George Mason University College of Education and Human Development

School of Education: Elementary Education Program (ELED)

ELED 555 Section A05

Literacy Teaching and Learning in Diverse Classrooms, Part I, (3 credits)

Summer 2022 Session A Fairfax Campus Monday/Wednesday 10:30-12:30 and 1:30-3:35, Thompson Hall L019

Professor: Dr. Lois Groth **Office Hours:** By appointment **Office Location:** Thompson 1806 **Office Phone:** (703)-993-2139

Email: lgroth@gmu.edu

Prerequisites: Admission to Elementary Education graduate program; must be taken in programmatic sequence.

University Catalog Course Description: Provides research-based introduction to literacy teaching and learning for younger children. Emphasizes language development; reading and writing processes; emergent literacy; culture, families, and literacy; and literacy integration in the curriculum. This course requires 15 hours of field observation.

Course Overview: This course addresses priorities in the GSE master plan including literacy, technology, and diversity. It is designed as an integral component of the new Elementary Program for teachers of grades PK-6, and meets new state and national guidelines and standards including Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC); International Society for Technology in Education, (ISTE); and International Reading Association (IRA) Standards for Literacy Professionals and Paraprofessionals. This course builds closely upon themes taught in the foundations courses and integrates ideas from other elementary methods courses.

Course Delivery Method: This face-to-face course includes multiple instructional strategies. Individual session formats will vary and may include lecture, small group/ large group discussion, hands-on, interactive work, student presentations, and cooperative learning. This course also requires 15 hours of field experience.

LEARNER OUTCOMES:

This course is designed to enable students to:

- 1. Demonstrate an understanding of reading as a cognitive, sociocultural, psychological, and linguistic process.
- 2. Reflect on their own literacy learning histories and connect these to current theories of reading instruction.
- 3. Demonstrate an understanding of the structure of the English language and syntax.
- 4. Integrate children's literature across content areas (INTASC 1, 4, 5, 7)
- 5. Engage in book discussion to deepen knowledge about and appreciation of children's literature in conjunction with language arts content standards and the historical and cultural contexts within which the literature is situated (INTASC 4, 5, 8)

- 6. Be proficient in reading comprehension strategies for both fiction and nonfiction text, including questioning, predicting, inferencing, summarizing, clarifying, evaluating, and making connections.
- 7. Be proficient in explicit and systematic phonics instruction, including an understanding of sound and symbol relationships, syllables, phonemes, morphemes, word analysis, and decoding skills
- 8. Demonstrate the ability to assess individual and group reading needs in a classroom situation and organize classroom instruction to facilitate the literacy development of all learners.
- 9. Understand and be able to facilitate oral language development, including speaking, listening, and learning of "standard English" by speakers of other languages and dialects.
- 10. Observe, develop, and assess the reading development and needs of emergent literacy learners, including alphabetics, word recognition, concepts about print, concept of word, phonological awareness, phonemic awareness, and phonics.
- 11. Use formal and informal assessments as screening diagnostic, and progress monitoring measures for the components of reading: phonemic awareness, letter recognition, decoding, fluency, vocabulary, reading level, and comprehension
- 12. Use diagnostic data to inform instruction for acceleration, intervention, remediation, and differentiation
- 13. Understand the importance of promoting independent reading and reading reflectively by selecting quality literature, including fiction and non-fiction, at appropriate interest and reading levels.
- 14. Understand, possess, and integrate the knowledge, skills, dispositions, and processes needed to support learners' achievement in an interdisciplinary manner in Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning: Comprehensive Standards for Four-Year-Olds and the Virginia Standards of Learning in English, mathematics, history and social science, science, and computer technology.
- 15. Integrate English, mathematics, science, health, history and social sciences, art, music, drama, movement, and technology in learning experiences.
- 16. Plan reading instruction that demonstrates an understanding of connections between phonemic awareness, word recognition, fluency, accuracy, meaningful expression (prosody), comprehension strategies and proficient reading.
- 17. Plan reading instruction using strategies in literal, interpretive, critical, and evaluative comprehension.
- 18. Survey technological tools, print materials, and other resources for teaching reading and demonstrate understanding of appropriate classroom use.
- 19. Plan instruction that facilitates reading fluency, reading comprehension and vocabulary development across content areas.
- 20. Describe the literacy needs of diverse learners, including English Language Learners and students with specific reading disabilities, and they will adapt reading instruction to meet those needs.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS:

