

California State University San Marcos  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

EDSS 521 – Literacy in the Secondary School (3 credits)  
Fall 2012

Mondays, 1:00 – 3:45 PM, UNIV 273, #41908, Sec. 01  
Mondays, 4:00 – 8:45 PM, UNIV 273, #41909, Sec. 02

**Instructor:** Pat Stall, Ph.D.  
**Office:** UNV 412  
**Phone:** 760-750-4386  
**Office Hours:** Before and after class, during lunch, and by appointment  
**E-Mail:** pstall@csusm.edu

**School of Education Mission Statement**

The mission of the School 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 College of Education Governance Community October, 1997)*

**Table of Contents**

<b>1. Syllabus Introduction</b>	<b>Page 1</b>
<b>2. Single Subject Course Work Information and Requirements</b>	<b>Page 2</b>
<b>3. EDSS 521 Course Information and Requirements</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>4. EDSS 521 Course Assignment Descriptions</b>	<b>Page 6</b>
<b>5. EDSS 521 Course Calendar</b>	<b>Page 10</b>
<b>6. EDSS 521 Assignments and Rubrics</b>	<b>Page 11</b>

## **2. Single Subject Course Work Information and Requirements**

**Course Prerequisites:** Admission to the Single Subject Program, EDUC 350, EDUC 364, EDUC 422

### **Authorization to Teach English Learners**

This credential program has been specifically designed to prepare teachers for the diversity of languages often encountered in California public school classrooms. The authorization to teach English learners is met through the infusion of content and experiences within the credential program, as well as additional coursework. Teacher candidates successfully completing this program receive a credential with authorization to teach English learners. *(Approved by CCTC in SB 2042 Program Standards, August 02.)*

### **Teacher Candidate Learning Outcomes**

Teacher Candidates will be required to complete a California Teaching Performance Assessment (CalTPA), show proof of Teacher Performance Expectations (TPEs) and complete critical assessment tasks- specific assignments for this course. It is the teacher candidates responsibility to understand expectations and complete assignments by stated due dates.

### **California Teacher Performance Assessment (CalTPA)**

Beginning July 1, 2008 all California credential candidates must successfully complete a state-approved system of teacher performance assessment (TPA), to be embedded in the credential program of preparation. At CSUSM this assessment system is called the CalTPA or the TPA for short. To assist your successful completion of the TPA a series of informational seminars are offered online through Moodle Cougar Courses. TPA related questions and logistical concerns are to be addressed during the seminars. Your attention to TPA seminars will greatly contribute to your success on the assessment. Additionally, SOE classes use common pedagogical language, lesson plans (lesson designs), and unit plans (unit designs) in order to support and ensure your success on the TPA and more importantly in your credential program. The CalTPA Candidate Handbook, TPA seminars, and other TPA support materials can be found on the SOE website.

### **School of Education Attendance Policy**

Due to the dynamic and interactive nature of courses in the School of Education, all teacher candidates are expected to attend all classes and participate actively. At a minimum, teacher candidates 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 teacher candidate have extenuating circumstances, s/he should contact the instructor as soon as possible. *(Adopted by the College of Education Governance Community, December, 1997.)*

**Instructor application of Attendance Policy:** This course and teaching in general are participatory; therefore, your attendance and participation are important. Students are expected to attend all live sessions during the course and to fully participate in online sessions. Absences and late arrivals/early departures will affect the final grade much as it would affect evaluation in the work place.

### **Teacher Candidates with Disabilities Requiring Reasonable Accommodations**

Teacher candidates with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations must be approved for services by providing appropriate and recent documentation to the Office of Disable Student Services (DSS). This office is located in Craven Hall 4300, and can be contacted by phone at (760) 750-4905, or TTY (760) 750-4909. Teacher candidates authorized by DSS to receive reasonable accommodations should meet with their instructor during office hours or, in order to ensure confidentiality, in a more private setting.

### **All University Writing Requirement**

The writing requirements for this class will be met as described in the assignments. Every course at the university, including this one must have a writing requirement of at least 2500 words.

### **CSUSM Academic Honesty Policy**

Students will be expected to adhere to standards of academic honesty and integrity, as outlined in the Student Academic Honesty Policy. All written work and oral presentation assignments must be original work. All ideas/materials that are borrowed from other sources must have appropriate references to the original sources. Any quoted material should give credit to the source and be punctuated with quotation marks.

