Course Description
This course focuses on recent issues, materials, methods, and strategies considered essential for effective reading instruction in the elementary school, specifically early childhood through fourth grade. Components of the course will include comprehension strategies, vocabulary development, word identification strategies, and fluency as well as a focus on the various stages of and approaches to literacy development.

Learning Objectives
(Student learning outcomes)

1. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the EC-6 Standards for English Language Arts and Reading created by Texas State Board for Educator Certification.

2. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between language development and the reading process.

3. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the methods, materials, and beliefs used in a well-rounded literacy program for the EC-6 learner.

4. The student will demonstrate an understanding of word recognition, word identification, vocabulary, and comprehension strategies used in the reading process.

5. The student will demonstrate an understanding of informal assessment processes for reading and language arts.

6. The students will demonstrate an understanding of the issues affecting the developmental process of learning to read and write including those from the disciplines of sociology, psychology, economics, political science, and history.

7. The students will demonstrate an understanding of the role of both children's literature and packaged reading programs in developing a strong and dynamic literacy program for the EC-6 learner.
Major Course Requirements

1. Students will complete all assigned readings.
2. Students will complete numerous quizzes; some announced, some unannounced.
3. Students will create 2 lesson plans: a word study and a guided reading lesson.
4. Students will participate in discussions (in-person and/or online) pertaining to course content.
5. Students will complete classroom-based activities and outside projects related to reading education.
6. Students will pass a phonics test with a score of 80% or higher.
7. Students will complete pretest and posttest examinations on course content.

Required or Recommended Readings


Various articles as directed by instructor

Supplemental Reading:


Cunningham, P. (2006). What if they can say the words but don't Know what they mean?. *The Reading Teacher, 59*(7), 708–711.


**Website: Some aspects of the course will be completed in** Blackboard 8: [https://iol.tamucc.edu/](https://iol.tamucc.edu/)
Annenberg Media – [www.learner.org](http://www.learner.org)

**State Adopted Proficiencies/TExES competencies (COE)**

**English Language Arts**

**Competency 001 Oral Language**
The teacher understands the importance of oral language, knows the developmental processes of oral language, and provides a variety of instructional opportunities for students to develop listening and speaking skills.

**Competency 002 Phonological and Phonemic Awareness**
The teacher understands phonological and phonemic awareness and employs a variety of approaches to help children develop phonological and phonemic awareness.

**Competency 003 Alphabetic Principle**
The teacher understands the importance of the alphabetic principle for reading English and provides instruction that helps children understand the relationship between printed words and spoken language.

**Competency 004 Literacy Development**
The teacher understands that literacy develops over time, progressing from emergent to proficient stages, and uses a variety of approaches to support the development of children's literacy.

**Competency 005 Word Analysis and Decoding**
The teacher understands the importance of word analysis and decoding for reading and provides many opportunities for children to improve their word-analysis and decoding abilities.

**Competency 006 Reading Fluency**
The teacher understands the importance of fluency for reading comprehension and provides many opportunities for children to improve their reading fluency.

**Competency 007 Reading Comprehension**
The teacher understands the importance of reading for understanding, knows the components of comprehension, and teaches children strategies for improving their comprehension.

**State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) Standards**

**Standard I Oral Language:** Teachers of young children understand the importance of oral language, know the development processes of oral language, and provide a variety of instructional opportunities for young children to develop listening and speaking skills.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade know:
1.1k. linguistic concepts, such as phonemes, segmentation, other phonological skills, and narrative concepts related to emergent literacy.
1.3k the relationship between the development of oral language and the development of reading.
1.4k similarities and differences between oral and written language conventions and how to promote young children's awareness of these similarities and differences.
1.5k how to build on children's cultural, linguistic, and home backgrounds to enhance their oral language, including using the child's home language to develop English.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade are able to:
1.4s. select and use instructional materials and strategies that promote children's language development, respond to children's individual strengths, needs, and interest, and reflect culture diversity.