Learning Outcomes	InTASC Standards
1	4, 5
2	1, 2, 4, 5

3	4, 5
4	4, 5, 7
5	4, 5
6	1, 4, 5
7	4, 5, 7, 8
8	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
9	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8
10	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
11	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
12	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
13	4, 5, 7, 8
14	3, 4, 5, 7
15	3, 4, 5, 7, 8
16	4, 5, 7, 8
17	4, 5, 7
18	1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9
19	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8
20	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Upon completion of this course, students will have met the following professional standards:

Standards: INTASC (http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/pbl/pblintasc.html)

INTASC	Assignments
1. Learner Development	Classwork; Read Aloud Lesson; Assessment-Reading Conferences
2. Learning Differences	Classwork: Field, Read Aloud Lesson; Assessment-Reading Conferences
3. Learning Environments	Field
4. Content Knowledge	Classwork; Field; Children's Literature Selection; Read Aloud Lesson; Assessment-Reading Conferences; Book club
5. Application of Content	Classwork; Field; Read Aloud Lesson; Assessment-Reading Conferences; Children's Literature Selection; Book club
6. Assessment	Classwork; Field; Read Aloud Lesson; Assessment-Reading Conferences
7. Planning	Classwork; Field; Read Aloud Lesson; Assessment-Reading Conferences; Children's Literature Selection
8. Instructional Strategies	Classwork; Field; Children's Literature Selection; Assessment-Reading Conferences; Read Aloud Lesson
9. Professional Learning and Ethical Practice	Classwork; Field; Book club
10. Leadership and Collaboration	Classwork; Field; Assessment-Reading Conferences; Children's Literature Selection; Book club

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Johnston, P.H. (2012). *Opening minds: Using language to change lives*. Portland, ME: Stenhouse Publishers. **Available free online with Mason credentials: https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.mutex.gmu.edu/lib/gmu/reader.action?docID=1044764&ppg=1
- Parsons, S.A. & Vaughn, M. (Eds.) (2021). *Principles of effective literacy instruction, grades K-5*. NY: Guilford Press.
- Zarillo, J. (2007). *Are you prepared to teach reading? A practical tool for self-assessment.* Columbus, OH: Pearson.

Related Texts: (excellent resources)

- Allington, R.L. (2011) What really matters for struggling readers: Designing research-based programs (3rd ed.) New York, NY: Allyn & Bacon.
- Beck, I..L., McKeown, M.G., & Kucan, L. (2013) *Bringing words to life: Robust vocabulary instruction* (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Guilford.
- Clay, M. M. (1993). An observation survey of early literacy achievement. NH: Heinemann.
- Cunningham, P.M., & Allington, R.L. (2015) *Classrooms that work: They can all read and write* (6th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson.
- Duffy, G.G. (2014) *Explaining reading: A resource for teaching concepts, skills, and strategies* (3rd ed.). New York, NY: Guilford.
- Fields, M.V., Groth, L.A., & Spangler, K.L. (2007). Let's begin reading right (6th edition) New York:

^{**}Additional selected readings will be posted on Blackboard.

Pearson.

Harvey, S., & Goudvis, A. (2017) *Strategies that work: Teaching comprehension for understanding and engagement, and building knowledge* (3rd ed.). Portland, ME: Stenhouse.

Morrow, L.M., & Gambrell, L.B. (2014). *Best practices in literacy instruction* (5th ed.). New York, NY: Guilford.

COURSE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:

Every student registered for any Elementary Education course with a required performance-based assessment is required to submit this assessment to Blackboard (regardless of whether a course is an elective, a onetime course or part of an undergraduate minor.) Evaluation of the performance-based assessment by the course instructor will also be completed in Blackboard. Failure to submit the assessment to Blackboard will result in the course instructor reporting the course grade as Incomplete (IN). Unless the IN grade is changed upon completion of the required Blackboard submission, the IN will convert to an F nine weeks into the following semester. The Read-Aloud Lesson Plan and Reflection assignment described below serves as a performance-based assessment (PBA) for this course. While this is an important assignment for this course, this PBA is not used for accreditation purposes and does not need to be submitted to TK20/VIA.

