# George Mason University College of Education and Human Development Advanced Studies in Teaching and Learning (ASTL) Program EDRD 630.001

#### Advanced Literacy Foundations and Instruction, Birth to Middle Childhood 3 Credits Fall 2013

Instructor: Thana L. Vance, Ph.D.

Time: 4:30 - 7:10

Dates: Wednesdays: August 28- December 11, 2013

Room: Fairfax Campus, Thompson Hall 1017

Office Hours: Before or after class and by appointment

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#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Advanced study of literacy theory, research, and practice as it relates to younger learners. Addresses sociocultural, cognitive, linguistic, psychological, and developmental influences on children's literacy. Includes reading, writing, and oral communication.

**Prerequisite(s):** Admission to the literacy emphasis, or permission of program coordinator.

#### PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS (Standards for Reading Professionals):

International Reading Association Standards 2010

<u>Standard 1: Foundational Knowledge</u>. Students understand the theoretical and evidence-based foundations of reading and writing processes and instruction.

**Element 1:1** – Understand major theories and empirical research that describe the cognitive, linguistic, motivational, and sociocultural foundations of reading and writing development, processes, and components, including word recognition, language comprehension, strategic knowledge, and reading-writing connections.

**Element 1:2** – Understand the historically shared knowledge of the profession and changes over time in the perceptions of reading and writing development, processes, and components.

**Element 1.3** – Understand the role of professional judgment and practical knowledge for improving all students' reading development and achievement.

<u>Standard 4: Diversity.</u> Students recognize, understand, and value the forms of diversity that exists in society and their importance in learning to reading and write.

**Element 4.1** – Assist teachers in understanding the relationship between first and second language acquisition and literacy development.

#### B. Relationship of Course to Program Goals and Professional Organizations:

This course addresses new and required state and national competencies for K-12 Reading Specialists. This course also provides an advanced, research-based study of literacy professional development for teachers seeking a Virginia Reading Specialist License.

#### C. Virginia Department of Education Standards:

Candidates demonstrate expertise in:

- Developing students' phonological awareness skills
- Promoting creative thinking and expression, as through storytelling, drama, choral/oral reading, etc.
- Explicit phonics instruction, including an understanding of sound-symbol relationships, syllables, phonemes, morphemes, decoding skills, and word attack skills.
- Morphology of English including inflections, prefixes, suffixes, roots, and word relationships.
- Structure of the English language, including an understanding of syntax, semantics, and vocabulary development.
- Systematic spelling instruction, including awareness and limitations of "invented spelling" and orthographic patterns.

#### **NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY:**

This class will be structured around discussion and small group activities; it is critical for you to keep up with the readings and to participate in class. Instructor and student generated questions related to course readings and assignments/projects will often be the focus of group discussions. Be prepared to discus the content of the text and its relation to your teaching experiences, course assignments, and projects, and to ask questions for clarification, exploration, or to promote discussion. The instructor will use a lecture method periodically for brief periods of time. Students will also be engaged in activities designed to encourage application of materials from the readings and discussions to the role of a reading specialist in Virginia.

#### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

- Morrow, L. M. (2009). *Literacy development in the early years: Helping children read and write*. Sixth Edition. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
- Scanlon, D.M., Anderson, K.L., & Sweeney, J.M. (2010). Early intervention for reading difficulties: The interactive strategies approach. New York, NY: Guilford.

#### **Optional Texts:**

American Psychological Association (2009). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association 6th ed.*). Washington, DC: Author.

#### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

**GMU** Policies and Resources for students

- a. Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/].
  - b. Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/]
- c. 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.
- d. 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/].
- e. 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/].
- f. Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- g. 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/].

Professional Dispositions Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. Core Values Commitment The College of Education & Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles. http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/

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

#### **Electronic Requirements:**

After introductory training, students will also be expected to access Blackboard prior to every class session to download readings and other pertinent course documents. Blackboard can be accessed by going to https://mymasonportal.gmu.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp

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#### **General Requirements:**

A. Class attendance is both important and required. If, due to an emergency, you will not be in class, you must contact the instructor via phone or email. Students with more than two absences may drop a letter grade or lose course credit.

B. It is expected that assignments will be turned in on time (the beginning of the class in which they are due). However, it is recognized that students occasionally have serious problems that prevent work completion. If such a dilemma arises, please speak to the instructor in a timely fashion.