Teacher candidates are responsible for honest completion of their work including examinations. There will be no tolerance for infractions. If you believe there has been an infraction by someone in the class, please bring it to the instructor's attention. The instructor reserves the right to discipline any student for academic dishonesty in accordance with the general rules and regulations of the university. Disciplinary action may include the lowering of grades and/or the assignment of a failing grade for an exam, assignment, or the class as a whole. Incidents of Academic Dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students. Sanctions at the University level may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

### **Plagiarism**

As an educator, it is expected that each teacher candidate will do his/her own work, and contribute equally to group projects and processes. Plagiarism or cheating is unacceptable under any circumstances. If you are in doubt about whether your work is paraphrased or plagiarized see the Plagiarism Prevention for Students website <http://library.csusm.edu/plagiarism/index.html>. If there are questions about academic honesty, please consult the University catalog.

### **Electronic Communication Protocol**

Electronic correspondence is a part of your professional interactions. If you need to contact the instructor or other teacher candidates, e-mail is often the easiest way to do so. It is my intention to respond to all received e-mails in a timely manner. Please be reminded that electronic correspondences are a very specific form of communication, with their own form of nuances, meanings, and etiquette. Please be mindful of courtesies and limitations with regards to professional e-mail, on-line discussion messages you send to your colleagues, to faculty members in the School of Education, or to persons within the greater educational community. All electronic messages should be crafted with professionalism and care. A guiding principle when writing an email is to assume that everyone in your school district will be reading it, including your principal.

### **Things to consider:**

- Would I say in person what this e-mail specifically says?
- How could this e-mail be misconstrued?
- Does this e-mail represent my highest self?
- Am I sending this e-mail to avoid a face-to-face conversation?

In addition, if there is ever a concern with an email I send to you, let's talk in person so we can correct any confusion.

### **Authorization to Teach English Learners**

This credential program has been specifically designed to prepare teachers for the diversity of languages often encountered in public school classrooms. The authorization to teach English learners is met through the infusion of content and experiences within the credential program, as well as additional coursework. Teacher

Candidates successfully completing this program receive a credential with authorization to teach English learners. *(Approved by CCC in SB 2042 Program Standards, August 2002.)*

### **Teacher Candidate Learning Outcomes**

Teacher Candidates will be required to complete a Teaching Performance Assessment, show proof of Teacher Performance Expectations and complete critical assessment tasks and specific assignments for this course.

#### **California Teacher Performance Assessment (CalTPA)**

Beginning July 1, 2008 all California credential candidates must successfully complete a state-approved assessment system to be embedded in the credential program of preparation. At CSUSM, this assessment is CalTPA. To assist your successful completion of the TPA a series of informational seminars are offered online through Moodle Cougar Courses. TPA-related questions and logistical concerns are to be addressed through the TPA coordinator and the online resources. Additionally, SoE classes use common pedagogical language, lesson plans (designs), and unit plans in order to support and ensure your success on the TPA and your credential program in general. The CalTPA Candidate Handbook, seminars, and other support materials can be found on the SoE website.

### **Technology**

This course infuses technology competencies to prepare candidates to use technologies, emphasizing their use in both teaching practice and student learning. Candidates are expected to use technology for their own professional development and practice, as well as be able to strategically place it in the hands of students for their learning and understanding of concepts you teach.

## **3. EDSS 521 Course Information and Requirements**

### **Course Description**

This course explores the issues of literacy development—reading, writing, listening, and speaking—across core content areas of the school curriculum. This course addresses the needs of proficient readers and writers as well as those who struggle and students who are English Language Learners. It will help all teachers take responsibility for fostering attitudes and skills that encourage every student to utilize successful literacy for understanding and lifelong learning.

### **Course Pre-requisite:**

Admission to the Single Subject/CLAD Teacher Credential program.