All assignments are to be completed by the date listed in the syllabus. Written work will not be accepted after the due date unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

All written papers are expected to be double-spaced, with 1" margins, and in 12-point font (Times New Roman, Calibri, or Arial). APA format is expected. If you do not have a current edition APA manual, the OWL at Purdue is an excellent resource. http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

Please Note: The GMU Writing Center offers online support via email. They will provide feedback on your writing within one hour. Graduate and professional writing can be difficult; I encourage you to take advantage of this service: http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/?page_id=177

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment	Points
1. Classwork/Course Notebook [Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20]	39
2. Children's Literature Selection [Outcomes 1,3, 4,5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18]	16
3. Interactive/Strategic Read Aloud (PBA) [Outcomes 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 1516, 17]	20
4. Assessment-Guided, Small-Group Explicit Reading Lesson [Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20]	25
Total	100

1. Classwork/Course Notebook (39 points)

DUE: Prior to each class session (by 10:00 am)

It is expected that you attend all scheduled classes outlined within the syllabus. Absence from class to observe a religious holiday, to serve jury duty, or to participate in required military service, and medical emergencies are exceptions to the above policy. If you need to be absent for any of these reasons, please make arrangements at least 48 hours in advance. In addition, **you are expected to be on time to class** each session unless 48 hours advance notice has been provided to the instructor.

This course operates with the assumption that knowledge is socially constructed and the most meaningful learning opportunities are those where you have the opportunity to offer and explore diverse perspectives with peers; therefore, **you are expected to contribute to all class and online discussions and activities** as well as genuinely listen to peers as they do the same.

You are expected to be prepared for each class, which means having completed all assigned readings and tasks for that class prior to the start of class.

Your participation includes completion of all synchronous and asynchronous application activities. This includes but is not limited to

- Contributions to whole group and small group discussions
- All course notebook work

Cell phones are for emergency use only and it is expected that you will not use cell phones (or computers) in class for purposes beyond enhancing your own learning of course content.

Evaluation

You will complete in-class and between class activities in your online class notebook. Your notebook is located at the journal tab on Blackboard. **PLEASE NOTE: If you are absent from class, you can earn half the daily points by completing all the between session classwork in your course notebook (prior to the start of class).

	Unsatisfactory (0 pts)	Basic (1 pt)	Proficient (2 pts)	Distinguished (3 pts)
Classwork -to include work due prior to the class session and participation during the session.	The student is absent from class and/or is not prepared for class (between class work is incomplete). Some or all work is missing.	The student is late; leaves early and/or is not prepared for class (between class work is incomplete). The student does not actively participate in discussions. Work is completed at a basic level.	The student is on time and prepared for class discussions (between class work is complete). The student participates to an extent in group and class discussions. Work is completed at a level that displays proficiency.	The student is punctual and prepared for class (between class work is complete). The student actively participates and supports the members of the learning group and the members of the class. Work is completed in a

2. Children's Literature Selection (16 points)

DUE: Wednesday, June 8th

Books are central to literacy instruction. Therefore, it is important for teachers to have a vast knowledge of children's literature and how to select high quality, culturally responsive text. For this assignment, you will investigate children's literature resources online. You will use the resource of your choice to select a text to analyze using a Guide for Selecting Anti-Bias Books and a Selecting and Using Culturally Responsive Children's Books Guide that will be provided to you. You will reflect on the text, the tools and their impact on your future text selection. All information should be in your own words.

Evaluation

Children's literature selection will be evaluated for depth of reflection/analysis of the Anti-Bias Selection Guide and the Selecting and Using Culturally Responsive Children's Books Guide.

3. Interactive/Strategic Read Aloud Lesson (20 points) (PBA)

Lesson Plan DUE: Monday, June 6th Written Reflection DUE: Wednesday, June 15th

Reading aloud is a staple of every elementary classroom and should occur daily. Conducting a strategic read aloud is an effective way for showing students how readers think while they read. Therefore, strategic read-alouds are at the heart of comprehension instruction. You will conduct a strategic read aloud in an elementary class, explicitly explaining to students a comprehension strategy (e.g., questioning, predicting, inferencing, summarizing, clarifying, evaluating, or making connections) and then modeling the strategy to students by thinking aloud as you read the book. You will video record your read aloud to help you reflect on it afterwards. You will upload a written reflection to Blackboard. I will explain and model a strategic read aloud in class.

Evaluation

Lesson will be evaluated for understanding of read aloud, modeling and teaching of a strategy, and thoughtfulness of reflections as well as connections to course material. Lesson plan is 5 points and Reflection is 15 points.