**Standard II Phonological and Phonemic Awareness:** Teachers of young children understand the components of phonological and phonemic awareness and utilize a variety of approaches to help young children develop this awareness and its relationship to written language.
Teachers of young children through fourth grade know:
2.1k the concept of phonological awareness, its relationship to the ability to read an alphabetic language, and the development of phonological awareness in young children. (A child who has phonological awareness hears distinct words, syllables, and sounds in language separate from print.)
2.2k children's need for phonemic awareness as part of phonological awareness and know that phonemic awareness follows a pattern of development. (A child who has phonemic awareness can identify individual sounds in spoken words, blend together the separate sounds of spoken words to form words, and play with the sounds of spoken language by adding or taking away sounds from words.)
2.3k. differences in children's development of phonological and phonemic awareness and know how to adjust instruction in response to the needs of individual children.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade are able to:
2.2s use instructional approaches, including language games, activities, materials, and direct teacher instruction, that promote children's phonological awareness.
2.3s select and use instructional materials that promote children's phonological and phonemic awareness and build on children's current language skills.
2.5s communicate with other professional and continually seek implications for practice from current research about phonological awareness.

**Standard III Alphabetic Principle:** Teachers of young children understand the importance of the alphabetic principle to reading English, know the elements of the alphabetic principle, and provide instruction that helps children understand that printed words consist of graphic representations that relate to the sounds of spoken language in conventional and intentional ways.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade know:
3.1k the important of the elements of the alphabetic principle, including letter names, graphophonemic knowledge, and the relationship of the letters in printed words to spoken language.
3.2k the expected patterns of children's alphabetic skills development and know that individual variations may occur.
3.3k that not all written languages are alphabetic and that many alphabetic languages are more phonetically regular than English and know how to help English language learners deal with positive and negative transfer related to the alphabetic principle.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade are able to:
3.2s select and use instructional materials and strategies, including multisensory techniques (e.g., letter names, graphophonemic knowledge, and the relationship of letters and printed words to spoken language) to promote children's understanding of the elements of the alphabetic principle.
3.5s communicate with other professionals and continually seek implications for practice from current research about he development of alphabetic knowledge.

**Standard IV Literacy Development and Practice:** Teachers of young children understand that literacy develops over time and progresses from emergent to proficient stages. Teachers use a variety of contexts to support the development of young children's literacy.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade know:
4.1k that literacy acquisition develops in an often predictable pattern from prereading (sometimes referred to as emergent literacy) to conventional literacy and that individual variations occur in literacy acquisition.

4.2k that the developing readers has a growing awareness of print in the environment, of the sounds in spoken words, and of the uses of print.

4.3k that literacy development occurs in multiple contexts through reading, writing, and the use of oral language.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade are able to:

4.1s provide instruction that focuses on concepts about print and functions of print including book handling, parts of a book, orientation, directionality, and the relationships between written and spoken words.

4.2s assist young children in distinguishing letter forms from number forms and text from pictures.

4.6s provide many opportunities for children to read and write so that they will develop an extensive reading and writing vocabulary.

4.11s communicate with other professionals and continually seek implications for practice from current research on literacy acquisition.

Standard V Word Analysis and Decoding: Teachers understand the importance of word analysis and decoding to reading and provide many opportunities for children to improve their word analysis and decoding abilities.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade know:

5.1k that many children develop word analysis and decoding skills in a predictable sequence, but that individual variations may occur.

5.2k the importance of word recognition skills (e.g., decoding, blending, structural analysis, sight word vocabulary) to reading comprehension and know a variety of strategies to help young children develop and apply word analysis skills.

5.3k differences in children's development of word analysis skills and know how to adjust instruction in response to various children's needs.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade are able to:

5.1s teach the analysis of phonetically regular words in a simple to complex progression, i.e., phonemes, blending onsets and rimes, short vowels, consonant blends, other common vowel and consonant patterns, and syllables.

5.2s teach children to read passages using decodable texts and provide opportunities for children to progress from sounding out words orally to decoding words silently.

5.3s teach children to recognize high-frequency irregular words by selecting words that appear frequently in children's books and reviewing difficult words often.

5.4s teach children ways to identify vowel sound combinations and multisyllabic words.

5.5s provide instruction in how to use structural cues to recognize compounds words, base words, and inflections (e.g., prefixes and suffixes).

5.6s teach children to use knowledge of word order (English syntax) and context to support word identification and confirm word meaning.

5.9s communicate with other professionals and continually seek implications for practice from current research about the development of decoding and word identification.
**Standard VI Reading Fluency:** Teachers understand the importance of fluency to reading comprehension and provide many opportunities for children to improve their reading fluency.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade know:
6.2k how young children develop reading fluency and that fluency involves rate, accuracy, and intonation.
6.4k instructional practices that enhance the development of fluency, including providing opportunities for children to read regularly, both orally and silently, in independent-level materials and to do repeated reading and partner reading.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade are able to:
6.2s provide frequent opportunities for fluency development through reading in independent-level materials, reading orally from familiar text, repeated reading activities, and silent reading for increasingly longer periods.
6.3s apply forms for reading fluency to evaluate children's reading fluency.
6.5 communicate with other professionals and continually seek implications from current research about the development of children's reading fluency.
6.6s provide opportunities for children to improve their reading fluency through self-correction.

