

**RDG 560**  
**Literacy Assessment**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2016**

**Instructor:** Dr. Cheryl Taliaferro, Adjunct Instructor  
**Office Location:** eCollege  
**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday Virtual Office eCollege  
**University Email Address:** Cheryl.Taliaferro@tamuc.edu

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:**

*Textbook(s) Required:*

Literacy Assessment & Intervention for Classroom Teachers

Author: DeVries, Beverly A.  
Print ISBN: 978-1-621590-200  
Ebook ISBN: 978-1-621590-217  
Edition: Fourth  
Pub Date: 2015  
Publisher: Holcomb Hathaway, Publishers

*Optional:*

American Psychological Association (2009). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6<sup>th</sup> Edition)*. ISBN: 13: 9781433805615

**Course Description:** This course is designed to refine the diagnostic and remedial skills of the student through the study of clinical instruments, formal and informal measurements, and study of clinical cases.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. This course will enhance educator understandings of multiple formal and informal literacy assessments used in educational settings.
2. This course will enhance educator understandings of informal assessment used in educational settings by investigating various components of literacy.
3. This course will enhance educator understandings of assessments used in educational settings by performing various informal literacy assessments.
4. This course will enhance educator understandings of assessments used in educational settings by comparing and contrasting various informal literacy assessments, determining which literacy assessments are most appropriate for various situations.
5. This course will enhance educator understandings of multiple types of literacy research.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments:**

This course occurs in a digital learning environment designed with a module format. You will be expected to read assigned material, participate in discussions and group tasks, reflect on

your knowledge growth and complete all assigned tasks/projects by the due date. Late work will not be accepted. Therefore, you need to demonstrate a level of time management that allows you to meet due dates as posted.

**Participate** in all online group/class discussions. There will be an opportunity to work as an individual, with a partner or in a group of 3-4 students. Working with a partner or in a group requires you to follow CCC: collaboration, cooperation, and completion. This means, as an adult learner, you will collaborate with another student or students in a cooperative manner to complete a quality product. I truly believe two minds are better than one so I encourage partnerships or groups. However, I WILL NOT mediate should an issue arise pertaining to CCC; you are expected to find a resolution. You will always have the choice to opt out of the partnership or group and work as an individual. Therefore, you are expected to show a level of professionalism and stay actively engaged with your partner or the group through communication and contributions to complete the project.

**Read** required textbook. The student will be expected to read the required text and any supplemental materials. This is an online course that presents written information as an alternate mode of lecture. Do not take this lightly; in an online course you are expected to read/reflect for meaning.

**Reflect:** Throughout the course, the student may be asked to consider ideas presented in articles and threaded discussions. Some of the reflections will be assigned and submitted to the instructor, others will be for personal reflection and kept by the student.

**Write:** Completion of all discussions/reflections and projects should exhibit professionalism in appearance and content at an acceptable level of scholarship. Projects are to be completed and turned in according to the due date posted in eCollege. Late work will not be accepted without an excused absence and/or extenuating circumstances as determined by the instructor with a late due date determined by the instructor. The campus library and/or computer labs are available for use in the event personal technology fails or supplies or assistance is needed.

## GRADING

### Assignments

**Practicum (240 points):** For this class, you will complete a minimum of 40 hours of practicum work with a student. You are responsible for locating the student. During the course of the semester, you will complete various literacy assessments with the student and provide literacy instruction based on the student's strengths and needs, as revealed by the assessments. You must maintain a log of your hours and the work completed during those hours. The log will be turned in on or before the designated due date.

**Literacy Assessments (400 points):** You will administer 8 literacy assessments to your student as part of the practicum. You will be assessing the student in the following areas: interest/attitude toward reading and writing, concepts of print/phonics, word level skills, running record and miscue analysis, reading comprehension, spelling, and writing. Specific details about the assessments you should use will be given in class. For each assessment, you will turn in the assessment you administered, complete with any student work that was done as part of the assessment, and your own recommendations about the students' strengths and needs, as well as plans for future instruction, that are based on the information you learned from the assessment. Each assessment is worth 50 points.

**Literacy Profile (300 points):** You will complete a literacy profile of the student with whom you worked in the practicum. The profile will also include a description of the student, an evaluation of the student's strengths and needs, your recommendations for further work the student should do, and a final reflection from you about the assessment process. More specific instructions will be given in class.

**Discussion posts and responses (120 points):** Together, class members will engage in a dialogue about the course readings and activities. For each module, you will be expected to write a post in response to the instructor's prompt and also to reply to someone else's post. Each initial post is worth 15 points, and each response is worth 5 points. Each post and response should be thoughtful and professional.

**Quizzes (250 points):** You will take a total of 5 quizzes over the assigned readings throughout the course of the semester. Each quiz will be worth 50 points.

Practicum Work and Log	240
8 Literacy Assessments	400
Literacy Profile	300
6 Discussion Posts and Responses	120
<u>5 Quizzes</u>	<u>250</u>
Total	1310

**Course Evaluation:**

- 1310-1173 points = A
- 1172-1042 points = B
- 1041 - 911 points = C
- 910 - 780 points = D
- <779points = F

**Technology Requirements**

This is an online course and some obvious technological resources will be required.

