

Graduate School of Education

Program: Special Education

Fall Semester, 2011

Course title: EDSE 628, Elementary Reading/Curriculum Strategies for Students with Disabilities Accessing the General Curriculum, Section 662

Credit Hours: 3

Meetings: Tuesdays, 4:30-8:30 PM, September 13th – November 15th

Location: Independent Hill School, Prince William County

Instructor: Sharon N. E. Ray, Ph.D.

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Course Description

Course Description from University Catalog:

This course applies research on instructional approaches, in elementary curriculum for individuals with disabilities accessing general education curriculums. Includes curriculum/instructional strategies in reading, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, cognitive strategies, study skills, attention/memory, and peer-mediated instruction. Prerequisites: none.

Course Objectives

The objectives of the course are the following:

- To familiarize participants with the learning characteristics of students with mild disabilities including cognitive and intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, and emotional disabilities.
- To familiarize participants with the principles of effective instruction for including students with disabilities in general education classes, including the use and application of prioritizing objectives, adapting materials, instruction, the environment, and evaluation procedures.
- To familiarize participants with strategies for promoting inclusion with classroom peers as peer tutors, assistants, and cooperative learning.
- To familiarize participants with strategies for improving motivation.
- To familiarize participants with strategies for improving attention and memory skills.

- To familiarize participants with strategies for improving study and organizational skills.
- To familiarize participants with strategies for adapting evaluation procedures.
- To familiarize participants with strategies for teaching and adapting language and literacy.
- To familiarize participants with strategies for teaching and adapting math.
- To familiarize participants with strategies for teaching and adapting science and social studies.

Student Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe elementary level intervention research and the associated issues in intervention research, including technological advances as applied to individuals with mild disabilities;
- Describe and implement elementary level research-based curriculum and strategies for teaching reading, language arts, math, science, social studies, and social skills for individuals with mild disabilities;
- Describe and implement elementary level research-based cognitive strategies in self-regulation and metacognition, study skills, attention, memory, and motivation for individuals with mild disabilities;
- Describe and implement elementary level research-based strategies for peer mediation, including peer tutoring and cooperative learning, for individuals with mild disabilities;
- Develop and implement strategies in curriculum and strategies to correspond with the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Professional Standards:

Relationship of Courses to Program Goals and Professional Organizations

This course is part of the George Mason University, College of Education and Human Development, Special Education Program for teacher licensure in the Commonwealth of Virginia for teaching students with disabilities who access the general curriculum. This program complies with the standards for teacher licensure established by the Council for Exceptional Children, the major special education professional organization. As such, the learning objectives for this course cover many of the competencies for elementary curriculum and strategies

for teaching individuals with emotional disturbances, learning disabilities, and mild intellectual and cognitive disabilities.

The CEC Standards are listed on the following web site:

http://www.cec.sped.org/ps/perf_based_stds/common_core_4-21-01.html

CEC standards that will be addressed in this class include the following:

Standard 4 - Instructional Strategies

Skills:

- Use strategies to facilitate integration into various settings.
- Teach individuals to use self-assessment, problem solving, and other cognitive strategies to meet their needs.
- Select, adapt, and use instructional strategies and materials according to characteristics of the individual with exceptional learning needs.
- Use strategies to facilitate maintenance and generalization of skills across learning environments.
- Use procedures to increase the individual's self-awareness, self-management, self-control, self-reliance, and self-esteem.
- Use strategies that promote successful transitions for individuals with exceptional learning needs.

Standard 5 - Learning Environments and Social Interactions

Knowledge: (selected competencies)

- Demands of learning environments.
- Basic classroom management theories and strategies for individuals with exceptional learning needs.
- Effective management of teaching and learning.
- Teacher attitudes and behaviors that influence behavior of individuals with exceptional learning needs.
- Social skills needed for educational and other environments.

Skills:

- Create a safe, equitable, positive, and supportive learning environment in which diversities are valued.
- Identify realistic expectations for personal and social behavior in various settings.
- Identify supports needed for integration into various program placements.
- Design learning environments that encourage active participation in individual and group activities.

Standard 7 - Instructional Planning

Knowledge:

- Theories and research that form the basis of curriculum development and instructional practice.
- Scope and sequences of general and special curricula.
- National, state or provincial, and local curricula standards.

Nature of Course Delivery

Learning activities include the following:

1. Class lecture, discussion, and participation.
2. Videotapes and other relevant media presentations.
3. Study and independent library research.
4. Applications with relevant hardware and software.
5. Application activities, including in-class evaluation of intervention research and materials.
6. Class presentations.
7. Written activities using the American Psychological Association (APA) format.

