building in a health and social care organisation in England. *BMC Medical Education, 24*(1), 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12909-024-05059-0>

**Comment 8:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** The article evaluates the STARS program, designed to enhance research knowledge, engagement, and capacity-building within a health and social care organization in England. The authors provide insights into how such programs can improve research skills and foster a culture of continuous learning and development.

**Essential Element:** Research Skills and Capacity-Building: The focus on developing research competencies and enhancing engagement in a professional setting.

**Additive Analysis:** This source adds to my understanding of how structured programs can enhance research skills and engagement within professional organizations. The STARS program provides a practical example of capacity-building initiatives that can be adapted for various contexts, including faith-based settings. This perspective contrasts with more informal approaches to skill development, offering a systematic and impactful model for fostering research competencies.

**Contextualization:** The study's findings highlight the importance of structured programs for enhancing research skills and engagement. In practical terms, this means that similar initiatives can be developed within faith-based organizations to improve research knowledge and capacity-building.

Reflecting on my personal experiences, I have found that participating in structured training programs has significantly improved my research skills and engagement, making me a more effective and confident researcher. This perspective encourages me to consider how faith-based contexts can benefit from similar capacity-building efforts, integrating faith and research to create a culture of continuous learning and development.

**Source Nine:** Waterman, L., & Cooper, K. (2024). (Un)Know Thy "Self": Interconnected Consciousness and Different Ways of Knowing. *The Qualitative Report, 29*(9), 2527-2542. <https://doi.org/10.46743/2160-3715/2024.7653>

**Comment 9:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** This paper draws on preliminary data from a qualitative study in curriculum and pedagogy, exploring the concept of the self and its entwinement with perspectives on consciousness. The authors analyze consciousness and the self through The Five Contexts framework, revealing assumptions at the heart of research and education that often go unquestioned. They propose that alternative perspectives on consciousness and the self offer new ways of knowing and understanding.

**Essential Element:** Faith-Integrated Hermeneutics: Reading for Worldviews: The exploration of interconnected consciousness and different ways of knowing aligns with the theme of integrating faith-based perspectives into the interpretation of worldviews.

**Additive Analysis:** This source adds to my understanding of how interconnected consciousness and different ways of knowing can challenge traditional assumptions in research and education. Waterman and Cooper's use of The Five Contexts framework offers a comprehensive approach to analyzing consciousness and the self, providing valuable insights into alternative perspectives. This perspective contrasts with more conventional approaches, offering a holistic and integrative model for understanding consciousness.

**Contextualization:** The study's findings highlight the importance of considering alternative perspectives on consciousness and the self in research and education. In practical terms, this means that scholars and educators should be aware of their assumptions and open to different ways of knowing. Reflecting on my personal experiences, I have found that exploring diverse perspectives on consciousness has enriched my understanding of the self and its interconnectedness with the world. This perspective encourages me to view consciousness education as an essential aspect of academic and personal growth.

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# Works Cited

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