Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi

READ 3352 Content Area Reading for Elementary Students

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Fall 2013 T & Th 11:00 – 12:15 p.m. TBA
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Office Hours: T & Th 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. and by appointment

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course focuses on recent issues, materials, methods, and strategies considered essential for effective reading instruction in the elementary school content areas. Components of the course will include comprehension strategies, vocabulary development, reading-writing connections, and word study. Prerequisite: READ 3320 or READ 3321. Components of the course will include but not be limited to the five pillars of reading instruction identified by the National Reading Panel (2000): phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Emphasis is placed on the various stages of and approaches to literacy development.

II. RATIONALE
This course is designed to provide undergraduate pre-service teachers an opportunity to: (1) analyze and synthesize information regarding content area reading, and (2) demonstrate knowledge of various ways to help students succeed in reading to learn and the acquisition of study skills.

III. STATE ADOPTED PROFICIENCIES
The following state adopted proficiencies are covered in this course:

1. **Oral Language** – Teachers of young students understand the importance of oral language, know the developmental processes of oral language, and provide a variety of instructional opportunities for young students to develop listening and speaking skills.
2. **Phonological and Phonemic Awareness** – Teachers of young students understand the components of phonological and phonemic awareness and utilize a variety of approaches to help young students develop this awareness and its relationship to written language.
3. **Alphabetic Principle** – teachers of young students understand the importance of the alphabetic principle to reading English, know the elements of the alphabetic principle, and provide instruction that helps students understand that printed words consist of graphic representations that relate to the sounds of spoken language in conventional and intentional ways.
4. **Literacy Development and Practice** – Teachers of young students 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 students’ literacy.
5. **Word Analysis and Decoding** – Teachers understand the importance of word analysis and decoding to reading and provide many opportunities for students to improve word analysis and decoding abilities.

6. **Reading Fluency** – Teachers understand the importance of fluency to reading comprehension and provide many opportunities for students to improve reading fluency.

7. **Comprehension** – Teachers understand the importance of reading for understanding, know the components of comprehension, and teach young students strategies for improving comprehension.

8. **Development of Written Communication** – Teachers understand that writing to communicate is a developmental process and provide instruction that helps young students develop competence in written communication.

9. **Writing Conventions** – Teachers understand how young students use writing conventions and how to help students develop those conventions.

10. **Assessment and Instruction of Developing Literacy** – Teachers understand the basic principles of assessment and use a variety of literacy assessment practices to plan and implement literacy instruction for young students.

### IV. TExES COMPETENCIES

The following TExES competencies are covered in this course:

- The teacher possesses and draws on a rich knowledge base of content, pedagogy, and technology to provide relevant and meaningful learning experiences for all students.
- The teacher creates a learner-centered community; the teacher collaboratively identifies needs; and plans, implements, and assesses instruction using technology and other resources.
- The teacher responds appropriately to diverse groups of learners.
- While acting as an advocate for all students and the school, the teacher demonstrates effective professional and interpersonal communication skills.
- The teacher, as a reflective practitioner dedicated to all students’ success, demonstrates a commitment to learn, to improve the profession, and to maintain professional ethics and personal integrity.

### V. COURSE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

This course is designed to enable students to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding for and apply a content area framework of instruction. These will include the following:
   - The use of prior knowledge to construct purposes for reading
   - The establishment of strategies which assist in reading higher level interpretation of text, and the opportunity for reflection on what has been learned
   - Demonstrate an understanding for the Language Arts TEKS and use them to design appropriate lessons.
2. Analyze texts that are used in class for factors that make them easier or more difficult to comprehend

VI. COURSE TOPICS
The major topics to be considered are:

- Approaches to teaching reading in the content areas
- Materials used in a well-rounded literacy program
- Levels of questions
- Reading for Inquiry
- Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills
- Text sets
- Text-structure of non-fiction text
- Reading strategies for Before, During, and After reading non-fiction texts
- Vocabulary development
- Factors influencing literacy proficiency
- Book Awards

VII. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES
Methods and activities for instruction include:

- Lecture and discussion
- Teaching demonstrations
- Direct experience
- Student microteaching and presentations

VIII. EVALUATION AND GRADE ASSIGNMENT
The following course requirements will be explained in detail during class meetings.

Book talk
Chapter presentation with strategies
Chapter discussions
Text Set
Demonstration Lesson
Strategies Notebook
Professional Journal Article
Dyslexia Exam
Midterm Exam
Final Examination
Class Participation

Assignments are scored based on completion of assigned task, accuracy, content, grammar, and spelling mistakes. Grades are contingent upon the completion and quality of assigned work and are based on the subjective evaluation by the professor. Late assignments will automatically have points deducted at the discretion of the professor.
Final grades are calculated as a percent of total points earned:

A=92-100%
B=83-91%
C=74-82%
D= 66-74%

Class Participation/Attendance Policies

- Due to the nature of this course, active student participation is essential to overall successful class performance. Because this course is concerned primarily with helping prospective teachers develop literacy and learning strategies, it is very important that students attend class regularly. It is not enough to rely on others’ notes to make up for class activities and experiences. Additionally, failure to attend class regularly may place students at a severe disadvantage on the final examination, since test questions derive mostly from class activities. Consequently, class participation points will be earned based on attendance as well as participation. **After the second absence, your grade will be lowered one letter grade for 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 their notes. However, if you have a question about course material, please feel free to ask me to clarify during office hours. I will be happy to meet with you during office hours.