College of Education and Human Development

Student Expectations

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode/>].
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>].
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

Campus Resources

- The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical

psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].

- The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, Graduate School of Education, please visit our website [See <http://gse.gmu.edu/>].

Additional Listing of Resources and Expectations:

George Mason University Email: <https://msserver3.gmu.edu/>

From this link, follow the directions for activating an email account. Every student is required to establish a GMU email account. Course email correspondence and other important university emails will be sent to GMU email accounts.

George Mason Patriot Web: <https://patriotweb.gmu.edu/>

A self-service website for students, faculty, and staff of George Mason University. There is a wealth of useful links, information, and online forms on this website including program of studies details, application for graduation, request for transfer of credit, and internship application.

TaskStream Submission

*Note: Every student registered for any EDSE course as of the Fall 2007 semester is required to submit signature assignments to TaskStream (regardless of whether a course is an elective, a one time course or part of an undergraduate minor). TaskStream information is available at <http://gse.gmu.edu/programs/sped/>. The signature assignment for this course (the Strategy Application Written Assignment) must be submitted to TaskStream (<https://www.taskstream.com>) at the end of this course. **Failure to submit the assignment to TaskStream will result in reporting the course grade as Incomplete (IN). Unless this grade is changed, upon completion of the required submission, the IN will convert to an F nine weeks into the following semester.***

APA Formatting Guidelines: <http://www.psywww.com/resource/apacrib.htm>

This website is offered as a companion to the APA style manual. It should not be considered a substitute for directly consulting the APA manual, 6th edition for standard procedures of applying APA style. Additional APA style help URLs are available on the GSE library URL.

George Mason University Honor Code:

<http://www.gmu.edu/facstaff/handbook/aD.html>

This URL defines student and faculty conduct to promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community. The honor code deals specifically with cheating and attempted cheating, plagiarism, lying and stealing.

Academic Integrity: Students in this course are expected to exhibit academic integrity at all times. It is essential that all students submit their own work, especially with the technical information and skills taught within this course. To that end, plagiarism is a violation of academic integrity, as well as the ideas and principles of this class. **Plagiarism is the intentional or unintentional use of others' ideas, words, data, figures, pictures, sequence of ideas, or arrangement of materials without clearly acknowledging the source (based on the Mason Honor Code online at:**

<http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/plagiarism.htm>). The instructor reserves the right to submit your work to **turnitin.com**, a plagiarism detection service, for an integrity assessment as needed. Students who commit plagiarism of any form (eg. whether it be copying test answers, using someone else's exact words in a written assignment, etc.) will be given an "F" as their course grade and the matter will be reported to the Dean of the Education School and the GMU Honor Council.

Advising contact information: Please make sure that you are being advised on a regular basis as to your status and progress through your program. You may wish to contact Jancy Templeton, GMU Special Education Advisor, at jtemple1@gmu.edu or 703-993-2474. Please be prepared with your G number when you contact her.

This course will incorporate the evidence-based practices (EBPs) relevant to *elementary curriculum learning strategies, constructing effective lessons, and literacy supports*. These EBPs are indicated with an asterisk (*) in this syllabus' schedule. Evidence for the selected research-based practices is informed by meta-analysis, literature reviews/synthesis, the technical assistance networks which provide web-based resources, and the national organizations whose mission is to support students with disabilities. We address both promising and emerging practices in the field of special education. This course will provide opportunities for students to take an active, decision-making role to thoughtfully select, modify, apply, and evaluate EBPs in order to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

Resources for Evidence-Based Practices Emphasized in EDSE 628

www.k8accesscenter.org The Access Center. (*Computer assisted instruction, CAI*)

<http://www.teachingld.org> LD Resources.Current Practice Alerts. #2, 8, 10, 12, 13, 17

<http://www.iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu> Modules and InfoBriefs.

(Peer Assisted Learning Strategies – PALS; Collaborative Strategic Reading – CSR; Providing Instructional Supports - scaffolding and modeling; Self-Regulated Strategy Development Model)

National Reading Panel Report (NRP). (2000).