C. Graduate students must become familiar with APA (American Psychological Association) writing/formatting style. All written assignments prepared outside of class will be evaluated for content and presentation as graduate-level writing. The American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition (APA) style will be followed for all written work. All written work unless otherwise noted must be completed on a word processor and should be proofread carefully. The organizations of your papers (e.g. headings, organization, references, citations, etc.) should follow APA style. APA has a helpful website – http://www.apastyle.org/pubmanual.html. Portions of the APA manual also appear at the Style Manuals link on the GMU library web guide at http://library.gmu.edu/resources/edu/.

D. The completion of all readings assigned for the course is assumed. Because the class will be structured around discussion and small group activities in person and online, it is critical for you to keep up with readings and to participate in class.

#### **Specific Course Requirements:**

- 1. <u>The completion of all readings</u> assigned for the course is assumed. In addition, reading in professional journals is required for the research report. Because the class will be structured around discussion and small group activities pertaining to literacy from birth to grade four, it is imperative that you keep up with the readings and participate in class.
- 2a. <u>Article Critiques</u>: Each student will choose two (2) articles from the assigned readings to be summarized and critiqued: the two articles should come from two different class topics noted on the schedule. The summaries will be due on the day the article is discussed in class (as listed on schedule). An example will be provided. Required components:
- Include the purpose of the article; main points of the article; critical comments/reflection (strengths, weaknesses) and your own reflection on the article (reflection is based on previous knowledge or experience).
- The summaries must demonstrate graduate level writing (at a minimum this means that words are properly spelled; punctuation is appropriate; sentences are complete; verb/subject, pronoun/antecedent agree; and writing is appropriately concise and clear).
- Length: one-two pages (avoid exceeding two pages)
- Your article summary needs to include the article reference in APA style.
- Each student will need to discuss and critique the summaries during the regular class discussion of that article (see Discussions below)

The two summaries are worth a total of 20 points. Each summary is worth 10 points.

- 2b. <u>Discussion of selected articles & overall class participation</u>: Students will lead an informal discussion & critique concerning their two selected article summary critiques. All discussions must include at least two questions for the class or a few discussion points that include strengths or weaknesses of the article. NOTE: You need to summarize the article, not re-state the article in full. You are expected to fully participate in all in-person and online activities. This class will involve Blackboard participation and may also involve other online tools for communication in both synchronous and asynchronous formats. The discussion leader activity plus your overall class participation is worth a total 15 points.
- 3. <u>Group Analysis</u> and class demonstration of specific <u>phonics instruction</u> synthesized from school setting & class readings. For this assignment a group of three/four students will analyze the type of phonic instruction (synthetic, analytic, embedded) in use in their classrooms/schools and demonstrate implementation. The group will compare their approach (ex: embedded) with another (ex: synthetic) and **present the comparison through a graphic organizer** including main

points of the phonic approaches. Demonstration can take any form the group selects. Evaluation of this activity will include ability to translate research on phonics to a demonstration.

The group graphic organizer is worth 10 points.

4. <u>Theory Application Maps</u>: Students will create a visual representation of literacy practices occurring in their classroom (may include photos, drawings, or other materials). An initial representation will be done in the first class. Students may then add other literacy practices, or strategies that are used in instructing students in literacy. The theory application assignment will consist of aligning literacy practices with literacy theories (behaviorism, psycholinguistics, cognitive psychology, sociolinguistics, motivation, engagement – discussed in class). Students will need to be specific about what aspects of the instructional approach reflect the theories learned. Note that instructional implications/examples may draw from more than one theory.

Students will briefly explain their theory/practice understanding.

This assignment is worth 10 points.

# 5. <u>Performance-Based Assessment Assignments: Emergent Literacy Scenario (IRA Standard 1 – Foundational Knowledge – 1.1, 1.2., 1.3</u>

A detailed description and rubric follows. This assignment is worth 35 points.

This performance-based assessment (PBA) MUST be uploaded and submitted to Taskstream for evaluation when the assignment is due. ONLY PBAs posted to Taskstream will be graded. This means NO final grades will be posted until all materials are on Taskstream.