### **Teacher Performance Expectation Competencies**

This course is designed to help teachers seeking the Single Subject Credential to develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to assist schools and district in implementing an effective program for all students. The successful candidate will be able to merge theory and practice in order to realize a comprehensive and extensive educational program for all students. The following TPE's are addressed in this course:

### **Primary Emphasis**

TPE 4 - Making Content Accessible

TPE 3 - Interpretation and Use of Assessments

### **Also Emphasized:**

TPE 6c - Developmentally Appropriate Practices in Grades 9 -12

TPE 2 - Monitoring Student Learning During Instruction

TPE 5 - Student Engagement

TPE 7 - Teaching English Language Learners

TPE 8 - Learning about Students  
TPE 9 - Instructional Planning  
TPE 11 - Social Environment  
TPE 12 - Professional, Legal, and Ethical Obligation  
TPE 14 – Educational Technology  
TPE 15 – Social Justice and Equity

Additionally, SOE classes use common pedagogical language, lesson plans (lesson designs), and unit plans (unit designs) in order to support and ensure your success on the TPA and more importantly in your credential program

**Core Principles and Essential Questions** we will pursue throughout the course:

1. Reading Processes: the literacy processes and factors that affect reading development and proficiency are complex.
  - How do elements of the reading process influence skilled or proficient reading?
  - What is the role of metacognition during the reading process?
  - What role does background knowledge play in reading?
  - How do teachers incorporate their knowledge of reading theories and processes into content lessons?
2. Comprehension and Content Learning: comprehension and content learning are increased through vocabulary development, and writing, listening, discussion, and reading texts.
  - How do teachers support adolescents' reading fluency, comprehension, and content learning?
  - How do teachers support comprehension of content text through vocabulary development?
  - How do teachers use writing in various genres to help adolescents understand nonfiction texts, including informational and expository texts?
  - How do teachers use discussion and instructional conversations to support reading comprehension?
3. Adolescent Literacy: Proficient adolescent readers engage in reading texts critically and deeply.
  - Given what we know about who adolescents are, how they learn, and what they read, how do teachers motivate them to engage meaningfully with text?
  - How do teachers draw on adolescents' multiple literacies to create a foundation for academic literacy?
  - How do teachers use critical literacy to deepen adolescents' comprehension of multiple texts?
  - How can teachers create classroom environments that facilitate the social interaction necessary for adolescents' literacy development?
4. Assessment: Informal and formal literacy assessments guide effective secondary content instruction.
  - How do content teachers use literacy assessments to determine their students' reading and writing abilities, backgrounds, and interests?
  - How do teachers use informal and formal assessment findings to guide the design and implementation of content lessons?
  - How do teachers select and evaluate the appropriateness of texts for their particular students?
  - When and how should teachers refer students to a reading specialist or for special education services?
5. Differentiation: Adolescents learn most effectively when instruction addresses their academic, linguistic, and cultural needs and interests.
  - What is differentiated instruction?
  - How do teachers effectively differentiate instruction?

- In what ways do teachers select and adapt texts and other content materials for students with diverse literacy needs?
  - What instructional approaches and strategies should be selected to make content accessible for all students?
6. Planning and Integration: Effective content lessons include the integration of literacy strategies for the purpose of content learning.
- How do teachers use literacy strategies to promote literacy development and content learning?
  - How do teachers select and coordinate literacy strategies to support students' access to text?
  - How do teachers select and coordinate literacy strategies to help students develop into proficient writers?
  - How do teachers use literacy strategies to foster metacognition and critical thinking in their students?

### Required Text

Fisher, D. & Frey, N. (2011). *Improving adolescent literacy: strategies at work*. Pearson, Merrill, Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, NJ.

### Assignments

**Reading Responses:** Assigned reading from the text and resources posted on Moodle are to be completed before class. Each class session, there will be a discussion or other activity, based on information from the reading, in which everyone is expected to knowledgeably participate. To support the reading and learning each week, we will try a different strategy designed to “hold your thinking.” **Label all reading responses as Reading Response #1, Reading Response #2, etc. as well as a citation of the specific resources. (Supports all principles)**

**Literacy Autobiography:** The literacy autobiography will be a chance for you to reflect upon and consider the implications of your own literacy history, both in and out of school. This constitutes a set of ideas about the nature of literacy and your ability to understand the teaching of it. **(Principles 1, 3)**

**Blog Posts:** You will be required to post five times to your blog. You will have a link to your blog on the program website for easy access. (1 point each)

**Vocabulary Lesson Design:** Write and implement an appropriate vocabulary lesson with a partner (same or different content area). This may be a full class session, or a brief mini lesson that you repeat regularly to build independence with the strategy for your students. **(Principles 2, 6)**