**Standard VII Reading Comprehension:** Teachers understand the importance of reading for understanding, know the components of comprehension, and teach young children strategies for improving their comprehension.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade know:
7.1k that reading comprehension begins with listening comprehension and know strategies to help children improve their listening comprehension.
7.2k factors affecting reading comprehension, such as children's oral language development, children's previous reading experiences, characteristics of specific texts (e.g., structure, vocabulary, story grammar), fluency, and the monitoring of understanding by the reading.
7.3k levels of reading comprehension and how to model and teach literal comprehension skills (e.g., identifying stated main idea, details, sequence, and cause-and-effect relationships).
7.4k how to model and teach inferential comprehension skills (e.g., inferring main ideas, comparisons, and cause-a-and effect and other relationships not explicitly stated; summarizing; making predictions; and drawing conclusions and generalizations; and evaluative comprehension skills (e.g., distinguishing between fact and opinion, detecting faculty reasoning; and reacting to a text's content, characters, and use of language).
7.5k comprehension skills needed to understand and interpret a variety of written materials, including narratives, expository texts, technical writing, and content-area textbooks.
7.6k how comprehension can be improved through wide reading and understand the importance of allocating time to wide reading and developing and maintaining classroom libraries and "sending home" libraries.
7.7k the importance of wide reading to vocabulary development.
7.8k instructional strategies that facilitate children's comprehension before, during, and after reading, such as providing background knowledge for written text, previewing the organization of the text, making predictions, questioning, and guiding discussions.
7.9k a range of reading comprehension strategies that children can use to improve their reading comprehension, such as self-monitoring, rereading, mapping, using reading journals, and discussing texts and know how to model and teach these strategies.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade are able to:
7.2s use a variety of instructional strategies to enhance children's listening and reading comprehension, including helping children link the content of texts to their lives and connect related ideas across different texts.
7.3s model strategies for improving reading comprehension such as previewing texts, self-monitoring, and retelling.
7.4s. provide frequent opportunities for children to engage in silent reading both at school and at home.
7.5s guide children to generate questions and apply research about topics introduced in reading selections, both fiction and nonfiction.
7.6s provide time for extended reading of a wide range of materials, including expository texts.
7.7s use instructional strategies that help children increase their reading vocabulary.
7.8s guide children to increase knowledge of their own culture and the cultures of others through reading.
7.9s provide instruction in how to use graphics (e.g., tables, charts, and signs) and other information texts and technologies (e.g., the Internet) to acquire information.
7.10s provide opportunities for children to apply comprehension strategies to literature and to respond to literature in a variety of ways (e.g., using reading journals and discussions), including relating background knowledge to literary texts.
7.11s teach elements of literary analysis, such as story elements and features of different literary genres.
7.14s communicate with other professionals and seek implications for practice from ongoing research about the development of children's reading comprehension.

**Standard VIII Development of Written Communication:** Teachers understand that writing to communicate is a developmental process and provide instruction that helps young children develop competence in written communication.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade know:
8.1k that many children go through predictable stages in developing written language, but understand that individual variations occur in written language development.
8.2k the development of writing in relationship to listening, speaking, and reading and know instructional strategies that connect these various aspects of language.
8.3k appropriate instructional strategies for developing children's writing skills.
8.4k processes of self-assessment in writing.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade are able to:
8.1s create an environment in which children are motivated to express their ideas in writing.
8.2s teach purposeful, meaningful writing in connection with listening, speaking, and reading.
8.4s provide instruction in various stages of writing, including prewriting, drafting, editing, and revising.
8.7s provide opportunities for children to self-assess both their writings (e.g., for clarity, comprehensiveness, and interest to audience) and their development as writers and to elicit critiques from others.
8.9s communicate with other professionals and continually seek implications for practice from current research about children's development of written communication.