#### 6. Annotated Bibliography:

Each student will research a literacy topic from class discussions (topics stated on the class schedule). Since this class focuses on literacy from birth to grade four the topic must address typical literacy learners in this age range. The research needs to draw from multiple sources (including library resources (see below the suggested list of literacy related journals) and assigned in-class readings) and address your understanding of the literacy needs of the diverse families and children who live in Northern Virginia. You will read 8-10 related, peer-reviewed research articles and provide annotated bibliographic information for each. You will also write a detailed synthesis statement that explains the overall message in the articles and how they relate and support each other. Details about the project will be provided and discussed in class, and a rubric is provided below. We will also discuss in class when you will be responsible for having drafts of your writing to share with classmates and provide and receive feedback.

Criteria for evaluation will include ability to analyze and synthesize reference materials and other sources as well as writing clarity and coherence (writing that demonstrates graduate level writing). Specific criteria for different sections and aspects of the paper will be discussed in class. Each student will also make a 5-minute informal class presentation on her/his topic to the class on the last class session.

The paper and presentation are worth 10 points.

\*The above performance-based assessments are designed to provide evidence that program candidates meet required program completion standards. Successful completion of these performance-based assessments and a grade of B or better in the course are required to move to the next course in the ASTL/Literacy course sequence. If you are concerned that you may be having difficulty meeting these standards, please speak to your course instructor and your advisor. All assignments will be discussed in class. Rubrics for major assignments will be posted on Blackboard and are included in the syllabus.

## **Suggested Literacy Related Journals for Annotated Bibliography**

#### You must use peer-reviewed (scholarly) work. Best to search the GMU databases

- Early Childhood Research Quarterly
- Journal of Early Childhood Literacy
- Journal of Literacy Research (formerly Journal of Reading Behavior)
- Language Arts
- Literacy Research & Instruction
- Reading Research Quarterly
- Reading and Writing Quarterly
- School Library Journal
- The Reading Teacher
- Yearbooks of the Literacy Research Association/National Reading Conference
- Yearbooks of the Association of Literacy Educators & Researchers/College Reading Association

#### **EVALUATION:**

Assignment	Points
Article Summaries (2)	20 (10 each)
Discussion of Selected Articles	15
and Overall Participation in	
Class	
Group Graphic Organizer on	10
Phonics	
Theory Application Map	10
*Performance Assessment	35
Assignment: Emergent literacy	
scenario/presentation	
Annotated Bibliography	10
Total	100

#### **Grading Scale**

A 93 - 100

A- 90 **-** 92

B+ 85-89

B 80-84

C 75-79

## **Tentative Class Schedule**

This schedule may be changed at the discretion of the professor or as needs of the students or the Literacy Program dictate.