**Content Literacy Lesson Design (Critical Assessment Task):** Using an appropriate reading selection from your content area as the instructional focus, you will create a reading and writing lesson design. Use the single subject lesson design format. **You will submit a paper copy of your lesson design along with a self-assessment using the lesson design rubric included later in the syllabus.**

**Student Case Study (Critical Assessment Task):** A detailed description of the Case Study is included later in the syllabus. The case study involves your working closely with an adolescent who has special needs or is an English Language Learner to identify his/her learning issues and preferences especially with regards to strengths and weaknesses in literacy, to develop differentiation strategies, and to reflect on the implications for your teaching. **You will submit a paper copy of your case study parts along with a self-assessment using the rubric included later in the syllabus.**

**(All principles) (Assists with TPA, 2, 3, 4) This assignment cannot be resubmitted.**

## Summative Assessment Rubric

**A=Exceeds Expectations:** The teacher candidate consistently performs and participates in an exemplary manner. Each assignment receives in-depth exploration and reflection based upon research, observations and classroom implementation, when possible. All work is submitted in a professional manner using APA style when appropriate. Presentations are consistent with professional expectations, providing appropriate visual aids, appropriate handouts, and are well prepared. Professional and responsible behavior, including timely attendance and submission of assignments, are practiced in a consistent manner.

**B=Adequately Meets Expectations:** The teacher candidate meets outcomes expectations in a satisfactory manner. Each assignment is based upon research, observations and classroom implementation, when possible. Generally, work is submitted in a professional manner using APA style when appropriate. Generally, presentations are consistent with professional expectations, providing appropriate visual aids, appropriate handouts, and are well prepared. Most of the time, professional and responsible behavior, including timely attendance and submission of assignments, are practiced in a consistent manner.

**C=Minimal Performance:** The teacher candidate's skills are weak and do not meet expectations. Each assignment is based upon opinion rather than research, theory, and best practices. Reflection is shallow. Assignments are submitted without APA style, thorough proofreading and organization. The student needs a great deal of guidance. The student is consistently late with work and has classroom attendance problems.

**"D" or "F" candidates** fail to meet the minimum requirements of a "C." The specific grade will be determined based on rate of assignment completion, attendance, etc.

### NOTES

- Students must meet the attendance requirements to be eligible for the grade described. It is a "prerequisite" for earning a particular grade.
- Half credit for any late assignments turned in within one week of the original due date.
- No assignments will be accepted after one week.
- Students falling in between grade levels will earn a + or – depending on where they meet the criteria most fully.
- In order to receive a California State Teaching Credential, you must maintain a B average in your College of Education classes and receive no lower than a C+ in any one course. A grade lower than a C+ indicates serious concern about a student's readiness for a teaching credential—significant concerns exist about his/her quality of learning, quality of work, etc. If you are concerned about meeting this requirement at any time, you should talk with your instructor immediately.