<http://www.nationalreadingpanel.org>

Berkeley, S., Scruggs, T. E., & Mastropieri, M. A. (Meta, in press; *questioning strategy instruction, graphic organizers, self-regulatory skills*)

Bursuck, W. D., & Damer, M. (2007). (*Direct instruction/systematic/explicit instruction*)

Coleman, M., & Vaughn, S. (2000). (*Direct instruction/systematic/explicit instruction*)

Gajria, M., Jitendra, A. K., Sood, S., & Sacks, G. (2007) (*text enhancements; cognitive strategy instruction*)

Gersten, R., Chard, D., Jayanthi, M., Baker, S., Morphy, P., & Flojo, J. (2008). www.centeroninstruction.org (*Direct instruction for math, Schema-based math representations, self-talk for math*)

Gersten, R., Fuchs, L. S., Williams, J. P., & Baker, S. (2001). (*Reading comprehension instruction*)

Jitendra, A. K., Edwards, L. L., Sacks, G., & Jacobson, L. A. (2004). (*Vocabulary instruction*)

Kroesbergen, E. H., & Van Luit, J.E. H. (2003). (*Direct instruction: Math; self-instruction, Schema-based math representations, concrete-representational-abstract CRA*)

Maccini, P., Mulcahy, C.A., & Wilson, M.G. (2007). (*Direct Instruction: Math; Schema-based math representations, peer-mediated instruction, anchored instruction, CRA*)

Mastropieri, M. A., Scruggs, T. E., & Graetz, J. (2003) (*mnemonics*)

Peltenburg, M., van den Heuvel-Panhuizen, M., & Doig, B. (2009). (*Math manipulatives*)

Rogers, L. A., & Graham, S. (2008). (*Self-Regulated Strategy Development Model*)

Scruggs, T. E., Mastropieri, M. A., Berkeley, S., Graetz, J. E. (2009). (*Peer tutoring, mnemonics, semantic maps*)

Scruggs, T. E., & Mastropieri, M. A. Tutorial: Mnemonic

Instruction www.teachingld.org

Simon, R. & Hanrahan, J. (2004). (*Touch Math*)

Spencer, V. G. (2006). (*Peer tutoring*)

Suh, J., & Moyer, P.S. (2005). (*Virtual math manipulatives*)

Templeton, T. N., Neel, R. S., Blood, E. (2008). (*Self-regulatory skills for math*)

Vaughn, S., Gersten, R. L., & Chard, D. J. (2000). (*reading comprehension instruction; questioning strategy instruction; content enhancements, guided feedback*)

Texts and Readings:

Required Texts

Vaughn, S. & Bos, C. S. (2009). *Strategies for teaching students with learning and behavior problems* (8th ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. **(make sure it is the second printing)**

Online Reading

Throughout the semester, we will be using several websites to support and enhance the information we are gaining from the course text. It is a good idea to save these sites as "Favorites" for your use in this class, as well as professional reference. The sites we will use are:

<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Superintendent/Sols/home.shtml> Virginia SOL website

http://www.teachingld.org/ld_resources/alerts/default.htm#social Discusses Social Skills Instruction

http://reading.uoregon.edu/big_ideas/index.php "Five Big Areas of Reading"

http://www.teachingld.org/ld_resources/alerts/default.htm#mnemonic Discusses Mnemonic Instruction

Peer-Reviewed Journal Readings:

You will be accessing peer-reviewed journal articles as part of the Strategy Application Written Assignment. These articles will vary depending on individual student interests and assignment ideas.

Required Access to Course Blackboard Site

The George Mason Blackboard system will be used as an integral part of this course. It is important to access Blackboard several times a week between class sessions to check posted updates and messages. Additionally, class handouts will be posted on Blackboard for upcoming classes. The first night of class all handouts will be provided. After the first night, all handouts will be posted by Sunday evening before Tuesday's class. Students are responsible for downloading these handouts or printing hard copies for use in class from the second class onwards. You can access Bb at <http://courses.gmu.edu> .

****Starting September 20th, be sure to come to class prepared with the week's electronic copies of materials or hard copies (whichever works best for you)!****

It is recommended that students retain copies of all course products to document their progress through the GSE ED/LD program. Products from this class can become part of your individual professional portfolio used in your portfolio classes that documents your satisfactory progress through the GSE program and the CEC performance based standards.

- **The use of electronic devices that produce sound or otherwise interfere with the learning of others (i.e., cell phones, pagers, etc.) is prohibited during class. Please turn these devices off or to vibrate before the start of class.**
- **Computers may be used to take notes during class, but they may not be used for internet exploration or other non-class activities during class time.**

Assessment of Course Requirements:

Requirements of this course include readings from your textbook, professional journal articles, and websites, and activities, which include in-class individual and group work, as well as independent assignments outside of class. The goal of all work for this course is to increase your knowledge and skills about working with students with mild disabilities in the academic curriculum.

The signature assignment for this course is the Strategy Application Written assignment that will assist you in learning more about research-based instructional practices for working with students with mild disabilities, including academic, self-regulatory, and motivation strategies. Students are expected to complete all forms of class assessment and final grading will be based on the cumulative points that students earn based on their performance on all course assessments. Student performance on assignments is expected to be both timely and of high quality.