Week – Class	Topics	Readings	Due
1. 8/28/13	Orientation and Introductions Historical Perspectives:	Alexander & Fox (2004) NAEYC/IRA (1998) Joint Position	choose 2 ADL opportunities
	Language & Literacy	Statement Allington & McGill-Franzen	
2. 9/4/13	Theoretical Perspectives of Development, Motivation, and	Mason & Sinha (1993) Anderson (1994)	DUE by beginning of class: Sign up online (Doodle)
	Engagement	Taboada, Guthrie, & McRae (2007)	for 2 articles to critique & lead class discussion
3. 9/11/13	Oral Language Development	Morrow: Ch 4	
	& Language-focused Interactive read-aloud techniques	Ch 12 Scanlon, Anderson, & Sweeney text	
	4	Ruddell & Ruddell (1994) *Hammet-Price, vanKleeck, &	
		Huberty (2006)	
4. 9/18/13	Relating classroom talk & instruction with theories	* Snow, Burns, & Griffin (1998)  * Johnston (2012)	DUE: Theory Map Assignment&
	matraction with theories	Ch 1 & 13 Scanlon et al.	Presentations
5. 9/25/13	Phonological and Phonemic	* Yopp & Yopp (2000)	
	Awareness	Ch 4, 5, 6, 7 Scanlon et al.	
6. 10/2/13	Concept of Word & early	* Flanigan (2006)	Due: Choice of topic for
	fluency, print awareness	* Flanigan (2007)  * Zucker, Ward, & Justice (2009)	annotated bibliography (tentative)
7. 10/9/13	Alphabetics, Phonics, & Word	Morrow Ch 5	(tentative)
	Study (Emergents & beginners)	Ch 8 Scanlon et al.	
	Discuss Group Phonics project	* Ehri (2005)	
		* Stahl, S., Duffy-Hester, A., & Stahl,	
		K. (1998). Everything you wanted to	
		know about phonics (but were	
		afraid to ask)  * Mesmer & Griffith (2005)	
		* Dahl, K., L., Scharer, P. L. Lawson,	
		L. L., & Grogan, P. R. (1999)	
		OPTIONAL	
8. 10/16/13	Phonics & Word Study	Ch 9, 10, 11 Scanlon et al.	Small Group Work – Plan
	(Transitionals & Intermediates)		Phonics Demonstrations
9. 10/23/13	Discuss Group Phonics project ONLINE CLASS:	Ch 2, 14, 15 Scanlon et al.	Complete online
). 10/25/15	Synchronous	*Invernizzi et al. (2010)	assignment& participate
	RtI: Early literacy assessment	,	in online class discussion
	and instructional		via Blackboard
10. 10/30/13	Group Phonics Demonstrations	* Kuhn (2004)	Collaborate.  Present Phonics project
10. 10/30/13	& GOs	* Hiebert (2005)	with group
	Fluency (beginners &	* Duke (2000)	Willingtowp
	transitionals)	, , ,	
11. 11/6/13	Writing Theory & Reading-	Morrow: Chapter 7 & 8	
12. 11/13/13	Writing Connections Comprehension and vocabulary	Ch 6 McCracken  * Block & Lacina (2009)	Bring questions and draft-
12. 11/13/13	(Part 1)	* Block & Lacina (2009) * Stahl, K. (2009)	in-progress for peer
	Emergent Literacy	Morrow Ch 6	review and discussion
	Scenarios/Conferences	* Beck & McKeown (2007)	
13. 11/20/13	Comprehension & Vocabulary	Reading TBA	

	(Part 2) ONLINE (Asynchronous)		
11/27/13	THANKSGIVING	THANKSGIVING	THANKSGIVING
14. 12/4/13	ONLINE (Asynchronous)	Morrow: Chapter 9	ELS DUE
	Comprehensive Literacy	*Avalos, Plasencia, Chavez &	UPLOAD AND SUBMIT
	Instruction	Rascon (2007).	TO TASKSTREAM TO
	& ELLs	*Laman, & Van Sluys, K (2008	ENSURE FINAL
			GRADE
15. 12/11/13	Emergent Literacy Scenarios		Annotated Bibliographies
	Review of Comprehensive Early		DUE
	Literacy		Email to Instructor

#### **Required Reading References**

- Alexander, P. A., & Fox, E. (2004). A historical perspective on reading research and practice. In R. B. Ruddell & N. J. Unrau (Eds.). Theoretical models and processes in reading (5th edition) (pp. 33-68). Newark, DE: International Reading Association.
- Allington, R. L., & Mc-Gill-Franzen, A. (2000). Looking back, looking forward: A conversation about reading in the 21st century. Reading Research Quarterly, 35, 136-153.
- Anderson, D. (1994). Role of the reader's schema in comprehension, learning, and memory. In R. B. Ruddell (Ed.)