Assignments

Course assignments will be explained further in class. The following is a short explanation of each of the assignments.

**Book talk:** Each student will read and present a book related talk in some way to further teaching content. For extra information on Book Talks go to Instructional Strategies On-Line and click on Book talks.

**Chapter presentation with strategies:** Students will sign up to present a chapter or chapters depending on the number of students in the class. Strategies will be demonstrated within the chapter presentations. Some examples of presentation may include a power point, prezi, handout, class activities, or any other method you may choose.

**Chapter discussions:** Each student will participate in chapter discussions on blackboard.

**Text Set:** Text sets are books and reading materials used for a specific topic, unit or theme to be taught. You will need to choose a grade level and content area you are interested in teaching. After determining your grade level and content area choose a topic (i.e., insects, weather, etc.) and related TEKS to construct a text set that includes TEN related texts.

**Demonstration Lesson:** You will present a lesson alone or with other students in which you use non-fiction text to teach a concept to the class. You will need to write a lesson plan for the demonstration that will include the appropriate TEKS and a description of before, during, and after reading instructional techniques. The lesson will be conducted with the rest of the class participating.
Strategies Notebook: You will create a notebook with six strategies that can be used for nonfiction texts. There will be two strategies for each division of before, during, and after reading.

Professional Journal Article: Read a journal article related to your content and the topic of reading. Identify the topic of the article, provide full publication information in APA (info includes: author(s), title, journal name, volume/date and pages), summary of the article, how reading can be integrated into your content and at least two questions raised in your mind as a result of the article. Provide a copy of the article with the summary.

IX. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS:

Required Textbooks:


Recommended or Supplemental Reading:


## X. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

**Notes:** Chapter readings and assignments should be completed by class time. Assignments are due on the day they appear on the schedule. Topics may be added as dictated by the needs of the class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Assignment Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/5</td>
<td>Overview: Course BB, syllabus, Five Components of Reading, Reading in Elementary Schools</td>
<td>Read Chapter 1 by next class</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Teacher Modeled Book Talk/Strategy and Chapter 1 Presentation W/Strategy</td>
<td>Book talk &amp; Chapter Presentation sign ups</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/12</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Lesson Plan Design Fiction/Nonfiction Text Structure</td>
<td>Due: Professional Journal Article</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Read/Think Aloud Shared Reading/Writing</td>
<td>Kristo Chapter 2 Presentation Book Talks (group #1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/19</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Accuracy &amp; Fluency in Reading Readability Texts/Lexiles</td>
<td>Kristo Chapter 3 Presentation Book Talks (group #2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/24</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Comprehension in Reading Schema connection: before, during, after</td>
<td>Kristo Chapter 4 Presentation Book Talks (group #3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/26</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Expanding Vocabulary in Reading Newspaper &amp; Periodical Strategies</td>
<td>Kristo Chapter 5 Presentation Book Talks (group #4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/1</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Cognition/Metacognition Critical Literacy</td>
<td>Kristo Chapter 6 Presentation Book Talks (group #5)</td>
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<td>10/3</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Dyslexia Presentation</td>
<td>Kristo Chapter 7 Presentation Book Talks (group #6)</td>
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<td>10/8</td>
<td>Dyslexia Exam (In class)</td>
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<td>10/10</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Technology &amp; New Literacies</td>
<td>Kristo Chapter 8 Presentation Book Talks (group #7)</td>
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<td>10/15</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Assessment &amp; Testing</td>
<td>Kristo Chapter 9 Presentation Book Talks (group #8)</td>
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<td>10/17</td>
<td>Midterm Exam (In class)</td>
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<td>10/22</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Writing in the Content Area -Science</td>
<td>Due: Text Set</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/24</td>
<td>Cadre Conferencing/Share Writing in the Content Area – Math</td>
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10/29 | **Cadre Conferencing/Share**  
Writing in the Content Area – Social Studies

10/31 | Demonstration Lesson (group #1)

11/5 | Demonstration Lesson (group #2)

11/7 | Demonstration Lesson (group #3)

11/12 | Demonstration Lesson (group #4)

11/14 | Demonstration Lesson (group #5)

11/19 | Demonstration Lesson (group #6)

11/21 | Demonstration Lesson (group #7)

11/26 | Demonstration Lesson (group #8)

11/28 | Thanksgiving (No class)

12/3 | **Cadre Conferencing/Share**  
Strategies Notebook  
**Due: Strategies Notebook**

12/5 | Review for Final

12/10 | **Final Exam (In class)**

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**XI. STATEMENTS REQUIRED BY THE UNIVERSITY:**

**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.tamucc.edu/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.

**Veterans**
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.
READ 3352 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 3352.

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

- **An End of Course Exam** will be opened for students ________________. Students will have two (2) 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.

______________________________________________________
Print Name

______________________________________________________         __________
Signature                          Date