



**Texas A & M University – Commerce  
Department of Education Curriculum and Instruction**

**REG 597.01W: Literacy Instruction for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Online class, Fall 2016**

**Instructor: Dr. Susan Szabo, Full Professor**

**Office Hours:** This is a virtual class, so my office hours are Monday-Sunday through virtual office. Please use virtual office via eCollege. For personal problems please email me directly. (I am online daily. However, allow 24 hours for response time). In addition, when someone posts a question in virtual office, and you know the answer, please feel free to answer it. We are all teachers and we are all learners in this class. In addition, my office email is ([Susan.Szabo@tamuc.edu](mailto:Susan.Szabo@tamuc.edu)). If you want me to call you, email me your phone number and I will call in the evening.

**Need Help because this is your First Online Class?** During the first week of class, if you are new to online coursework and feel unsure of what to do, please email me IMMEDIATELY with your phone number and a time to call you. I will talk you through eCollege and where everything is located. There is also a nice tutorial on how to use eCollege that you can view.

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Textbooks:** There are no text books. All of our readings will come from various websites.

**Course Description**

Reading in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century will involve teaching the five components of reading (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary development and comprehension). We will look at reading the curriculum (including cueing system and various styles of reading depending on the reading approach used); various reading component assessments and supporting students' learning to write and writing to learn as well as learning to read and reading to learn through differentiated instructional practices.

**Teaching Standards:** The Teacher will understand and apply Language Arts knowledge and skills to plan, organize and implement instruction and assess learning.

- Understand the vertical alignment of the reading TEKS.
- Understand and uses Reading terminology correctly.
- Selects and applies effective, developmentally appropriate instructional practices, activities, technologies and materials
- Uses a variety of formal and informal assessments and knowledge of TEKS to determine students' progress and needs and to help plan addresses needs of all students

**Student Learning Goals and Objectives:** Learning outcomes are achieved via the activities, readings, instruction, thinking and reflection that have occurred in this course.

**Goal 1** – Students will gain knowledge of various reading and writing techniques and how one develops from emergent to accomplished reader and writer.

**Learning Outcome #1:** The learner will be able to explain how teachers and schools become highly effective in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Learning Outcomes #2:** The learner will be able to explain and summarize the difference between literacy and reading and what that means to reading curriculum of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Learning Outcome #3:** The learner will explore and summarize the reading curriculum and practices of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Learning Outcome #4:** The learner will explain and demonstrate an understanding of instructional decisions and assessment of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Learning Outcome #5:** The learner will identify a variety of practices and procedures to be responsive to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learner.

**Goal 2** – The student will be an active and engaged learner.

**Learning Outcome #6:** You are expected to be an active and engaged participant in all aspects of the course. You are expected to read, reflect and use the metacognitive process to enhance your learning of the reading and writing components. You are expected to exhibit professionalism in your writing and show an acceptable level of scholarship. You are expected to create original work for this course.

**Assessments/Grading:** Grades will be determined via a simple point system and grading rubric (for creative final). **You** are responsible for reviewing them prior to submitting an assignment - they tell you all you need to know in order to earn a passing grade in this course. Check out each WebQuest carefully. The gradebook in eCollege is used to keep track of your activities and points, thus it is your responsibility to keep track of how you are doing. To see the comments and the questions missed on the quiz, [CLICK on the grade and it will open a new screen.](#)

Grades will be determined as follows:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
Below 60	F

Grades will be in the eCollege grade book. If you are not aware of how that works, you can call the helpdesk. If you want to see the comments and the questions missed on the quiz, CLICK on the grade and it will open a new screen. Or at least it should.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in your web enhanced course.

*The following technology is required to be successful in this course.*

- *Internet connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)*
- *Word Processor (Microsoft Office Word – 2003 or 2007)*
- *Access to University Library site*
- *Access to an Email*
- *Access to eCollege.*

### **ACCESS, NAVIGATION and Log in Information**

This course will be utilizing eCollege to enhance the learning experience. eCollege is the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuccommerce.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuccommerce.edu).

REPORT any problems immediately to helpdesk. It must come from you and not me. In addition, if your computer does not allow you to access eCollege, contact the helpdesk to find out how to install the needed “cookies.”

## **COMMUNICATION AND 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. If you experience issues, while taking your exams or at any other point, feel free to contact the support desk.

- **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 am online daily. If you have questions either, email me or post them in the correct week under My Questions, as others may have the same question. Please allow a 24 hour response time.

When engaging in online discussions, please remember the Core Rules of Netiquette as follows:

Rule 1: Remember the Human

Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life

Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace

Rule 4: Respect other people's time and bandwidth

Rule 5: Make yourself look good online

Rule 6: Share expert knowledge

Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control

Rule 8: Respect other people's privacy

Rule 9: Don't abuse your power

Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people's mistakes

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Policies and Expectations

#### Participation:

I consider class participation to be one of the most important, yet is considered an underrated elements of a student's education. There are numerous elements that go into class participation:

- a. You need to have intelligent, contributions to class discussion.
- b. On-line discussion helps you to engage in self-evaluation, critical thinking, and reflective learning.
- c. You need to have polite and civil interactions with all members of the class ["All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)].
- d. Failure to prepare and participate effectively will negatively impact the learning processes devised for the class and will impact not only your understanding but your grade for this course. "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment" (Student Guide Book, pp. 67-73).

**Late work:** Everything should be turned in a timely manner. Develop a routine, so you do not fall behind. However, we all have problems, as life gets in the way, thus email me why you did not or cannot do the weekly assignments. Once you have uploaded the late assignment, you must email me to let me know.

**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, particularly at the graduate level, to make duplicate submissions of a single work for credit in multiple classes, unless specifically requested by the instructor. Work submitted at the graduate level is expected to demonstrate higher-order thinking skills and be of significantly higher quality than work produced at the undergraduate level. In addition, all assignments turned in should have gone through the editing process. In addition, all work should go through the writing/editing process.

**4. Plagiarism is a BIG DEAL. Plagiarism of writings and/or other materials in any form will result in a grade of “F” for the course and WILL result in your dismissal from the program. Please cite your references carefully and consistently!**

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism **WILL NOT** be tolerated and will result in an automatic **F** in the course. Various versions of your work and final papers will be run through Turnitin software - this is not meant to "catch" you in the act, but rather assist you in seeing possible areas that may be unintentionally plagiarized and allow for editing your work.

## **University Policies and Procedures**

**1. 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**

### **2. 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*).

**3. Hand Gun 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.

## University Services Offered to You Free

- A. Financial Aid Support:** You will be dropped on Monday, September 3rd 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, so check them out.**
- B. 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 on contacting you and informing you of important information. It is available to them 24/7 at <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>. Also, YOU must check this daily and delete or archive your emails so that none are lost in cyberspace. It will not be returned and you may miss important information. **It is your responsibility to empty your email daily, so that nothing will bounce back.**

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Module topics/dates are tentative and subject to change. Requirements for each module are found in eCollege Doc Sharing.

- Module 1: Highly Effective Teachers and Schools in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Module 2: Literacy vs. Reading: What Does that Mean?
- Module 3: Reading Curriculum and Practices in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Module 4: Instructional Decisions, Assessment and the Learners in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Module 5: Reflective On Learning and Course Evaluation