Online submission of student work is required. All written assignments should be submitted through the Blackboard Digital Assignments tab. Assignments should not be submitted by email unless there is an emergency technical issue with Blackboard. Each assignment should be submitted by the start of class on the due date (4:30 PM). Assignments that are not submitted at the appropriate time **are late**. Late assignments will be accepted with a point deduction in a few cases. All course assignments should be completed with graduate level use of content, grammar, spelling, and written expression clarity. If writing is an area of

difficulty, you will need to visit the GMU Writing Center to work on these skills (<http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>).

Submitted assignments should be labeled with filenames that correspond to: <your first initial your last name abbreviated form of the assignment's name>. I will return graded assignments to you via the course Blackboard email. It is suggested that you download and save all returned assignments, as well as corresponding evaluations and comments. Below is example labeling for submission of all written assignments:

SRayLrnVis - Learning Visual

SRayUnPlan - Unit Plan

SRayLessDemo - Lesson Plan Demonstration

SRayStratNote - Strategy Notebook

SRayStratAppWrit - Strategy Application Written Assignment

Course Requirements Evaluation	
Assignment	Points Earned/Total Points
1. Attendance & Participation (1 pt. per class meeting)	/10
2. Learning Visual (Science/Social Studies)	/10
*3. Strategy Application Written Assignment	/35
4. Strategy Notebook	/15
5. Unit Plan (English/Math)	/20
6. Lesson Plan Demonstration	/10
Total # of points earned	/100

*Course signature assignment.

Course evaluation and final grades will be calculated based on the below percentages calculated from each individual student's point score out of the possible 100 point total. Late assignments will be accepted in the following manner for all assignments, except for the Learning Visual Presentation and the Lesson Plan Demonstration (which must be done on time based on their demonstration format):

- **5% point deduction – up to 1 week late**
- **10% point deduction – 1-2 weeks late**
- **25% point deduction – 2 weeks until the last class meeting**

*No late assignments will be accepted for the Learning Visual Presentation or the Lesson Plan Demonstration.

Grading Scale:

A = 95-100%

A- = 90-94%

B+ = 87-89%
B = 80-86%
C+ = 77-79%
C = 70-76%
F = 69% and below

Course Assignment Details:

Attendance and Participation - Weekly (1 point per class for a total of 10 points)

Class attendance and participation are an important part of this class because of the specific and in depth information learned through the course. Attendance points are earned for each class to emphasize the importance of engaging in the learning activities and educational environment of the course. Students are expected to arrive on time, participate in all class discussions, presentations, and activities, and stay until the end of class. Attendance will be maintained through the artifacts students produce during class through group and individual work. For full attendance credit during each class, students must not only attend the full class session, but actively participate, work cooperatively, and turn in high quality class products. If you are unable to make any class sessions during the semester, please contact the instructor by phone or e-mail before the class session where you will be absent. In the rare event of an emergency or severe sickness, each student is given 1 "grace" absence without a point penalty, as long as the instructor is notified before the class session. In this case, it is still the student's responsibility to make arrangements to obtain notes, handouts, and lecture details from another student. **Attendance points missed for more than one absence or any absence without instructor contact before class cannot be made up!** Two or more unexcused absences will result in no credit for this course.

Learning Visual/VAKT Tool – October 4th or 11th (10 points)

Learning visuals and VAKT tools are essential in helping students with disabilities better access and understand curriculum points. Using a VAKT tool, semantic feature analysis, concept map, diagram, graphic or semantic organizer, visual representation, visual-spatial display, or other learning visual select a particular grade level and a corresponding **Science or Social Studies SOL** that relates to learning concepts and vocabulary.

With the learning visual example, identify and write out the SOL to which it relates (e.g., Science: Living Systems 5.5, The student will investigate and understand that organisms are made of cells and have distinguishing characteristics. Key concept: vertebrates and invertebrates). Be sure to give the visual a title/name. You will be asked to give a short 5-10 minute explanation of the essential aspects of your visual/tool, a demonstration of how your learning visual is applied with the specific science or social studies content selected, and a brief discussion of the specific learning needs targeted through the visual/tool's

usage. As part of your presentation, make sure you bring a hard copy handout explaining the essential aspects of development and implementation of your visual for everyone in the class. This handout is what should be turned in to the instructor via the digital Assignments Tab before the start of the class the day of your visual/tool demonstration.