**Standard IX Writing Conventions:** Teachers understand how young children use writing conventions and how to help children develop those conventions.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade know:
9.1k that many children go through predictable stages in acquiring writing conventions, including the physical and cognitive processes involved in letter formation, word writing, sentence construction, spelling, punctuation, and grammatical expression, but that individual children vary in their development of these conventions.  
9.2k the relationship between spelling and phonological and alphabetic awareness, and the importance of this relationship for later success in reading and writing.  
9.3k the stages of spelling development (prephonetic, phonetic, transitional and conventional) and how and when to support children's development from one stage to the next.  
9.4k the similarities and differences between language (e.g., syntax and vocabulary) used in spoken and written English and how to help students recognize these similarities and differences to promote effective use of written English conventions.  
9.5k the differences between first draft writing and writing for publication.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade are able to:  
9.4s. provide direct instruction and guided practice in English writing conventions (e.g., grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation).  
9.5s provide systematic spelling instruction in common spelling patterns based on phonics skills already taught and provide opportunities for students to use and develop their spelling skills in the context of meaningful written expression (e.g., applying decoding skills as one strategy to help proofread their spelling during the editing process.  
9.6s work with children to select pieces of an individual's work to teach writing conventions, recognizing that first drafts are not always edited and revised, but help children realize that accuracy in conventions is necessary when preparing a piece of publication.  
9.8s communicate with other professionals and seek implications for practice from ongoing research about children's development of writing conventions.

**Standard X Assessment and Instruction of Development Literacy:** Teachers understand the basic principles of assessment and use a variety of literacy assessment practices to plan and implement literacy instruction for young children.

Teachers of young children through fourth grade know:
10.4k the state content and performance standards for reading, writing, listening, and speaking that comprise the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and know how to recognize when a child needs additional help or intervention to bring the children's performance up to grade level.  
10.5k a variety of strategies and materials (e.g., basals, supplemental programs, trade books, and wide reading) to ensure the literacy development of young children.  
10.6k. the importance of providing many opportunities for children to experience extended reading of narrative and expository texts.
Course Policies

Class attendance and Participation: In order to socially construct knowledge, I need all class participants to be in class and actively participating in course discussions. There are no such things as excused absences. Absences and lateness will affect your grade. There is a high positive correlation between consistent, punctual attendance and higher course grades. On time and present are the requirements. Class attendance is mandatory and absences will impact your course grade. After the second absence, your grade will be lowered one letter grade per each additional absence. It is your responsibility to collect any missed handouts. I do not make repeat performances. If you are absent, ask a classmate for the handouts and class notes. However, if you have a question about course materials, please feel free to ask me to clarify during office hours. I will be happy to meet with you then.

Late work and Make-Up Exams

No coursework will be accepted late. In-class points are not available for those who do not attend.

Extra Credit
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP:
Student Reading Council: Join, pay membership, and attend meetings for the semester and Participate; $10.00 annual membership. Attending each meeting in full nets 5 bonus points.

Tentative Schedule for SRC Meetings:
- September 24th: Write Better in Minutes using Expanded Moments in UC 320 (Chanel Burge)
- October 15th: Thrive on Standardized Tests: Tips from the MAT Tutor in UC 320 (Wolf Verlaan)
- November 12th: Prudent Poetry Projects in UC 320 (Lucinda Juarez)
- Fundraiser Project (TBD)
- December: Navidad De Los Ninos at Garcia Center

Cell phone/electronic Device Usage

Cell phones, text messaging, and checking your cell phone, email, and text messages during class are all strictly prohibited. Come to class prepared to focus on class. Violations may result in being asked to withdraw from the course and/or failure of course. If there is a potential rising emergency, then prior notification of such possibility must be made known to me before the start of class and the phone set on vibrate.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a failing grade.
Dropping a Class
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. April 1, 2011 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Required methods of scholarly citations
6th ed. APA format

Sample paper

Classroom/professional behavior
Professional decorum is expected in this pre-service teacher course.

Grade Appeals*
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamu.cc/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Disabilities Accommodations*
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Driftwood 101.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

*Required by SACS

Course Evaluation/Grading

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<tr>
<th>Discussions/ In-class Activities/ Outside Projects</th>
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<td>* reflection journals (@50 points)</td>
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<td>* activities/projects (@50points)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesson Plans</td>
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Phonics Test 50 points
Quizzes 50 points
Final Exam 100 points
Total 350 points

Letter grades will be determined by the following scale:

A 90-100% of total points possible for course
B 80-89%
C 70-79%
D 60-69%
F 59% or below

*No coursework will be accepted late. In-class points are not available to those who do not attend.

Grades will be assigned according to the professional level of the final submissions.

A = Excellent-All work is 100% completed in a professional manner and contains evidence of significant effort and accomplishment. The work is 100% professional in content and appearance.

