

California State University San Marcos
EDUC 606
Comprehension and Fluency
Summer 2001

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Office Hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays
3:30-4:30
and by appointment

Course Description: EDUC 606 addresses the development of fluency in beginning readers. This course also addresses ways to further promote fluency for readers who have already developed fluency. The relationship between fluency and comprehension is also an integral part of this course.

Following is the alignment of this course with the California Standards of Program Quality and Effectiveness for the Reading Certificate and Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential:

Standard 2: Developing Fluent Reading

The program provides each candidate with current research-based skills and knowledge about instructional strategies for developing fluent reading in students at all grade levels, including speakers of English and English language learners. The program provides instruction in: linguistic elements (including phonemic awareness and the phonological and morphological structure of the English language); decoding/word attack strategies (such as systematic instruction in sound-symbol relationships); spelling instruction; the role of extensive practice with appropriate materials (such as decodable texts); and skills and strategies that contribute to independent reading.

Standard 6: Areas of Study Related to Reading and Language Arts: Certificate Level

In the program, each candidate acquires a professional perspective through examination of research and research-based practice pertaining to how students learn how to read; the structure of the English language, including phonology, morphology, and orthography; second language acquisition; relationships among language, spelling, reading and writing; and psychological and sociolinguistic aspects of reading and writing.

Standard 8: Application of Research-Based and Theoretical Foundations

Each candidate articulates and applies an understanding of the research basis and theoretical foundations for instruction in reading and language arts, and of relevant research and theories pertaining to language, assessment and evaluation.

Requirements:

1. Attendance and Participation

(10 points)

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.

You cannot receive an "A" if you miss more than two classes. You cannot receive a "B" if you miss more than three classes.

You will be asked to participate in a variety of group activities, many of which will have direct applicability to your teaching in the classroom. Please plan on being an on task group participant.

2. Reader Responses

(20 points)

Write a one page typed response for each chapter. Please do not summarize, but rather respond to the content of the reading in terms of how the issue(s) will affect your role as teacher, teacher-leader, parent, etc. Leave margins wide enough for reactions from a peer as well as from the instructor. These are due the same day as the readings.

3. Journal Article Critiques

(40 points)

Write a short summary and critique of four journal articles, two on fluency, two on comprehension. Cite the article in APA format, write a *short* summary, then critique the article. Write about two double spaced pages for each article.

4. Discussion Leader

(30 points)

Sign up to be a discussion leader of the readings for one night of class. The discussion should include the use of the reader responses and a demonstration and handouts of at least one teaching strategy from the chapter(s).

Grading Scale (based on the above points)

100-94 A
93-91 A-
90-88 B+
87-84 B
83-81 B-
80-71 C

Textbook:

Routman, R. *Invitations*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

**Tentative Schedule
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Date	Topic	Due
June 19	Course Overview	
June 21	Reading & Writing Theory	Routman, Chs. 1 & 2
June 26	Reader's Theatre	Routman, Ch. 3
June 28	Grouping	Routman, Chs. 4 & 5
July 3	Phonics	Routman, Ch. 7
July 5	No Class	
July 10	Assessing Writing	Routman, Ch. 8
July 12	Literature Circles	Routman, Ch. 9
July 17	Spelling	Routman, Ch. 10
July 19	Bookmaking	Routman, Ch. 11
July 24	Thematic Units	Routman, Ch. 12
July 26	Assessment	Routman, Ch. 13
July 31	Journal Critiques	Routman, Ch. 15 Journal Critiques