RUBRIC for Learning Visual/VAKT Tool

Effective visual aspects of tool illustrated (2 points)

0 0.5 1 1.5 2

Clearly supports the concepts/vocabulary of science/social studies content (2 points)

0 0.5 1 1.5 2

Presentation (explanation, demonstration, discussion) (2 points)

0 0.5 1 1.5 2

Preparation Evident (handout, other materials, explanation) (2 points)

0 0.5 1 1.5 2

Creativity/Originality (2 points)

0 0.5 1 1.5 2

Unit Plan – October 25th (20 points)

In groups of 3 or 4 prepare a unit plan, which includes a series of 5 sequential lessons. You will use the Active Teaching Model discussed in class to structure each lesson. The unit plan should address specific well-defined skills from Virginia's SOLs (Grades 1-5) <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/go/Sols/home.shtml> in either **English or mathematics**.

The unit plan should be well-planned and include:

- A **unit overview** including the Content area, Grade level, SOL(s), **Measurable** Unit objectives, and reference to the lesson in which each is introduced.
- 5 lesson plans structured according to the Active Teaching Model
- Samples of at least one activity (worksheet, graphic organizer, etc.) for **each** lesson that show what has been adapted for a student with special needs (so include the worksheet that most students will do, along with the adapted one that only some students will do). The adaptation(s) must be listed and a rationale included. Tell briefly, what did you adapt/change and why? Have a student in mind and note the difficulty addressed.
- Evidence of at least one instructional strategy geared to assist a student to access, organize and/or recall the content material in each lesson. The strategy must be highlighted or noted in the plan and a sample of the content integrated into the strategy must be present, e.g. a first letter mnemonic devised to teach the steps in long division)
- Each day's lesson must have some form of assessment. Assessments may be informal (teacher observation) or formal. However 2 formal sample

- assessments for the unit are required. One should be a pre-test or mid-unit check, and the other an end of unit assessment. One may be a traditional test like those provided by publishers, (with some adaptations noted) or a project (include a rubric). You may be creative, but make sure you address your objectives.
- If you use commercially available lessons, parts of lessons, or assessments, YOU MUST CITE THE SOURCE!!!! If using “off the shelf” lessons, I would suggest making sure you make adaptations to best meet the needs of this project.
 - Identify and show evidence of the use of technology. This may be something you use to instruct, or software you used to construct student worksheets, templates or assessments. It also includes websites used as sources for information, or instructional materials.
 - Include a reference section for your unit.

RUBRIC for Unit Plan Assignment

Exemplary unit (19-20 points): Unit includes all components outlined in the syllabus evidencing a clear understanding of the Active Teaching Model; an appropriate and specific match between measurable objectives selected and unit content covered; logical and creative connections between the lessons included in the unit; descriptive integration of learning strategies within the unit’s application, comprehensive usage of appropriate assessment materials, and innovative technology employment. Good writing style, free of mechanical or stylistic errors, and appropriate use of APA format is also evident.

Adequate unit (16-18.9 points): Good overall unit, lacking in one or two of the criteria. Minor deficiencies in the application of the Active Teaching Model evident, or minor writing style errors present.

Marginal unit (14-15.9): Overall, acceptable but with one or more significant problems. Contains some creative and logical lesson planning ideas, but may have substantial problems with appropriate usage of the Active Teaching Model, strategies, or assessment.

Inadequate unit (1-13.9): Unit with substantial problems in important areas such as application of the Active Teaching Model, measurable objectives, strategies, or assessment.

Unacceptable/no unit: (0 points): Unit not relevant to the assignment or no unit turned in at all. Does not target appropriate learning objectives.

Lesson Plan Demonstration – October 25th (10 points)

With the lesson plan demonstration, each unit plan group will select one of their unit plan lessons to teach for the class. This demonstration should include all

lesson plan sections, learning strategies, and materials that would be used in the lesson. Since there will be multiple groups presenting, each group is asked to present their lesson demonstration in approximately 45 minutes (which may be slightly shorter than the intended classroom time for the lesson), where the lesson is taught but some elements may have to be abbreviated for the purposes of the demonstration.

RUBRIC for Lesson Plan Demonstration

Exemplary demonstration: (9-10 point range): Keeps within the time limits; demonstrates knowledge of the Active Teaching Model and understanding of the measurable objectives to the audience; reflects poise, clarity, knowledge and enthusiasm; effective use of prepared materials; keeps the audience engaged

Adequate demonstration: (8 point range): Good overall demonstration, but may be lacking in one or two of the criteria specified in an exemplary response. May seem a little less prepared or somewhat unclear in understanding the Active Teaching Model.

Marginal demonstration: (7 point range): Demonstration includes required elements, but evidences a limited understanding of the Active Teaching Model or measurable objectives. Style, handouts, or visual may be less than adequate.

Inadequate demonstration: (1-6.9 point range): Weak overall demonstration that reflects very little knowledge of the Active Teaching Model and/or learning objectives. Appears poorly prepared or has not followed directions. Materials and activities are lacking.