Access to a computer with

- Internet access (high-speed preferred)
- Microphone for VoiceThread and classlive sessions throughout the semester.
- Speakers so you can hear me and others during our classlive sessions (when scheduled) and other audio enhanced assignments throughout the semester.
- Word processing software (Microsoft Word preferred)

As a student enrolled at Texas A&M University-Commerce, you have access to an email account via myLeo - all my emails sent from eCollege (and all other university emails) will go to this account, so please be sure to check it regularly. Conversely, you can email me via my preferred email: larkin.page@tamuc.edu

You may also use eCollege email system or your myLeo email as our spam filters will catch yahoo, hotmail, etc. and I will not check for your email in spam.

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

**eCollege:** eCollege will be used for this course. You get to eCollege through your MyLeo account.

**eCollege Technical Concerns:** Please contact the eCollege HelpDesk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by sending an email directly to [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org). You may also reach the HelpDesk by calling (toll-free) 1-866-656-5511, or through the Online Chat by clicking on the "Live Support" tab within your eCollege course.

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

**Student Conduct:** All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*). **If you display disruptive behavior, you may be asked to leave class and/or drop the class.**

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

**Late work:** Late work is not accepted, except by prior arrangement with the instructor. You will have plenty of notification and time to complete all module assignments. If you know you are going to be out of town and unable to access a computer, plan ahead. See course semester outline at the bottom of this syllabus.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism WILL NOT be tolerated and will result in an automatic F in the course.

**Attendance:** This is an online class; therefore, attendance is up to you! You will be given the opportunity to participate with a partner or in a group to complete projects. The quality of your contributions and regular participation activities, including attendance via ClassLive sessions (when scheduled), will be considered attendance. It is strongly encouraged that you attempt to log into the course every day and/or check Announcements or your email messages in order to not get behind.

**Scholarly Expectations:** All works submitted for credit must be original works created by the scholar uniquely for the class. It is considered inappropriate and unethical to make duplicate submissions of a single work for credit in multiple classes, unless specifically requested by the instructor. You are expected to submit documents that have been through drafts and edited.

**Written Assignments:** All written assignments are expected to exhibit professional quality. You should demonstrate mastery of organizing, structuring, and editing in your writing. Letters/materials written by you as a professional and sent to parents/administrators **MUST BE PERFECT**. Therefore, if you need extra help, the writing center can assist you. You can get assistance on-line via the university website.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/writingCenter/onlineWritingLab.aspx>

Written Assignments should be:

- \*in APA 6<sup>th</sup> edition style
- \*double spaced
- \*1" top and left side margins, 1" bottom and right side margins
- \*12 point font size
- \*Times New Roman, Calibri, or Arial
- \*revised for clarity and meaning
- \*edited for accuracy in grammar and mechanics
- \*saved on computer disk or copied on paper for your records

**Academic Integrity/Honest Statement:** This course demands a high level of scholarly behavior and academic honesty on the part of students. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: (1) turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or instructor without obtaining permission from this instructor in advance; (2) turning in another person's work, in part or in whole, as your own; (3) copying from professional works without citing them; and (4) any form of cheating on exams. Violations of academic integrity/honesty while carrying out academic assignments may, at the discretion of the instructor, receive a zero on the particular work in question, receive an *F* in the course, or will be brought before a higher level of governance for possible dismissal from the university.

**Department Statement:** The Department of Curriculum and Instruction believes that students with dyslexia and other language disorders deserve the right to proper identification and educational intervention. These students should have access to evidenced-based instruction that meets their educational needs. To that end, the Department of Curriculum and Instruction prepares teachers to identify, assess, and provide multisensory instruction for students with these difficulties. Consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (1990) and Texas Law (38.003 *Screening and Treatment for Dyslexia and Related Disorders*, §74.28. *Students with Dyslexia and Related Disorders*) the Department of Curriculum and Instruction supports the learning and teaching of instruction that assists all students including those with dyslexia and other language disorders.

**ADA Statement:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**  
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**  
**Gee Library 132**  
**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**  
**Fax (903) 468-8148**  
[StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

**Financial Aid Support:** You will be dropped from class if you have not paid the balance due on their accounts. If you need assistance to pay your balance, please contact the Loan Office (903-886-5051). There are also **forgivable loans**. You may want to check in to this by contacting the Bursar's Office for more details.

**University Campus Concealed Carry Statement:** Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

**MyLeo: As a student, your email account is through MyLeo.** Please check the status of your accounts as this is the only way the university has of contacting you and informing you of important information. It is available to you 24/7.

**Interaction with Instructor Statement:** Participation & Communication: I expect each of you to be active and thoughtful participants within the digital learning environment (eCollege) and your digital learning community. You are to expect the same of me. This includes your successful completion of each module and I will provide a timely grade feedback. If you are having difficulty, do not wait until the day before the due date to contact me. All course/content questions should be posted on Virtual Office in order to avoid duplication of questions and answers. Emails of a personal nature should be sent to my preferred email address: Cheryl.Taliaferro@tamuc.edu .

**eCollege Student Technical Support:** Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

- Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...)

**Course Concerns:** If you have questions pertaining to the content of this course (e.g., questions about module assignments, course due dates, etc.), please contact me through the "Virtual Office" under Course Home in eCollege. If you have a personal issue contact me through my preferred email: Cheryl.Taliaferro@tamuc.edu

**Other Questions/Concerns:** Contact the appropriate TAMU-C department relating to your questions/concern. If you are unable to reach the appropriate department with questions regarding your course enrollment, billing, advising, or financial aid, please call 903-886-5511 between the hours of 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.