  Theoretical models and processes in reading (4th edition) (pp. 469-482). Newark, DE: International Reading Association.
- Avalos, M. A., Plasencia, A., Chavez, C., & Rason, J. (2007). Modified guided reading: Gateway to English as a second language and literacy. The Reading Teacher, 61, 318-329.
- Block, C. C. & Lacina, J. (2009). Comprehension instruction in kindergarten through grade three. In S.E. Israel & G. G. Duffy (Eds.). Handbook of research on reading comprehension (pp 494-509). New York, NY: Routledge.
- Dahl, K. L., Scharer, P. L., Lawson, L. L., & Grogan, P. R. (1999). Phonics instruction and student achievement in whole language first-grade classrooms. Reading Research Quarterly, 34(3), 312-341.
- Flanigan, K. (2007). A concept of word in text. Journal of Literacy Research, 39, 37-70.
- Hiebert, E. H. (2005). The effects of text difficulty on second graders' fluency development. Reading Psychology, 26, 183-209. DOI: 10.1080/02702710590930528
- Kuhn, M. (2004). Helping students become accurate, expressive readers: Fluency instruction for small groups. The Reading Teacher, 58 (4), 338-344. DOI:10.1598/RT.58.4,3
- Laman, T. T., & Van Sluys, K. (2008). Being and becoming: Multilingual writers' practices. Language Arts, 85(4), 265-275.
- Mason, J. M., & Sinha, S. (1993). Emerging literacy in the early childhood years: Applying a Vygotskian model of learning and development. In B. Spodek (Eds.), Handbook of research on the education of young children (pp. 137-150). New York, NY: Macmillan.
- Mesmer, H.A., & Griffith, P.L. (2005). Everybody's selling it-But just what is explicit, systematic phonics instruction? The Reading Teacher, 59, 366-376.
- National Association for the Education of Young Children (1998). Learning to read and write: Developmentally appropriate practices for young children. A joint position statement of the International Reading Association (IRA) and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Young children, 30-46.
- Ruddell, R. B., & Ruddell, M. R. (1994). Language acquisition and literacy processes. In R. B. Ruddell, M. R. Ruddell, & H. Singer (Eds.). Theoretical models and processes in reading (4th edition) (pp. 83-103). Newark, DE: International Reading Association.

- Snow, C., Burns, S., & Griffin, P. (1998). Preventing reading difficulties before kindergarten. In C. Snow, S. Burns, & P. Griffin (Eds.), Preventing reading difficulties in young children (pp. 137-171). National Research Council.
- Stahl, K.A.D. (2009). Assessing the comprehension of young children. In S.E. Israel & G. G. Duffy (Eds.). Handbook of research on reading comprehension (pp 428-248). New York, NY: Routledge.
- Stahl, S. A., Duffy-Hester, A. M., & Stahl, K. A. D. (1998). Everything you wanted to know about phonics (but were afraid to ask). Reading Research Quarterly, 33(3), 338-356.
- Taboada, A., Guthrie, J.T., & McRae, A. (2007) Building engaging classrooms. In R. Fink & J. Samuels (Eds.), Inspiring Reading Success (pp. 141-166). International Reading Association.
- Yopp, H.K. & Yopp, R.H. (2000). Supporting phonemic awareness development in the classroom. The Reading Teacher, 54, 130-143.

## Scoring Rubric for Article Summaries- Use this to guide your writing

	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Below Expectations
APA Reference		Minimal Errors	Numerous Errors
1 point			
Purpose		Clearly stated and reflects	Purpose statement is
1 point		the authors stated purpose	unclear and does not reflect
			the authors stated purpose
Summary	Summarizes and synthesizes	Summarizes the article	Describes different points
3 points	the key points concisely and	accurately	covered in the article
•	accurately	-	
Critical Comments/	Addresses specific strengths	Addresses strengths and	Addresses only strengths.
Reflection	and weaknesses by	weaknesses and tells why	Reflection describes
4 points	providing a clear reason for	each point is a strength or	thoughts about the article.
•	why the points are strengths	weakness. Reflection	_
	or weaknesses.	describes thoughts about	
	Compares and contrasts the	the article	
	points to other readings		
	covered in the course.		
	Reflection summarizes		
	thoughts about the article		
	and includes a rationale for		
	the statements made		
	the article		
Clarity of Writing		Minimal grammatical or	Multiple errors
(Mechanics)		spelling errors	
1 point			

# EDRD 630 – Theory Application Map Rubric 10 points

	No Evidence	Developing	Proficient	Exemplary (Clear,
		(Limited evidence)	(Clear evidence)	convincing and
				substantial evidence)
Literacy	No evidence of literacy	Few literacy practices	Some literacy practices	A variety of literacy
Practices	practices in assignment (0	(1 – 2) are described and	(3-5) are described and	practices (6-8) are
	points)	aligned with theorists (1	aligned with theorists	described and aligned
		point)	(2 points)	with theorists
				(3 points)
Theory	Description and synthesis is unclear with practices (0 points)	Describes and synthesizes the key points of one theorist accurately and concisely. Link between practice and theorist unclear. (1 point)	Describes and synthesizes the key points of most of the theorists accurately and concisely. Evident link between practice and some of the theorists. (3 points)	Describes and synthesizes the key points of theorists accurately and concisely. Evident link between practice and theorist for all practices (5 points)
Presentation	Does not present key concepts and ideas (0 points)	Concepts or ideas are not focused or developed; the main purpose is not clear. Main points are difficult to identify (.5 point)	Concepts or ideas are focused but the main purpose is not clear. Main points are presented in a disjointed manner (1 point)	Thoughtful ideas are clearly organized, developed, and supported to achieve a purpose; the purpose is clear.  Main points are clear and organized effectively. (2 points)