Unacceptable: (0 points): No demonstration or completely unsatisfactory demonstration with no relevance to assignment.

Strategy Notebook – November 13th (15 points)

One of the goals of the course is for students to learn and understand the components of instructional strategies that can be used across the content areas (reading, writing, math, science, and social studies). A second goal is for students to be able to take the learned strategies and apply them with their own students in their own setting. To this end, students will be required to construct a strategy notebook that includes the following elements:

1. One 3-ring binder (can be small or large)
2. Five dividers that separate the notebook into (reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies)
3. Information sheets for 15 instructional strategies, 3 per content area for:
 - a. Reading
 - b. Writing
 - c. Mathematics

- d. Science
- e. Social Studies

*The information sheet for each strategy should include (each information sheet should be an average of 1-2 pages):

- Full name of strategy
- Location of strategy in your textbook (chapter and page number(s))
- Reference for a supporting source outside of the textbook (why did the text decide to highlight this strategy – what research article is it based on – citations given in the text are a good place to start here)
- Summary of the strategy and its use
- (If applicable – some strategies are more holistic) Listing of the steps for the strategy's accurate implementation
- Personal Application (this is the most important piece) – How do you see yourself applying this strategy in your own classroom environment, with your particular student population, and your specific content and grade level goals
- (If needed for illustration purposes) Any forms or handouts that would be valuable to have accessible for the strategy's effective implementation

*Note: In your first entry, please clearly descriptively establish your classroom environment, students, and goals. In subsequent entries, the instructor will know these basic parameters, and application pieces can be focused specifically on the particular strategy at hand and its application within the already defined parameters. If you are not currently teaching, please see the instructor to establish a description of a target classroom, students, and goals for a teaching position you may hope to obtain in the future.

RUBRIC for Strategy Notebook

Exemplary notebook: (14-15 point range): Incorporates the number of required strategies with a division of 3 strategies per specified content area; information sheet for each strategy includes all required information written descriptively in APA style; application examples evidence student understanding and accurate and effective strategy application

Adequate notebook: (12-13.9 point range): Incorporates the number of required strategies with a division of 3 strategies per specified content area; but minimal missing content may be seen either in description of strategies or their application

Marginal notebook: (10-11.9 point range): Incorporates the number of required strategies with a division of 3 strategies per specified content area; but significant deficiencies may be seen in description of strategies and/or application

Inadequate notebook: (1-9.9 point range): May incorporate less than the required number of strategies and/or may not have the 3 strategies per specified content

area; significant deficiencies may also be seen in description of strategies and/or application

Unacceptable: (0 points): No notebook or completely unsatisfactory notebook with no preparation evident.

Strategy Application Written Assignment - November 15th (35 points) *Required Signature Assignment

The strategy application written assignment is a multi-part project. Student performance on this project will be greatly enhanced by carefully reading and following the detailed directions below.

Select an intervention research article from a professional journal (e.g. *Learning Disabilities Research and Practice, Behavioral Disorders, Education and Treatment of Mental Retardation, and Developmental Disabilities*) and have it approved on **Tuesday, September 20th**. The focus of the article must include support for an elementary level research-based strategy for teaching reading, language arts, math, science, social studies, and social skills for individuals with mild disabilities; **or** the focus must be on cognitive strategies in self-regulation and metacognition, study skills, attention, memory, or motivation for individuals with mild disabilities. If you have any difficulties, see the instructor for guidance in selecting an article. The important part is that your research article must be approved prior to beginning your assignment. You may want to email the instructor with the complete article citation and a brief description before class on the 20th.

Read the article thoroughly. As you read the article, think about the following: Try to describe carefully the intervention(s) that was implemented in the study. There may be several interventions being compared within a single study, so be sure to try to describe the differences among the instructional conditions. Try to describe the results of the study. Which instructional condition worked best? Also, try to remember the types of students that participated in the study. For example, were the participant's elementary aged students with emotional disturbances (ED), with learning disabilities (LD), with physical disabilities (PD), or with autism?

Implement this intervention in your own class or that of another teacher and describe the results. You will have approximately 6 weeks to complete this whole project, so make sure your intervention takes no more than 4 weeks to implement. Your paper should describe what was done in your classroom. Describe the *participants* (**DO NOT use any student names, however, provide a brief description of the class, school, and students**), *method* (including *materials* and *procedures*), and *results* (e.g., results of pre-post testing and student opinion survey). You need not replicate exactly the conditions of the article, but you may include similar or modified materials from the article in order

to implement the project.

