

**MIDSTATE COLLEGE  
411 W. NORTHMOOR RD.  
PEORIA, IL 61614  
(309) 692-4092 (800) 251-4299  
Fall 2005**

**COURSE:** CR 214 Machine Shorthand VIII (225 wpm)

**CREDIT HOURS:** 4 quarter credit hours/classroom

**TEXT:** Computer Shorthand, Speed Building and Realtime Transcription, Third edition, 1996,  
ISBN# 0-13-079112-1

**AUTHOR:** Carolee Freer

**PUBLISHER:** Prentice-Hall, Inc.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Prerequisite: CR 213 Machine Shorthand VII or demonstrated skill.

Through extensive drills on unfamiliar material which includes current events and timed writings, the student will be able to pass three five-minute tests at 180 wpm on literary material, 200 wpm on jury charge/legal opinion material and 225 wpm on two-voice testimony material. Two tests must be transcribed with 97 percent accuracy, and one test must be transcribed with 95 percent accuracy, all within 75 minutes. **STUDENT MUST PASS THE TESTS AS DESCRIBED ABOVE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR GRADUATION.** Student will be able to write conflict-free outlines with accuracy and to read notes fluently. Laboratory tape sessions augment classroom dictation and instruction. This course is structured to prepare the student for the Illinois CSR and NCRA RPR machine skills portion of these examinations.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETING THE COURSE:**

Students must pass all required timed tests in order to progress to the next speed level. If a student passes less than the required number of tests to progress to the next speed and all other course work is complete and equates to an "A," the student will receive a grade of "D" for the course.

A grade of "C" or better in all course work must be achieved to be eligible to graduate.

**TOPICS:**

In addition to topics mentioned elsewhere in the syllabus, Latin and French words; Congressional Record; multiple-voice testimony; jury charge selections; and special tips for the court reporter will be covered in the text.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. write a realtime translation theory system.
2. read aloud from shorthand notes, quickly locating portions to be read, maintaining composure while reading, reading distinctly and with authority.
3. pass or have passed three each of the following tests which must be transcribed in 75 minutes each: 180 wpm literary; 200 wpm jury charge/legal opinion; and 225 wpm two-voice testimony. Two tests must be transcribed with 97 percent accuracy, and one test must be transcribed with 95 percent accuracy.
4. transcribe a simulated RPR skills test at RPR speed levels in 3.75 hours.
5. use conflict-free theory principles sufficiently and well enough to enable the student to form correctly written outlines when taking dictation and to achieve a first-pass translate rate of 95 percent when writing realtime.
6. increase speed and accuracy in writing and in readback thereof by participating in drills and timed writings.
7. transcribe on the computer rapidly and accurately notes taken from dictation.

8. develop skills in proofreading, error correction, correct sentence structure, spelling, grammar, word division, and punctuation.
9. write fluently and rapidly from dictation of literary material at a repetitive rate of 180 wpm; jury charge/legal opinion material at a repetitive rate of 200 wpm; and two-voice testimony material at a repetitive rate of 225 wpm.

**Midstate Grading scale:**

90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
0 - 59	F

7/03

**CR 214 Machine Shorthand VIII (225 wpm)**

**Instructor Information:** Terri Kisler, CRI  
 Office Number: 220  
 Phone number: 1(800) 251-4299  
 Fax number: (309) 692-3893  
 E-mail: tkisler@midstate.edu

**MATERIALS NEEDED FOR THIS COURSE:**

Stenograph machine complete with ink cartridge and paper, pen or pencil for marking incorrect outlines during readback, textbook.

**SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:**

Supplemental reading and drills to include current events, geography exercises, and audio-visual aids. Students are required to complete research assignments utilizing reference materials in the Barbara Bunch Fields Memorial Library, e.g., The American Heritage Dictionary, Physician's Desk Reference, Black's Law, West's Legal Thesaurus, various dictionaries, glossaries, grammar references, atlases and other specialized law and legal books that may be assigned by the instructor. In addition, various online research methods will be utilized.

**PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS/POLICIES AND PROCEDURES/REQUIREMENTS TO PASS THIS COURSE:**

1. Students MUST use appropriate audio tapes and/or CDs consisting of drill for outside-of-class practice to augment classroom instruction and to analyze and improve writing and reading skills.
2. Students must participate in readback of shorthand notes in class and practice sessions.
3. Students will write approximately 15 minutes of Court TV weekly or at the discretion of the instructor via Cable/classroom projector for official multiple-voice and speaker identification practice.
4. Timed Tests - 70% of final grade. Each student is required to transcribe a minimum of 10 tests per quarter at the required speed level in this class. Tests will be given at incremental speeds on unfamiliar material. The same test shall not be dictated more than once every six months to the same student. Each test will be graded on a pass/fail basis. That is, if the student passes the test at the required 97 percent or better, that test is an "A" or passing. If the student does not pass the test at the required 97 percent, that test will be a "fail" and receive a grade of "D". A student must pass all required timed tests in order to progress to the next speed level. If a student passes less than the required number of tests to progress to the next speed and has completed all other course work equating to an "A", the student will receive a grade of "D" for the course. A student can print out a timed test only TWO times when transcribing: one rough draft to proofread and a final test for grading. AT NO TIME will a student print out a test after listening to the grading tape. Tests are graded according to the RPR guide, "What Is An Error?".

5. Weekly Transcriptions – 10% of final grade. A transcription assignment will be chosen each week by the student from any timed dictation material given in class and will be due within four days, including Friday, from the date the test was given. These transcriptions will be treated as tests and must be transcribed on-site and under institutional supervision within the allotted 75-minute time limit for such tests. **NO TRANSCRIPTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED LATE FOR ANY REASON.** These transcriptions will be graded on spelling, correct word usage, punctuation and overall appearance. Each misspelled word or wrong word usage will lower the grade one letter grade for each occurrence. **ADDITIONAL** transcription assignments will be given from time to time at the discretion of the instructor.
6. Practice notes – 10% of final grade. Students must hand in a minimum of 10 inches of practice notes per week. These notes are due at the beginning of class on the second meeting day of each week. The notes must display evidence of readback, such as correction of misstroked outlines. **NOTES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED LATE FOR ANY REASON.**
7. Weekly Assignments – 10% of final grade. This includes the lessons from the textbook and current events. Each week a lesson will be assigned from the text, and students will write the lesson and be prepared to take lesson dictation at the start of class. Steno notes from the lesson must be turned in each week. It is understood that if a student takes any given Machine Shorthand class more than once, lessons and topics may vary and are ultimately assigned at the discretion of the instructor.  
The current events assignments provide instruction in local, national, international events; geography; and cultural diversity. A current event, either newspaper or magazine article of at least 12 column inches, will be turned in each week. Students will write the article on the machine; write a synopsis of the article; and hand in the article, steno notes, and synopsis for grading. The written synopsis will be graded the same as the weekly transcriptions. Each quarter, emphasis will be placed on international, national, state, or local events at the discretion of the instructor.

STUDENTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE THIS CLASS FOR THREE QUARTERS. IF THE STUDENT HAS NOT PASSED THE REQUIRED SPEED TESTS AT THE END OF THIS PERIOD, THE STUDENT WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR A COUNSELING SESSION WITH THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE JUDICIAL REPORTING DEPARTMENT. THE STUDENT'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE JUDICIAL REPORTING PROGRAM, POSSIBLE DISMISSAL, OR CHANGE OF MAJOR WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THIS COUNSELING SESSION.

IF THE WEEKLY REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT MET (**EACH AND EVERY WEEK**); THAT IS: EACH STUDENT MUST TURN IN THE REQUIRED AMOUNT OF PRACTICE NOTES, ASSIGNMENTS, AND TRANSCRIPTIONS EACH WEEK, TIMED TESTS WILL **NOT** BE GRADED.