EDRD 630: Scoring Rubric for Annotated Bibliographies – 10 points

	Exemplary	Proficient	Developing
Introduction and Thesis	States purpose/rationale	States purpose/rationale for	Limited purpose/rationale
Statement	for studying the topic	studying the topic	and definitions/key points
3 points Possible	States definitions related to	States definitions related to	of research stated
	the topic	the topic	1-0 points
	Summarizes key points by	Does not include any current	
	synthesizing and analyzing	research pertaining to topic	
	relevant research and	2 points	
	theory		
	3 points		
Research Annotations	Describes each research	Describes some to most	Limited analysis of research
5 points Possible	element, as noted in the	research elements, as noted in	according to the element
	analysis guide provided, (or	the analysis guide provided, for	reviewed on the guide.
	notes that it is missing in	all studies included.	Does not tie EVERY study to
	the research itself) for all	States how the study connects	the thesis w/ a statement
	studies included.	to the thesis statement for all	and/or MANY connections
	Succinctly states how the	studies included, but SOME	lack succinctness/clarity/
	study connects to the	lack	theoretical validity.
	thesis statement for all	succinctness/clarity/theoretical	Writer partially adheres to
	studies included. Each	validity.	proper Academic English
	statement is clear and	Writer generally adheres to	conventions & mechanics.
	theoretically sound.	proper Academic English	Three or more errors are
	Throughout, writer adheres	conventions & mechanics. Two	present.
	to proper Academic English	or fewer errors are present.	1 – 0 points
	conventions & mechanics.	4-2 points	
	5 points		
Peer-Reviewed Articles	All articles/sources are	Most articles/sources are peer-	Fewer than half the
& APA Citations	peer-reviewed and all	reviewed and most citations	articles/sources are peer-
2 points Possible	citations are aligned with	are aligned with APA	reviewed and/or fewer
	APA guidelines.	guidelines.	than half of the citations
	2 points	1 point	are aligned with APA
			guidelines.
			0 points

# College of Education and Human Development NCATE Assessment #2: Content Knowledge

#### **Early Literacy Project**

EDRD 630 Advanced Literacy Foundations and Instruction, Birth to Middle Childhood IRA Standards Addressed: 1 (Foundational Knowledge) and 4 (Diversity) IRA Elements for Reading Specialists/Literacy Coaches: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3. 4.1

Please note that in rubrics, numbers and letters (e.g. 2.1a) indicate alignment with the specific evidence suggested in the IRA Standards Chart for Reading Specialists/Literacy Coaches

Overview

The purpose of this two-part performance based assessment (PBA) is for the candidate to demonstrate and model his/her understanding of emergent literacy and how it impacts young students' reading and writing development (including the linguistic, motivational, cognitive, and sociocultural factors that influence early literacy) and to share with other educators ways to create an environment to support the emerging literacy development of their diverse classroom populations. Candidates will also critique relevant research and lead discussions with colleagues.

#### **Directions to Candidates**

Part I: Emergent Literacy Scenario (IRA Standard 1 – Foundational Knowledge (1.2., 1.3), Standard 4 - Diversity (4.1) addressed in this assignment (35 Points). For this PBA you will create a PowerPoint presentation that should be directed to the audience described in the scenario (below). The presentation first will be shared with your peers in class in order to receive their feedback on how it might be improved (accuracy as well as overall design). You then will be required to make the presentation available electronically, either on your school's website, Googlesites, or other venue so that educators at your school and/or elsewhere can view it as a professional development activity.