**Tentative Calendar (Subject to Change. Bring your text to class each week.)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Purposes/Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Learning for the week</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
1 August 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin awareness of California Common Core Standards (CCCS)</li> <li>• Explore multiple literacies throughout the curriculum</li> <li>• Identify practices of proficient readers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Viewing and reading posted on Moodle</li> <li>• Bring text for the course</li> <li>• Download, print, or bookmark California's Common Core State Standards for your subject area</li> </ul>	Be ready for class, having viewed and read the assigned resources.
2 online September 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand current Literacy Practices (your own and digital age adolescents)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readings and instructions posted on Moodle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literacy Autobiography</li> <li>• Blog post #1</li> </ul>
3 September 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop adolescent Literacy</li> <li>• Motivate your students</li> <li>• Teach practices and habits of Proficient readers and writers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisher and Frey chapter 1 What do good readers do? What do good readers need to know?</li> <li>• Bring the primary text from your class that you are teaching</li> <li>• Bring a hard or electronic copy of your literacy autobiography</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Literacy Case Study</li> <li>• Select your students and get permission letters</li> <li>• Reading Response #1.</li> </ul>
4 September 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach Comprehension</li> <li>• Develop content vocabulary</li> <li>• Teach reading and writing Processes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisher and Frey Chapters 3 and 4</li> <li>• SIOP building background (555)</li> <li>• Observe and interview teachers at your site to get an idea of how they teach content vocabulary</li> <li>• Common Core Standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading Response #2:</li> </ul>
5 September 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach and reinforce vocabulary</li> <li>• Develop oral language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and teach a lesson for using content vocabulary</li> <li>• Common Core Standards</li> <li>• Conduct student interviews</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post draft vocabulary lesson design by Friday, August 28. Review 6 of your colleagues' posts.</li> </ul>
6 October 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess to inform your teaching</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisher and Frey chapter 9</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach Vocabulary lesson</li> <li>• Reading Response #3</li> </ul>
7 October 8 <i>TPA Task 1 Due Oct. 11</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach for brain development and memory</li> <li>• Mind physical and emotional development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisher and Frey Chapter 2</li> <li>• Bring data and a draft of your student case study</li> <li>• Common Core Standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocabulary lesson design and reflection</li> <li>• Reading Response #4</li> </ul>
8 October 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for and integrate literacy and meaning</li> <li>• Use questions to design lessons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisher and Frey chapter 5</li> <li>• Bring a much better draft of your case study</li> <li>• Common Core Standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blog Post #2</li> </ul>
9 October 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write to understand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisher and Frey chapter 8</li> <li>• Bring a draft of your literacy lesson design</li> <li>• Download and bring copy of full text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literacy Case Study</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of TPE 3</li> <li>Common Core Standards</li> </ul>	
10 October 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teach Discussion as a language and thinking strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Readings posted on Web CT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading Response #5</li> <li>Literacy lesson design and reflection</li> </ul>
11 November 5 <i>TPA Task 2</i> <i>Due Nov. 8</i>	<b>Julie Evans guest speaker, CEO Project Tomorrow</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invoke Digital Age Literacies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Download and bring a copy of full text of TPE 4</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blog Post #3</li> </ul>
12 November 12 online	<b>Digital Age Literacy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Differentiate for all learners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Tomorrow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assignments posted on Moodle</li> <li>Blog Post #4</li> </ul>
13 November 19 Thanksgiving No class	Eat something healthy	Eat something you have never had before	Eat something decadent
14 November 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teach for Understanding</li> <li>Write to learn</li> <li>Differentiate for access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus on Common Core</li> </ul>	
15 December 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What will your literacy-rich classroom look like?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Download and bring copy of full text of TPE 4</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blog Post #5</li> <li>Literacy Teaching Reflection</li> </ul>
16 December 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflect and construct professional development goals</li> </ul>		

### Student Case Study

#### General Information

*“Teachers are committed to students and their learning. Accomplished teachers act on the belief that all students can learn. They treat students equitably, recognizing the individual differences that distinguish their students one from the other and taking account of these differences in their practice. They adjust their practice as appropriate, based on observation and knowledge of their students’ interests, abilities, skills, knowledge, family circumstances and peer relationships” (from National Board Core Proposition I).*

This assignment is designed to help you think about individual student needs within the context of whole class instruction and assessment. As a teacher, you will use assessment on a regular basis to determine how and what your students understand so that you can, not only monitor their progress, but inform your teaching decisions. The purpose of this assignment is for you to get to know a special needs student better, assessing his/her literacy strengths and needs as well as his/her attitudes about reading and writing and academic success in general. Knowing that you cannot do this type of in depth assessment with 150 students in a secondary setting, it is important to recognize that you need to “know” your students. There are parts of this case study that you can do with all students, e.g. attitudinal inventories, reading and writing practices surveys, analyzing results from standardized tests (especially if your school provides summary sheets), informally assessing writing samples, etc. A more involved assessment, like this case study, would be conducted with a

few students who you know need additional help and you want to pin point their needs to more accurately modify your teaching practices.

### **Analyzing and Writing your Findings:**

This will be a written academic/narrative piece. It uses both data and your own personal observations to “tell the story of a student.” While the general directions and guide questions should be addressed in your writing, they are provided as a guide only. They should not be answered in bullet form or brief comments with incomplete sentences. Academic writing and professionalism in your comments should be maintained at all times. Use a pseudonym to keep your students anonymous. Black out all names that appear on the data, evidence, and student work you attach to the written analysis. Be professional in your comments and writing.