#### **ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING/METHODS OF EVALUATING STUDENT PERFORMANCE:**

This machine shorthand class shall include:

1. live practice dictation. Dictation begins with the first class session and continues throughout the quarter. Dictation shall include but not be limited to one-voice and two-voice testimony. Multi-voice testimony will be included weekly or at the discretion of the instructor via cable/classroom projector, i.e., Court TV. Dictation will include medical and technical material.
2. readback. Most of the class time will be devoted to writing from dictation and reading back machine outlines in order to determine accuracy of outlines and to build note reading skill. Readback will be dictated at a rate that most students can write with control.
3. speed and accuracy development. This class shall include only students whose tested writing speeds are within the same 20-40 wpm range on similar dictation material. Dictation practice will permit the student to write at increasingly higher speeds.
4. five-minute dictation tests given each week on unfamiliar material including two-voice testimony, jury charge/legal opinion, and literary material at the 225 wpm speed level. These tests will be

- transcribed on-site under institutional supervision. Seventy-five minutes will be allotted for transcription of each test.
5. lecture and discussion. The proper outlines for medical and technical terms will be introduced in class through dictation and lecture.
  6. realtime. The student will be tested through realtime on general, legal, medical and technical outlines quarterly at the discretion of the instructor to analyze writing and ensure that conflict-free outlines are being learned and utilized by the student.
  7. vocabulary quizzes as assigned by instructor.
  8. geography assignments as assigned by instructor.

**GRADING SPECIFICATIONS:**

Timed Tests	70%
Transcriptions	10%
Practice Notes	10%
Assignments	10%

## COURSE OUTLINE

<b>DAY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>
<u>Week One</u>	
Day One	Syllabus and class policies review Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material Testimony and Literary tests
Day Two	Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material Testimony and Jury Charge tests
<u>Week Two</u>	
Day One	Turn in Lesson Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material Testimony and Literary tests
Day Two	Turn in current event and practice notes Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material Testimony and Jury Charge tests
<u>Week Three</u>	
Day One	Turn in Lesson Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material Testimony and Literary tests
Day Two	Turn in current event and practice notes Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material Testimony and Jury Charge tests
<u>Week Four</u>	
Day One	Turn in Lesson Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material Testimony and Literary tests
Day Two	Turn in current event and practice notes Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material Testimony and Jury Charge tests
<u>Week Five</u>	
Day One	Turn in Lesson Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material Testimony and Literary tests
Day Two	Turn in current event and practice notes Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material Testimony and Jury Charge tests
<u>Week Six</u>	
Day One	Turn in Lesson Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material Double Testimony and Literary tests
Day Two	Turn in current event and practice notes Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material Double Testimony and Jury Charge tests

Week Seven

Day One Turn in Lesson  
Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material  
Testimony and Literary tests

Day Two Turn in current event and practice notes  
Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material  
Testimony and Jury Charge tests

Week Eight

Day One Turn in Lesson  
Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material  
Testimony and Literary tests

Day Two Turn in current event and practice notes  
Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material  
Testimony and Jury Charge tests

Week Nine

Day One Turn in Lesson  
Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material  
Testimony and Literary tests

Day Two Turn in current event and practice notes  
Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material  
Testimony and Jury Charge tests

Week Ten

Day One Turn in Lesson  
Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material  
Testimony and Literary tests

Day Two Turn in current event and practice notes  
Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material  
Testimony and Jury Charge tests

Week Eleven

Day One Turn in Lesson  
Dictation from appropriate testimony and literary material  
Testimony and Literary tests

Day Two Turn in current event and practice notes  
Dictation from appropriate testimony and jury charge material  
Testimony and Jury Charge tests

Week Twelve

Day One Final Exams consist of double testing on  
Testimony, Jury charge, and Literary tests