#### **Scenario**

As a literacy coach/reading specialist for a diverse elementary school (50% of the children are identified as English Language Learners) you have been designated to teach the Kindergarten teachers about emergent literacy. From observations, you have seen that some of the instructional practices the teachers are using are consistent with the theory of emergent literacy; however, the teachers have never heard this term and several of their practices are not representative of emergent literacy theory. You decide to create a presentation on the elements of emergent literacy, the relationship of this concept with other major literacy theories, the comparison with reading readiness, and suggestions for how the Kindergarten teachers can incorporate the principles of emergent literacy within their current program to scaffold emerging literacy behaviors in young children, including those who speak English as a first or second language. What would your presentation look like? What points do you need to stress about emergent literacy? What examples would you use to promote practices to improve literacy of second language learners? How would you communicate to the teachers the importance of fair-mindedness and empathy for all their students, particularly the second language learners?

#### A. Emergent Literacy Scenario PBA (35 points) will consist of:

1. The PowerPoint presentation demonstrates your understanding of the essential components of emergent literacy.

#### Included in the PowerPoint:

Information on the historically shared knowledge on emergent literacy principles and how the principles of emergent literacy contribute to a student's writing and reading process (social, cognitive and physical processes). Explanation of the relationship of emergent literacy with other literacy theories and comparison with reading readiness. Inclusion of practices that focus on strategies to help support classroom teacher's knowledge of implementation of emergent literacy in the classroom, i.e. phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, critical thinking, motivation and writing.

Standard Elements - 1.2

- Communicate to audience the importance of fair-mindedness and empathy for all students, particularly second language learners and the necessity to be responsive to all students' needs. Also give specific examples of ways children can be taught to understand one another and work together in an emergent literacy environment Standard Elements 1.3
  - Assist teachers in understanding the relationship between first-and second-language acquisition and its importance in a child's emerging literacy. Explanation and examples of how instruction may need to be

differentiated for second language learners' emergent literacy (use of first language funds of knowledge in classroom, labeling, etc.) or students with special needs. Standard Elements – 4.1

2. The PowerPoint presentation will be presented to the class and you will gain their feedback. Additionally, you will upload the PowerPoint presentation electronically to your school website, Googlesite, or other venue where other educators can use it as a professional development activity.

Part II: Article Summary/Critique and Discussion Facilitation (IRA Standard 1 – Foundational Knowledge (1.1) addressed in this assignment (total 30 points). This PBA assesses your ability to critically examine literacy studies and implications for the classroom. For this assessment you will write critiques of two articles related to Early Literacy and lead discussions with the class.

Each candidate will choose two (2) articles from the assigned readings to be summarized: the two articles should come from two different literacy topics denoted on the syllabus (e.g., language, emergent literacy, phonics, balanced literacy, etc.). Between the two articles, be sure that both reading and writing are discussed. The summaries will be due on the day the article is discussed in class (as listed on class schedule). This assignment will consist of two parts:

- 1. The first part is the critique and summary of the readings. Summary components:
  - Include the purpose of the article; major theory of literacy development, main points of the article; critical comments/reflection (strengths, weaknesses) and your own reflection on the article (reflection is based on previous knowledge or experience).
  - You must demonstrate graduate level writing (Words are properly spelled; punctuation is appropriate; sentences are complete; verb/subject, pronoun/antecedent agree; and writing is appropriately concise and clear).
  - Length: two three pages (avoid exceeding three pages)
  - Your article summary/critique needs to include the article reference in APA style.
  - Each student will need to discuss their summary/critiques during the regular class discussion of their articles (see Discussions below)
  - Each summary/critique is worth 10 points (total of 20 points) Standard Element 1.1
- 2. Discussion facilitation of selected articles: Candidates will lead an informal discussion concerning their selected article summary/critiques. All discussions must include at least two questions for the class or a few discussion points that include strengths or weaknesses of the article. NOTE: You need to summarize the article, not re-state the article in full. The discussion leader activity plus your overall class participation is worth a total of 10 points (5 points each discussion facilitation). Standard Element 1.1

These performance-based assessments (PBA) MUST be uploaded and submitted to Taskstream for evaluation when the assignment is due. ONLY PBAs posted to Taskstream will be graded. This means NO final grades will be posted until all materials are on Taskstream.