Directions:

**1. Selecting a special needs student and an English Learner student:** Select two students, one who has an IEP or 504 plan and an English Learner. If you are having difficulty identifying appropriate students, speak with the course instructor, cooperating teacher, and/or On-site Liaison. It is very important to have your students bring in a signed permission letter from home (see attached). You may want to talk to one of the teachers with whom you are working or your site supervisor, explain the assignment and ask for some suggestions of students who might benefit from a case study assessment. It often helps to enlist the support of your students by explaining this is a requirement for your literacy class and letting him/her know how much you appreciate his/her help, etc.

*Note: While you will be gathering data for both students, you will choose only one for the formal Case Study Paper. Data from both students will be used to complete CalTPA.*

**2. Prewrite/pre-reflect:** Pre-write for a paragraph or two about the assumptions, questions and expectations you have about your student and her/his school experience before you spend time with her/him.

**3. Individual Student Interview:** Explain to your students why you are doing this assignment and what you hope to learn from it. Ask permission to gather some information about their school history and current interests. Much of this information could also be gleaned from a whole class Interest Inventory. Ask your teacher if one was administered in the beginning of the year or if you could devise one to administer now.

Interview topics:

- ◆ Ask how many schools the student has attended.
- ◆ Find out if the student moved during the first three to four grades of elementary school
- ◆ Ask about the student’s early memories of learning to read and write (use your own literacy autobiography as a guide here)
- ◆ Ask how the student felt about school in grades 1-3, 4-6, junior high/middle school, high school. Look for any changes in attitude and ask for details. (If the student doesn’t really open up here, you may try telling him/her an experience you had in middle school where a kid picked on you or someone made fun of your hair, etc. and ask the student if anything like that ever happened and how that made the student feel.)
- ◆ Ask how the student feels about school now.
- ◆ Ask how the student to tell you about his/her experiences and background in your particular subject area. Encourage the student to be honest, assuring the student that you understand if the subject you teach isn’t necessarily their favorite.
- ◆ Ask the student what other language he/she uses. Ask if he/she can read and write in both languages; ask which language is used with friends and family. Some students will be able to describe in which language they “think”, and if they still move in and out of two languages when learning in different content areas—ask about this.

- ◆ Ask the student what his/her aspirations and goals are. Look for any connection with knowledge and skills in your content area that you can identify and explain to the student.
- ◆ Remember to ask about family influences on the student's literacy, e.g. Does the student read at home? Does his/her family have lots of reading material around the house? etc.
- ◆ Ask what extracurricular activities and interests the student has both in and outside of school. Is there a connection to your subject area that you can use to motivate the student.
- ◆ Ask what the student considers to be the best way for him/her to learn and what conditions keep him/her from learning.

Don't ask for information you are able to get from existing data (see list below). Use your own intuition and stop the questioning if your student seems to find all this too intrusive. Some students will be glad to talk about themselves and will offer even more information than you are asking, while others will be more reluctant to share information with someone they do not know well.

**4. Gather existing data:** You may or may not be able to access the following data. But it is valuable information and helps to add pieces to the puzzle. You may ask your on-site supervisor or the recommending teacher for access to this information.

- Ask if you can see the results of any pre-existing standardized test results.
- Ask if you can access the student's grades from past years.
- Ask if the teacher saved a writing sample from the beginning of the year and if there is a current writing sample. This writing sample may not be from the teacher with whom you are student teaching. It may be from the English teacher, if that teacher is different. Be sure to ask the circumstances surrounding the writing of the piece, e.g. was it a 10 min. journal entry, a prompt completed in one sitting, or a piece that went through the writing process with editing.
- Ask if the teacher distributed and collected any interest inventories or attitudinal surveys at the beginning of the year.
- Ask the teacher what he-she has noticed about the student, e.g. regular or irregular attendance, hands work in on time, seems to be socially acclimated, etc. anything that the teacher has noticed might be useful information.

**5. Shadow your students:** Spend 2-3 periods during the day with your student. It is beneficial to be a fly on the wall during breaks, lunch and/or an extracurricular activity that is related to school if the student is comfortable with that. Observe and include in your notes:

- Date of shadowing
- A description of each class; including size, length, number of students, expectations of student performance, and climate of the class.
- How the student responds in situations throughout the period
- Learning strategies your student demonstrates (especially reading and writing)
- Interaction your student has with teacher and peers
- Description of non-class time
- Reflection of the shadowing, your overall reaction to events you observed, where and why your students were most involved, any problem areas your students encountered.