B = Good-All work is completed in a useful manner and contains evidence of effort and accomplishment. The work is complete in content and appearance but lacks professional polish.

C = Average-The work is complete. The work contains all required parts. The work lacks evidence of time and effort.

D = Passing-The work is not adequate in details, efforts, professionalism, or completeness.

F = Failing-The work is inadequate or incomplete
## Tentative Schedule

*(Course Outline)*

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT DUE</th>
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| Week #1 8/24 | Course Overview  
Syllabus  
Introductions/Ice Breaker  
Reading surveys | • Purchase Textbook  
• Read syllabus  
• Pretest |
| Week #2 8/29 | Review Pretest  
Child-centered philosophy vs.  
Subject-centered philosophy  
Characteristics of Highly Effective  
Reading Teachers activity  
The Five Pillars of Effective Reading Instruction | • Read Chapter 1  
• In-class group demo activity- jigsaw characteristics of highly effective reading teachers  
• Quiz |
| Week #3 9/6 | Oral Language Development  
Oral Language Instructional Strategies  
6 Principles for Effective Instruction for ELLs  
Learner.org video ‘Supporting the ELL” | • Chapter 2  
• In-class group propaganda exercise  
• In class- note taking during video  
• Guess “What’s in the briefcase?” |
| Week #4 9/13 | Skills-based/balanced/whole language  
Phonemic Awareness  
MSV Cueing Systems  
Running Records  
Emergent Literacy  
Letter Name Knowledge | • Chapter 3  
• In-class- group activity- miscue analysis  
• Online discussion: how did I learn how to read?  
• Review fcr.org & tpri.org  
• Quiz |
| Week #5 9/20 | Guided Reading  
Video  
Steps in a GR lesson plan  
Sample | • Outside Article  
• In class: note taking on sample lesson plan  
• Quiz |
| Week #6 9/27 | Phonics/Word Identification  
Rules  
Strategies for teaching phonics | • Chapter 4  
• GR Lesson Plan  
• In-class activity- group phonics pretest |
| Week #7 10/4 | Developing Reading Fluency  
Strategies for Fluency Assessment/  
Instruction  
Grade level targets for reading rate  
Readers Theatre  
NIM demo | • Phonics Test  
• Chapter 5  
• Readers’ theatre scripts (as time permits) |
| Week #8 10/11 | Vocabulary and Word Knowledge  
Implicit vs. explicit instruction  
3- Tier System  
Strategies/Activities for Vocabulary Acquisition | • Review phonics test  
• Independent introductory activity: Which word should I teach “pyramid” or “sphere?”  
• Online discussion: To what extent does reading rate factor into educational success?  
• Chapter 6  
• Quiz |
| Week #9 10/18 | Reading Comprehension  
Schema Theory  
K-3 Reading Comprehension Benchmarks  
6 Research Proven Strategies | • Word Study Lesson Plan  
• In-class group activity: Sell my district a comprehension strategy  
• Chapter 7 |
| Week #10 10/25 | Reading Comprehension  
Extending Activities  
Questions vs. Retellings  
Handout Directions for Poetry Slam | • Chapter 7  
• Online discussion: Describe a comprehension activity that would assist students in the comprehension of text  
• Quiz |
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<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Chapters</th>
<th>Online Discussion/Quiz</th>
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<td>Writing Development</td>
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<td>Interactive Writing</td>
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<td>Poetry Slam</td>
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<td>Online discussion: In general, what type of assessment is most unfair?</td>
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READ 3320 Verification of Understanding

The following points are part of the syllabus. The bulleted list below forms key points that the student must understand about READ 3320.

- **Participation** is based on blackboard discussion, punctuality, class activities, and class discussion. A participation grade is part of the grading for this class.

- **A Phonics Exam** will be opened for students beginning March 2011. Students will have three (3) opportunities to take the test. **This test must be passed with a grade of 80% in order for the student to receive credit for the course.**

- **Cell phone / Electronics**: Cell phones, text messaging, and checking your cell phone, email, and text messages or any other form of social networking which do not support course instruction during class are all **strictly prohibited**. Come to class prepared to focus on class. Violations may result in being asked to withdraw from the course and / or failure of course. If there is a potential rising emergency, then prior notification of such possibility must be made known to me **before** the start of class and phone set on vibrate.

I affirm that I have read this syllabus and understand all class policies and assignments.

__________________________________________________________________________  _______________

Name  Date