

Literacy Program Leadership

EDUC 621—Spring 2004

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COE Mission

The mission of the College of Education Community is to collaboratively transform public education by preparing thoughtful educators and advancing professional practices. We are committed to diversity, educational equity, and social justice, exemplified through reflective teaching, life-long learning, innovative research, and ongoing service. Our practices demonstrate a commitment to student centered education, diversity, collaboration, professionalism, and shared governance.

(adopted by the COE Governance Community October, 1997)

Course Description:

Examination and practical experience of the leadership role and responsibilities of the literacy specialist in the public schools and the community

Standard Alignment:

The course objectives, assignments, and assessments have been aligned with the CTC standards for Reading Certificate. Please be sure to incorporate artifacts from this class into your final comprehensive portfolio. The following standards are addressed in this class:

Standard 4

Planning and Delivery of Reading Instruction Based on Assessment

The program provides opportunities for each candidate to participate in the ongoing assessment and evaluation of students' reading and writing, including speakers of English and English language learners. Each candidate masters the planning and delivery of appropriate reading and writing instruction, based on formal and informal assessment and evaluation results, to meet the reading and writing needs of all students. Instruction in the program includes extensive candidate experience in the assessment and evaluation of student reading and writing, and emphasizes the relationship between assessment and instruction.

Standard 5

Intervention Strategies at Early and Intermediate Reading Levels

The program provides each candidate with knowledge of and ability to apply instructional models and strategies that align with ongoing assessment results. The program focuses on research-based intervention models that are effective at early and intermediate reading levels.

Standard 9

Curriculum and Instructional Practices

Each candidate demonstrates effective instructional practices and intervention models and strategies in reading and language arts instruction for English speakers and English learners. Each candidate demonstrates a thorough understanding of the research basis and theoretical foundations for alternative instructional practices and intervention models and strategies, and of fundamental issues related to these professional practices.

Standard 10

Crosscultural Practices

Each candidate demonstrates the ability to respect, understand and teach students who are different from the candidate, including ethnic, cultural, gender, linguistic, and socio-economic differences.

Standard 11

Assessment, Evaluation, and Instruction

Each candidate demonstrates the ability to assess and evaluate students' needs, abilities and achievement by using a variety of measures: formal and informal; individual and group. Each candidate demonstrates the ability to apply what is learned through assessment and evaluation to the development and delivery of appropriate instruction in reading and language arts.

CSTP Alignment:

This course is designed to help teachers seeking the Reading Credential to develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to assist schools and district in implementing an effective literacy program. The successful candidate will be able to merge theory and practice in order to realize a comprehensive, balanced reading and language arts program in their classroom and/or district. The following CSTP's are addressed in the course:

Primary Emphasis

CSTP # 3

Assessing Student Learning

Secondary Emphasis:

CSTP #6

Developing as a professional educator

Course Objectives:

The Successful Candidate will be able to merge theory and practice in order to implement a comprehensive and balanced reading and language arts program in their classroom, district, and community. The successful candidate will demonstrate skilled knowledge in the following areas:

- How to examine critical issues that will affect their schools and districts.
- How to work collaboratively with a variety of community members who have different agendas for literacy of children
- How to work effectively with Board members
- How to plan and deliver quality professional development activities
- How to support fellow staff members during the decision making process
- How to guide a group toward shared decision making

Required Texts:

GORDON (2004)-- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT
 HUBBARD (2003)-- ART OF CLASSROOM INQUIRY REV

Optional Texts

BLANCHARD (2002)-- WHALE DONE (FREE PRESS)
 JOHNSON (2003)-- THE PRESENT
 JOHNSON (1998)-- WHO MOVED MY CHEESE (PUTNAM)
 LUNDIN (2000)-- FISH (HYPERION)

Assessment:

Final grades will be based upon the student's ability to demonstrate knowledge in the area of literacy development as it applies across the curriculum. Participation in all course activities is a CORE expectation. Grades will be based upon the following points:

Inquiry Research Project	20 pts
Evaluation of Published Materials	20 pts
Literature Circle Assignment	20 pts
Workshop Project/Curriculum Development	40 pts

Assignments:**Inquiry Research Project (20 pts)**

As a reading specialist, you will be asked to assist teachers in developing inquiry projects to see if the students are learning the required standards within your class and curriculum. Please design an inquiry research project to help a group of children who share a common difficulty in reading/language arts. For this project, please select a group of students who need help in a language arts area and design a research project for the group.

Please prepare a 6 to 10 page paper about an inquiry project you can try with a small group of students needing to improve their reading ability. The paper should include the following:

1. A question that you would like to answer regarding the students' language arts abilities
2. A system for collecting data to help you answer the question
3. An intervention that you will try that will address the issues or concerns raised by the data collected
4. A system for analyzing the data you collected
5. A reflection on the process that you followed—what did you discover? What would you do differently? How will you be able to use the knowledge you acquired? How can you actually implement your research design?