**4. Write the narrative:** After collecting data, in your narrative include the following information. Suggested resources are included in parentheses:

- Gender and age of the student
- Explain why you selected this student.
- Explain the instructional challenge that he/she presents.

- Identify the student’s linguistic background. Explain how the information will influence your academic instructional planning, including assessment.
- Explain what you learned about the student’s academic language abilities in relations to his academic content area (CELDT scores, Content Area Reading Inventory (CARI), information from current teacher, past teacher, AVID teacher, ELD teacher, cumulative records). Explain how the information will influence your academic instructional planning, including assessment.
- Describe the student’s content knowledge and skills in this subject matter (electronic cumulative records, e.g. past grades in this content, current grades, standardized test scores in this content, CARI). Explain how the information will influence your academic instructional planning, including assessment.
- Describe any physical, social, and emotional development relevant to this academic content area (interview, interest inventory, information from other teachers). Explain how the information will influence your academic instructional planning, including assessment.
- Describe the student’s cultural background including family and home relevant to this academic content area (interview, cumulative records). Explain how the information will influence your academic instructional planning, including assessment.
- Describe any special considerations, including health issues relevant to this academic content area (cumulative records, information from cooperating teacher). Explain how the information will influence your academic instructional planning, including assessment.
- Identify any interests and aspirations relevant to this academic content area (interview). Explain how the information will influence your academic instructional planning, including assessment.
- Other relevant information especially related to any aspect of this academic content area and your particular class, e.g. attendance, extracurricular activities, etc. (interview). Explain how the information will influence your academic instructional planning, including assessment.
- Reflect upon your findings. Looking back on your original prewriting/pre-reflection, which assumptions held true and which did you have to struggle with in terms of disparities? What do your preliminary assumptions, etc. say about where you are as a teacher and what you need to focus on with future students? What implications does this experience have for you as a future teacher? What kind of “a-ha’s” did you experience while completing this case study?

## Student Case Study Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**You must include this rubric, feedback from a peer as well as your own self-assessment, with your final submission.**

Criteria	Does not meet/ Approaching (1 pt.)	Meets (2 pts.)	Exceeds (3 pts.)
Background information on student (gender, age, etc).	Background information about student is incomplete.	Background information about student includes the basic information.	Background information about student is described and not only includes the basic information but other aspects so that the reader begins to know the student.
Selection rationale	Rationale is brief and no evidence is provided to the reader to understand why this student was chosen.	Reasons for selecting this student are explained.	Information provided includes an explanation and candidate goes "above and beyond," the requisite information.
Physical, social, emotional aspects	Information about student's physical, social, and emotional development is stated. Little or no information is provided as a connection to the academic achievement of the student.	Student's physical, social, and emotional development is described accompanied by an explanation of its relevance to the student's ability in this academic content area and its influence on academic instructional planning, including assessment.	Information provided addresses all of the criteria in the "meets" component, and candidate goes "above and beyond," the requisite information to make connections relevant to the student's academic needs.
Instructional challenge	Instructional challenge that the student represents is stated.	Instructional challenge that the student represents is explained.	Instructional challenge that the student represents is explained and candidate goes "above and beyond," the requisite information to make connections relevant to the student's academic needs.
Linguistic background	Student's linguistic background is stated.	Student's linguistic background is identified and accompanied by an explanation of its influence on academic instructional planning.	Student's linguistic background identified and accompanied by an explanation of its influence on academic instructional planning, assessment and classroom management.
Academic language background	Student's academic language abilities are stated.	Student's academic language abilities are described and accompanied by an explanation of the influence on academic instructional planning.	Student's academic language abilities are described and accompanied by an explanation of the influence on academic instructional planning, including assessment and classroom management.
Content knowledge and subject matter skills	Student's content knowledge and skills in your subject matter are stated. Little or no explanation of the influence on academic instructional planning, including assessment.	Student's content knowledge and skills in your subject matter are described and accompanied by an explanation of the influence on academic instructional planning, including assessment.	Student's content knowledge and skills in your subject matter are fully described and accompanied by an explanation of the influence on academic planning, including assessment. Information is provided and connections are made that go "above and beyond" the required information.
Cultural Background	Limited and/ or incomplete information is provided on the student's cultural background. OR	Student's cultural background, including family and home, are stated, accompanied by an explanation of its relevance to	Student's cultural background, including family and home, are described accompanied by an explanation of its relevance to this academic content area