4. Assessment-Guided, Small-Group, Reading Lesson (25 points)

DUE: Wednesday, June 22nd

Assessment-guided, small-group, explicit teaching is one of the best ways to support students' specific literacy needs. In this assignment, you will work with your mentor teacher to identify a small group of students (at any level) who have similar literacy learning needs (i.e., they are likely in the same reading group). You will gather assessment information about these students via a series of conferences. You will use this information to design a targeted, explicit lesson for this small group of students. You will reflect on the assessment/planning processes. I will describe this type of lesson in class.

Evaluation

Reading lessons will be evaluated based upon use of assessment data to drive instruction, appropriateness and thoroughness of written plan, and thoughtfulness of reflections as well as connections to course material.

GRADING POLICIES

Grading Policies

Grade	GRADING	Grade Points	Interpretation
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A	94-100	4.00	Represents mastery of the subject through effort beyond basic requirements
A-	90-93	3.67	
B+	85-89	3.33	Reflects an understanding of and the ability to apply theories and principles at a basic level
В	80-84	3.00	
C *	70-79	2.00	Denotes an unacceptable level of understanding and application of the basic elements of the course
F*	<69	0.00	

^{*}Remember: A course grade less than B requires that you retake the course. "C" is not satisfactory for a licensure course; "F" does not meet requirements of the Graduate School of Education

Professional Dispositions

See https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/

Course Schedule

Class Session	Readings, Activities, and Assignments WORK DUE BEFORE CLASS (by 10:00 am)		
Class 1 Monday, May 23rd (10:30-12:30)	Read & Reflect/React: Johnston ch 1 Kohn (2001) Five Reasons to Stop Saying, "Good Job"		
 Introductions: Course Overview Importance of early reading instruction Introduce Comprehensive Literacy Components Bookclub Johnston ch 1 K-W-L reading instruction 	View:		

Class 2 Wednesday, May 25th (10:30-12:30)

- NCLB 5 Pillars
- Syllabus
- Language Development
- Assessment and Instruction
 Alphabetic Principle, Concepts of Print, Shared Reading
- Discussion
- Book club Johnston ch 2

Class 3 (1:30-3:30)

Word recognition

Assessment and Instruction
Phonological Awareness,
Phonemic Awareness, Phonics,
Sight Words, Decoding, Word
Walls

Read aloud – Model

Read & Reflect/React: Johnston ch 2

Parsons & Vaughn ch 11

Zarillo chs 1 & 3

View:

- Syllabus Overview video
- Language Development video

Do:

- NB: Explain the difference between implicit and explicit instruction as it relates to Concepts About Print (CAP)
- NB: Reflect on the essential elements of productive discussions at the end of chapter 11

Read & Reflect/React: Parsons & Vaughn ch 4

Zarillo chs 2, 4, 5

View

- Word recognition video
- IRA video

Do:

• NB: Reflect on the potential issues that arise in classroom instruction when teachers are not clear on the differences between phonemic awareness and phonics

Class 4 Wednesday, June 1st (10:30-12:30)

- Book club Johnston ch 3
- Comprehension

Assessment and Instruction

Before-during after

Reciprocal Teaching

KWL, Text Structure, Vocabulary

- Interactive, Strategic Read Aloud model
- Critical Literacy

Class 5 (1:30-3:30)

Vocabulary

Tiers, Wide Reading, Word Consciousness

Word learning strategies:

Morphological awareness, Context clues, individual words, graphic organizers, structural analysis, word banks

• Read Aloud – planning

Read & Reflect/React: Johnston ch 3

Parsons & Vaughn, chs 17 & 18

Zarillo ch 8

View:

- Comprehension video
- Critical Literacy video

Do:

- NB: Reflect on the links between the two chapters. How do they connect to the Critical Literacy video?
- Text selection for your Read Aloud

Read & Reflect/React: Parsons & Vaughn ch 6

Giroir, Grimaldo, Vaughn, & Roberts (2015)

Zarillo ch 9

View:

Vocabulary video

Do:

- Explore the ReadingRockets.org website. Check out the link on Comprehension Strategies
- NB: Comprehension reading reflections

Class 6 Monday, June 6th (10:30-12:30)