Due DATE: Week 5

Evaluation of "A Child Becomes a Reader" (20 Points)

This project is one in which you will most likely engage as a reading specialist. You will be asked to lead and facilitate the group who is evaluating the language arts materials in your district. California has a cycle of seven years between adopted materials. You will need to know how to evaluate language arts materials.

Schools also spend their budget on ancillary materials. Sometimes those are materials that support special intervention programs in a district such as Title I, English Language Learners or other areas designated by district curriculum directors or school boards.

- Visit the nifl.gov website and download the “Guide for Young Readers-B to Grade 3”
- Visit the CDE website and find the Criteria for Evaluating the Language Arts Adoption or create your own criteria.
- Using these criteria as a guide, evaluate these guides for usability, diversity, appeal to parents and teachers, curriculum, advice, and research stability.
- Rate the materials you are evaluating according to a rubric that you develop.
- Write a recommendation on whether or not you think these should be recommended to parents in your district and what you think would be the outcome.

Due DATE: Week 7

Literature Circle Assignment (20 pts)

Each one of you will be responsible for participating in a Literature Circle Discussion in a group using one of the Optional Texts. You should each take turns with each of the roles. The 7 roles include 1) Discussion Director, 2) Passage Master, 3) Word Wizard, 4) Connector, 5) Summarizer, 6) Illustrator, and 7) Investigator. In your groups, you will keep track of each section read and the roles each person played. The work completed by each individual for each section should be turned in. Your readings should be divided into at least 4 sections and each person should have an opportunity to perform each role at least once. I suggest the following format, however, if your group would like to try a different format, please check with me and you can implement it. Be prepared to do a 15 to 20 minute book chat on the book-due date to be negotiated.

Section	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4
Person 1	DD & PM	WW & C	S & I	I
Person 2	I	DD& PM	WW & C	S & I
Person 3	S& I	I	DD & PM	WW & C
Person 4	WW & C	S & I	I	DD & PM

Due DATE: Book Chat-Week 11

Due DATE: Written Component-Week 11

Workshop Project/ Curriculum Development (40 pts)

You will need to design and present a standards based literacy workshop for your colleagues. Please choose a literature book and write a comprehensive curriculum packet for the literature book—please follow a model, such as the Young Reader Medal Books comprehensive units. Please include in your units the standards you will be addressing, the grade levels it will be appropriate for, at least 8 different activities that integrate listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and an evaluation component to ensure that all students are achieving the standards being addressed.

In addition to your curriculum packet, please assume that you will be presenting this workshop at a conference and include the following:

- A) A catalog description for your workshop
- B) An opening for your workshop
- C) Closure for your workshop
- D) An evaluation form for the workshop

You may work on this project in teams for the presentation-the presentation should include the following and be no longer than 45 minutes long:

- A) Opening
- B) Closure
- C) Evaluation

Due DATE: Presentations (TBA)
Due DATE: Written Component- Week 14

COE Attendance Policy

Due to the dynamic and interactive nature of courses in the College of Education, all students are expected to attend all classes and participate actively. At a minimum, students must attend more than 80% of class time, or s/he **may not receive a passing grade** for the course at the discretion of the instructor. Individual instructors may adopt more stringent attendance requirements. Should the student have extenuating circumstances, s/he should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

A good student is one who adheres to standards of dependability and promptness. If you miss more than two class sessions or are late (or leave early) for more than three sessions, you cannot receive an A. If you miss more than three class sessions you cannot receive a B. Late assignments will be penalized by a 5% deduction in points for each weekday late. After two weeks, late assignments will be given a zero. If you have extraordinary circumstances in your life which will impact your assignments, please let me know. I want you to be able to stay in school and succeed. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to come in and speak with me about them.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings
Session 1 Jan 21	<i>Change the Conversation</i>	
Session 2 Jan 27	<i>Questions, Questions, Questions</i>	Hubbard—Chapters 1 & 2
Session 3 Feb 4	<i>Yin/Yang</i>	Hubbard—Chapters 3 & 4
Session 4 Feb 11	<i>A Simpler Way</i>	Hubbard—Chapters 5 & 6
Session 5 Feb 18	<i>Silver bullets</i>	Hubbard—Chapter 7 Inquiry Research Project Due
Session 6 Feb 25	<i>Quantum Leaps</i>	Gordon—Chapters 1,2,3
Session 7 Mar 3	<i>There are no either/or's</i>	Gordon—Chapters 4,5,6 Evaluation of Guide Due
Session 8 Mar 10	<i>Leadership Jazz</i>	Gordon—Chapters 7 & 8
Session 9 Mar 17	<i>Loss of Control</i>	Gordon—Chapter 9 & 10
Session 10 Mar 24	<i>Synchronicities</i>	Gordon—Chapter 11 & 12
Session 11 Apr 7	<i>When Sacramento Sneezes...</i>	Lit Circle Packet Due –Book Chats
Session 12 Apr 14	<i>Patterns</i>	Presentations
Session 13 Apr 21	<i>Education with Heart and Soul</i>	Presentations
Session 14 May 5	<i>Just Because</i>	Presentations Curriculum Packet Due
Session 15 May 12	<i>A Long and Winding Road</i>	Presentations Closure