# PBA: Emergent Literacy Scenario and Article Critique/Discussion Rubric

IRA	Exemplary (3)	Proficient (2)	Developing (1)	Not Met (0)	Score
Standards/Elements	,	, ,		, ,	
1.1 Candidates	1.1c Demonstrates	Demonstrates a	Demonstrates a	Does not	
understand major	an exemplary	proficient critical	limited critical	demonstrate critical	
theories and	critical stance	stance toward the	stance toward the	stance toward the	
empirical research	toward the	scholarship of the	scholarship of the	scholarship of the	
that describe the	scholarship of the	profession,	profession OR no	profession through	
cognitive, linguistic,	profession,	including some	discussion	class readings.	
motivational, and	including in-depth	interpretation with	facilitation.		
sociocultural	interpretation, with	critiques of two			
foundations of	critiques of two	class readings and			
reading and writing	class readings and	adequate			
development,	outstanding	facilitation of			
processes, and	discussion	readings.			
components,	facilitation of				
including word	readings (thoughtful				
recognition,	questions,				
language	extension of				
comprehension,	concepts).				
strategic					
knowledge, and					
reading-writing					
connections.					
*Article Critiques					
and Discussion					
Facilitator					
20 points available;					
10 per article					
critique and					
discussion					
1.2 Candidates	1.2a and b	Summarizes	Briefly summarizes	Does not	
understand the	Summarizes (in	historically shared	to inform educators	summarize the	
historically shared	detail) historically	knowledge to	on some principles	historically shared	
knowledge of the	shared knowledge	inform educators	of emergent literacy	knowledge of	
profession and	to inform principles	about the five	on readers' literacy	emergent literacy	
changes over time	of emergent literacy	principles of	development.	on all readers'	
in the perceptions	and the importance	emergent literacy.	Partially delineates	literacy	
of reading and	in all readers'	Partially delineates	the evolution of	development.	
writing	literacy	the evolution of	emergent literacy in	Does not delineate	
development,	development	emergent literacy in	comparison with	the evolution of	
processes, and	[Literacy emerges	comparison with	some of the other	emergent literacy in	
components.	before formal	other theories.	theories	comparison with	
* C + :	reading instruction	Includes some	Includes few	other theorites.	
* Section one of	(on-going from	practices to support	practices to support	Does not include	
PowerPoint	birth); Literacy	students' emerging	students' emerging	practices to support	
	encompasses more	literacy.	literacy	students' emerging	
	than just decoding;			literacy.	
	language processes				
	of R,W,S,L are inter-				
	connected; Children				
	are actively involved				

in the construction
of their own
literacy; There is a
social context for
literacy learning;
meaningful,
language-rich, child-
centered literacy
experiences]. Also,
delineates the
evolution of
emergent literacy
theory by
comparing
emergent literacy
with other literacy
theories,
particularly reading
readiness.
Illustrates
important practices
to support student's
emerging literacy.

1.3 Candidates understand the role of professional judgment and practical knowledge for improving all students' reading development and achievement. * Section two of PowerPoint	1.3a Thoroughly communicates and models with presentation the importance of fairmindedness and empathy necessary for the literacy development of all readers. 1.3b Provides audience with examples as to how to create a responsive classroom for second language learners and all students who may have special needs.	Communicates and models presentation to selected audience the importance of fair-mindedness and empathy that is necessary for the literacy development of all readers.  Appropriate for audience as to the purpose of presentation in relation to children's literacy development.  Instructional practices relevant to classroom environment.	Limited communication in presentation on the importance of fairmindedness and empathy for all students.	Does not consider communicate or model the importance of fair-mindedness and empathy for all students.
4.1 Candidates recognize, understand, and value the forms of diversity that exist in society and their importance in learning to read and write.  *Section three of PowerPoint	4.1c Assists teachers in understanding the relationship between first and second language acquisition and literacy development.  Provides scholarly references related to the needs of educators to be responsive to diverse populations to assist a student's emergent literacy development.  Explains relationship between first and second language acquisition.	Assists teachers in understanding the relationship between first and second language acquisition and literacy development. Provides few practices that are responsive to diversity and assist in a student's emergent literacy development.	Provides few practices that are responsive to needs of second language learners. Does not discuss relationship between first and second language acquisition and literacy development.	Does not assist teachers in understanding the relationship between first and second language acquisition and literacy development. No practices included.