The actual written paper should be about 8-10 pages in length, not including any appendices.

Type the paper using the following format:

1. **Cite** the article. For the citation of the article use APA format. This web site is an APA reference **(3 points)**
<http://linguistics.byu.edu/faculty/henrichsenl/apa/apa01.html>
(Using your APA manual is also highly recommended.)

EXAMPLE CITATION:

Malone, L. D., & Mastropieri, M. A. (1992). Reading comprehension instruction: Summarization and self-monitoring training for students with learning disabilities. *Exceptional Children*, 58, 270-279.

2. Provide a **WRITTEN SUMMARY** of the research article. Do not simply copy the abstract, but attempt to rewrite in your own words what was undertaken in the study. Below is a very brief sample – your summary will probably be one to two pages double-spaced. **(7 points)**

EXAMPLE WRITTEN SUMMARY:

Malone and Mastropieri (1992) compared the effects of three reading comprehension strategies on the performance of 45 middle school students with learning disabilities. The three reading comprehension strategies were: (a) a summarization strategy, (b) a summarization strategy plus self-monitoring, and (c) traditional instructional procedures. All students were pre and posttested on the types of strategies that they typically use for reading comprehension, and questioned about the strategies they were using during the second day of training. All students were also posttested using reading materials similar to those used during training, which were narrative passages, and on social studies passages, or expository prose passages. Results indicated that students who were trained to use the summarization strategies outperformed students who used the traditional instructional procedures on all measures. In addition, students who were trained in the self-monitoring plus summarization strategy outperformed those students in the summarization alone strategy on the transfer measure that used social studies passages.

3. The **Intervention/Strategy** should be described first in detail here with any and all **MATERIALS** described!! Then...lead into a detailed **description of the PROCEDURES/METHODS (instruction/intervention)** that occurred during YOUR application of the strategy. Please make note as to how you amend the procedures/materials/ or other from the article you selected. For example, perhaps there were multiple components of the original intervention/strategy, but you modified a component or selected only a few

steps of the strategy. **(10 points)**

EXAMPLE PROCEDURES/METHODS:

All Conditions

All conditions received two days of training and one day of testing and all students were seen individually for instruction.

Summarization Condition

Students in this condition were taught to ask themselves two questions after reading text: (1) Who or what is this paragraph about? and (2) What is happening to them? Students were also taught that a summary sentence "tells what the whole passage is about in a few words" (p.273). Students were taught to use their answers from the two questions to write their summary sentences on blank lines that had been inserted in between paragraphs. Instruction and practice was provided using this procedure for two days.

Summarization Plus Self-Monitoring Condition

Students in this condition were taught the exact same strategy as those in the summarization condition, but also taught to use a self-monitoring strategy as well. After students were taught the summarization strategy on day one, they were taught to use a self-monitoring card to help them to remember to implement the steps of the summarization strategy. For example, students were taught to place a check mark on a card that listed each strategy step as each step was completed. The card contained the questions:

"Who or what is the passage about?"

"What is happening to them?"

Students were required to check-off steps on the monitoring cards as they completed steps. Day two students received review on the procedures from day one and continued to practice using the strategies.

Traditional Instruction Condition

Students in this condition previewed stories and practiced vocabulary words identified by the publisher. Then they read the passages and answered questions about the passages throughout the two-day training sessions.

Note: this section will vary according to the design used in your particular study. Contact the instructor if you have any questions concerning how to adapt this format to the design employed in your study.

4. Describe all of the **RESULTS** and provide a discussion of your findings. The first few sentences can provide summary accounts of your findings. You should present your findings in comparison to the results found in the original article. Your results can be qualitative (written descriptions) and/or

quantitative (numerical measurements). Choose how you describe results based on how the results are described in the original article. In terms of quantitative results, students are only expected to collect raw numbers, calculate percentages, and complete other simple mathematical calculations for comparison purposes with the original article. Complex statistical calculations are not expected. **(8 points)**

EXAMPLE: ...the addition of a self-monitoring sheet for increasing attention appeared to dramatically improve the attention and academic performance of my students with MR and LD during math, but not during reading. I measured rate of attention by.....I measured academic performance with a pre-post test....