- Book club Johnston chs 4 & 5
- Types of Text leveled, decodable, basal readers
 Using Children's Literature
 Evaluating Fiction,
 Evaluating Non fiction
- Explicit teaching Focus lessons

Class 7 (1:30-3:30) (Asynchronous)

 Teaching reading to ELs and diverse learners
 Differentiating instruction Read & Reflect/React: Johnston chs 4 & 5

Parsons & Vaughn ch 10

View:

- Stages of Reading Development video
- Explicit teaching video

Do:

 NB: record what you notice the teacher doing during the mini lesson and label her talk as Declarative, Procedural, or Conditional

Read & Reflect/React: IES Practice Guide (2007)

Parsons & Vaughn ch 20

Zarillo ch 15

View:

Teaching English Language Learners video

Do:

 NB: How can you support Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CDLD) learners? What are some strategies for teaching CDLD students?

DUE: Read aloud lesson plan

Class 8 Wednesday, June 8th (10:30-12:30)

- Book club Johnston 6
- Assessment
 Informal vs. formal
 Conferences

Class 9 (1:30-3:30)

- Differentiated instruction
- Small group reading instruction

Read & Reflect/React: Johnston ch 6

Fountas & Pinnell (2001)

Parsons & Vaughn ch 7

View:

- Assessment video
- Research-Decide Teach conference video
- Coaching conference video

Do: NB: Record thoughts and questions on conferences

Read & Reflect/React: Parsons & Vaughn ch 9

View:

- Guided Reading Group Level C at Smith Elementary
- Guided Reading in a 3rd Grade Classroom video

Do:

• NB: Chart what the teachers do Before, During, and After the reading

DUE: Anti-Bias/Culturally Relevant Text Analysis

Class 10 Monday, June 13th (10:30-12:30)

- Book club Johnston ch 7
- Small group reading instruction
- Content area literacy

Class 11 (1:30-3:30) (Asynchronous)

Fluency

Assessment and Instruction

- Wide Reading
- Choral Reading
- Repeated Readings
- Audio Books
- Readers' Theater

Differentiated reading

Shared reading

Read & Reflect/React: Johnston ch 7

Parsons & Vaughn ch 13

Zarillo ch 10

View:

- Guided Reading of an Article in Sixth Grade video
- Guided Reading Revisited video

Do:

• NB: Reflect on your readiness to teach small group reading

Read & Reflect/React: Parsons & Vaughn ch 5

Zarillo ch 6

View:

- Teaching Fluency video
- Assessing Fluency video

Do: Assess the prosody of the reader in the video

Class 12 Wednesday, June 15th (10:30-12:30)

- Bookclub Johnston ch 8
- Motivation and Engagement Interest, Success, Choice, collaboration, authenticity, autonomy

Class 13 (1:30-3:30)

- Organization and management of the reading classroom
- Reading Workshop
- Focus lessons

Read & Reflect/React: Johnston ch 8

Parsons & Vaughn ch 14

View:

Motivation video

Do:

NB: Reflect on how you can increase student engagement

DUE: Interactive/strategic read aloud reflection

Read & Reflect/React: Groth (2021)

Parsons & Vaughn ch 15 Zarillo chs 11 & 12

View:

- Mrs. Mann 3rd grade literacy video
- Choose two focus lessons to view

Do:

- NB: Compare the video focus lessons you viewed to the suggested Focus Lesson Format:
- 1. Introduce the concept with clear, concrete examples
- 2. Provide opportunity for student interaction
- 3. Immediately as readers to apply their learning to one or two new examples

Then reinforce and extend the learning in conferences, sharing sessions, small group instruction, subsequent focus lessons.

 Search for classroom photos/graphics that depict environments/organization you think would benefit literacy instruction in your future classroom.
 Save in a file on your computer for use in class

Class 14 Wednesday, June 22nd (10:30-12:30) (1:30-3:30)

- Bookclub Johnston ch 9
- Tying it all together
- What did you learn Course evaluations

Read & Reflect: Johnston ch 9

Gonser (2021) article

View: Science of Reading video

DUE Assessment-Guided, Small-Group Explicit Reading

Lesson

^{*}Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary with notification to students

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and 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/.

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/).

Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/).

Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason 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 with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see https://ds.gmu.edu/).

Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/.

For information on student support resources on campus, see https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus

Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:
As a faculty member, I am designated as a "Responsible Employee," and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason's Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason's confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services

(CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason's Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/.