	background information is complete but there is little or no explanation as to how this information influences the student academically.	this academic content area and its influence on academic instructional planning, including assessment.	and its influence on academic instructional planning, including assessment.
Interests and aspirations	Little or no information is provided as to the student's interests and aspirations.	Student's interests and aspirations are stated accompanied by an explanation of how the information influences academic instructional planning, including assessment.	Information provided includes an explanation as to the student's interests and aspirations. Candidate goes "above and beyond," the requisite information to help create a complete profile regarding this student.
Self- evaluation and reflection	Little or no reflection is provided.	Reflection indicates knowledge of student and its influences on academic planning, instruction, and assessment.	Candidate reflects and makes connections beyond that which is requisite. The reflection adds to the richness of the assignment.
Observations & Opinions	Observations and opinions are generally stated in a perfunctory manner that does not add to the case study in a meaningful way.	The writing includes observations and opinions supported by data to "tell a story."	The writing includes observations and opinions supported by data to "tell a story." Additionally, the candidate goes "above and beyond" the requisite information to write a rich, flowing "story" about the student.
Grammar, spelling, mechanics	Frequent and major errors in spelling, mechanics, and/or grammar interfere with the readability of the paper.	Minor errors in grammar, spelling, and/or mechanics are acceptable. They do not interfere with the readability of the paper.	Grammar, spelling, and mechanics are exemplary. (You could be a professional editor!)
Holistic Score:	Overall, this paper does not meet the criteria	Overall, this paper meets all of the criteria	Overall, this paper meets criteria in an exemplary manner

Category	Peer	Self	Instructor
Background information			
Selection rationale			
Physical, social, emotional aspects			
Instructional challenge			
Linguistic background			
Academic language background			
Content knowledge and subject matter skills			
Cultural background			
Interests and aspirations			
Self-evaluation and reflection			
Observations and opinions			
Grammar, spelling, mechanics			
Holistic score			

Free point \_\_\_\_ (1 pt.)

Total points \_\_\_\_\_

Peer comments: (use another sheet or the back of this sheet)

Self Comments:

Instructor Comments:

Lesson Creator: \_\_\_\_\_ Peer Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDSS 521 Lesson Plan Rubric**

Check off each of the criteria that are present and acceptable. If any area needs revision, do not check it off.

Criteria	Peer	Self	Inst.
<p>1. Student Facts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facts about the whole class strengths and needs indicate knowledge of students and considerations for teaching.</li> <li>• Accommodations for ELL and Spc. Needs students are appropriate based on the requirements of the lesson and knowledge of students.</li> </ul>			
<p>2. Lesson Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content objective clearly defines what students will do to demonstrate their mastery of the content and literacy processes that are the goals of the lessons.</li> <li>• Language objective supports academic language development.</li> <li>• Practice in at least 2 of the language skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking) is provided.</li> </ul> <p>(TPE 5)</p>			
<p>3. Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formative and summative assessment ensures knowledge of students' understanding for both teacher and student.</li> <li>• Where appropriate and helpful, rubrics provide clear criteria for content and behavioral expectations.</li> </ul>			
<p>4. Lesson Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steps/components of the lesson plans are thoroughly described to show a coherent sequence and progression of the lesson for building content-related concepts and language skills. (TPE 9)</li> <li>• Questions and prompts are included when specified in the lesson plan</li> <li>• Differentiation for Special Needs and English Learners addresses content, process, and/or product</li> <li>• Management and procedures are outlined for such activities as bell work, forming groups, etc.</li> </ul>			
<p>5. Instructional Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities provide scaffolding and practice for mastery of key concepts and academic vocabulary. (TPE 6)</li> </ul>			

Peer Comments:

Instructor Comments:

## Assignment Sheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Subject area \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (10) Literacy Autobiography

\_\_\_\_\_ (10) Reading Responses #1 \_\_\_\_\_, # 2 \_\_\_\_\_, #3 \_\_\_\_\_, #4 \_\_\_\_\_, #5 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (10) Blog Posts #1 \_\_\_\_\_, #2 \_\_\_\_\_, #3 \_\_\_\_\_, #4 \_\_\_\_\_, #5 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (10) Vocabulary Lesson Design

\_\_\_\_\_ (20) Literacy Lesson Design

\_\_\_\_\_ (40) Student Case Study