5. Then, **EVALUATE** and provide some insights as to why you might have obtained the findings. Describe how you could adapt the strategies to go up and/or down in grade/age and ability levels. For example, if the study was implemented with students with LD from an elementary level, could you adapt the strategy for students with ED and still maintain the effectiveness? How could you adapt the strategies to accommodate students from various cultural and linguistic backgrounds? Describe whether or not you like this strategy personally and provide a rationale for your professional opinion. Use your judgment based upon class discussions, readings, and experiences. **(7 points)**

Guiding Headers for the Strategy Application Written
Paper:

- A. Citation (although not traditional placement – you can place the citation of your target article at the top of the page following the cover page).
- B. Summary of Research Article
- C. Intervention/Strategy Description (Be explicit)
- D. Procedures/Methods
- E. Results
- F. Evaluation/Discussion
- G. Appendices (if needed)

RUBRIC for Strategy Application Written Assignment

Exemplary paper (33-35 points): Appropriate research article, appropriate topic, identifies focus of the research study, strategies, and findings. Describes how the strategy was implemented in your own or colleague's classroom (participants, setting, materials, procedures, and results); interventions are clearly described and thoroughly understood; appropriate discussion of findings, and discussion of implications of this intervention for students and how this intervention may be used for future students. Paper is reflective and

demonstrates a thorough understanding of the research supported intervention strategy. Good writing style, free of mechanical or stylistic errors, appropriate use of APA format.

Adequate paper (28-32.9 points): Good overall paper, lacking in one or two of the criteria. Not entirely reflective or thoughtful, or minor writing style errors may be present.

Marginal paper (24-27.9): Overall, acceptable but with one or more significant problems. Contains some useful information, but may have substantial problems with evaluation, writing style.

Inadequate paper (1-23.9): Paper with substantial problems in important areas such as writing, description of interventions, overall thoughtfulness.

Unacceptable/no paper: (0 points): Paper not relevant to the assignment or no paper turned in at all. May describe an article of no value or relevance, or that was not approved for this assignment.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE		
Date	Topics	Assignments Due
9/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus and Course Expectations • Chapter 1: Planning & Implementing Instruction 	
9/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 2: Approaches to Instruction & Student Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Direct instruction/systematic/explicit instruction* ○ Cognitive Strategy Instruction* • Chapter 4: Classroom and Behavior Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Self Regulatory Skills* • <i>Strategy Application Written Assignment Article Approval Process</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Access George Mason Email and Blackboard Account ➤ Read Text Chapter 1 ➤ Read and bring your article for your Strategy Application Written Assignment
9/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 5: Communication & Collaboration • Chapter 6: Oral Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Guided Feedback* ○ Peer Tutoring* ○ Vocabulary Instruction* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read about Social Skills Instruction via http://www.teachin.gld.org/ld_resources/alerts/default.htm#social ➤ Read Text Chapters 2 & 4
10/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 7: Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Phonological Awareness -Phonics -Word Recognition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mnemonics* ○ Guided Feedback* ○ Peer Assisted Learning Strategies (PALS) • Chapter 8: Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Fluency -Comprehension <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Graphic Organizers* ○ Questioning Strategy Instruction* ○ Reading Comprehension Instruction* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read the SOLs for the grade level and subject area you plan on addressing in your unit plan and lesson plan demonstration: http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Superintendent/Sols/home.shtml ➤ Read Text Chapters 5 & 6 ➤ Learning/Visual

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE		
Date	Topics	Assignments Due
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Content Enhancements* ○ Semantic Maps* 	Demonstrations
10/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 9: Language Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Computer Assisted Instruction* ○ Scaffolding & Modeling* ○ Semantic Maps* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read about the Five Big Ideas of Reading” via http://reading.uoragon.edu/big_ideas/index.php ➤ Read Text Chapters 7 & 8 ➤ Learning/Visual Demonstrations
10/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 10: Content Area Instruction and Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Content Enhancements* ○ Peer Tutoring* ○ Mneumonics* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read Text Chapter 9
10/25	Lesson Plan Demonstrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lesson Plan Demonstrations ➤ Unit Plan
11/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter 11: Mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Computer Assisted Instruction* ○ Schema-based Math Representations* ○ Self-talk for Math* ○ Direct Instruction for Math* ○ Concrete-Representational-Abstract (CRA)* ○ Anchored Instruction* ○ Math Manipulatives* ○ Touch Math* ○ Self-regulatory Skills for Math* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read about Mnemonic Instruction via: http://www.teachin.gld.org/ld_resources/alerts/default.htm#Mnemonic ➤ Read Text Chapter 10
11/8	Individual Meetings & Independent Project Work Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Set up an individual meeting time with instructor

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE		
Date	Topics	Assignments Due (as needed)
		➤ Strategy Notebook due electronically by 11:59PM on Sunday, November 13th
11/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 3: RTI<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Peer Mediated Instruction*	➤ Read Text Chapters 11 & 3 ➤ Strategy Application Written Assignment

NOTE:

- * This syllabus may change according to class needs.
- * **If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or if you have emergency medical information to share with instructor or need special arrangements, please call and/or make an appointment with instructor as soon as possible.**