

TROY UNIVERSITY

Creating a Culture of Reading

In response to data showing a decline in reading among college students, a need to enhance students' global perspectives, the connection between reading and participatory citizenry, and the response to the explosion of information from a multitude of media sources, Troy University has focused its Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) on *Creating a Culture of Reading*. The University's QEP is built upon three major initiatives: a Common Reading Initiative for first year students; a College Reading Initiative, focusing on reading initiatives in the five academic colleges; and a Faculty Development Initiative that will assist faculty as they, in turn, help their students become more engaged and active readers.

Student learning outcomes will focus on specific accrual and application of student learning relative to reading activities. These student learning outcomes are:

1. Student reading activities will result in greater reading for enjoyment, appreciation, and information.
2. Student reading activities will result in enhance perspectives and broader viewpoints.
3. Student reading activities will result in greater engagement with others and greater understanding of others' positions.
4. Student reading activities will result in greater discernment and critical/analytical judgment.
5. Student reading activities will result in enhanced writing skills.
6. Student reading activities will result in greater understanding of the connections among and between reading materials.

General program outcomes will focus on the University's efforts to enhance its culture of reading through the specific elements of the QEP and through collateral elements inspired by, and supportive of, a reading culture. Students at Troy University will be expected to read more and faculty will assign more reading materials to their students. More reading-intensive courses will be included in the general studies and disciplinary curricula. More students will engage in peer engagement and student-faculty engagement over common reading materials. More academic departments/units will initiate common reading experiences for their specific groups of students.

The five-year cumulative budget of new funding for the QEP exceeds \$780,000.

Contact Person: Dean Eleanor Lee
Dean of First-Year Studies
elee@troy.edu