



EDCI 524.01W

Language Arts Curriculum

COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2024

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: David L. Brown, PhD
Office Location: Education South, 229
Office Hours: By Appointment
Office Phone: 903-886-5536
Office Fax: 903-886-5581
University Email Address: David.Brown@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: 24 - 48 Hours (Monday thru Friday)

COURSE INFORMATION

Class Meeting Information:

First Day of Fall 2024 Semester, August 26, 2024

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

Gunning, Thomas G. (2019). Creating Literacy Instruction for All Students (10th Edition), Pearson (ISBN: 978-0134986487)

Course Description

A consideration of techniques of teaching the communication skills and the role of linguistics in the language arts program.

This course will focus on teaching the Language Arts in the Elementary School. Students will examine strategies for vocabulary development, comprehension, reading/writing connections and literacy in content areas. Specific emphasis will be placed on empowering teachers as effective decision-makers in a linguistically and culturally diverse educational environment. Finally, this course will provide teachers with scientifically-based knowledge and practice related to the development of literacy.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the natures of supporting English Language Arts learning in a total literacy classroom.
2. Demonstrate a range of effective strategies, processes, and techniques for supporting children's communication development (thinking, reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and performing).
3. Enumerate specific abilities that must be developed in readers to comprehend printed text.
4. Evaluate a range of children's trade books and other media to enhance literacy experiences.
5. Contrast phonetic, semantic, and syntactic cueing systems, and how readers use them.
6. Design authentic learning environments, accounting for differences between isolated activities and the total learning experience.
7. Engage in evaluation and assessment, particularly the use of portfolios and observational accounts of children's reading events.
8. Evaluate yourself as a reader, writer, speaker, listener, speller, viewer, and producer of oral, print and non-print communication.
9. Appreciate the home/school connection and children's "funds of knowledge" about literacy.
10. Defend the concept of inquiry-based classrooms.
11. Identify, interpret, and understand how to utilize standardized tests, informal assessments, text analysis instruments, and evaluation processes when selecting texts, planning, and teaching content area subjects.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students will be required to use the current learning management system, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, YouTube videos and Web browsing skills while completing this course.

Instructional Methods

Methods of Instruction:

This course is made up of a series of assignments and assessments to assist you in achieving the course and module learning objectives. Each day you will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, research, and projects.

Preparation, Participation, Knowledge, and Professionalism: Check your Leo email (or other listed email) at least twice a week for updates, assignments, and notifications.

- a) Complete assignments prior to due date.
- b) Be prepared to discuss, question, analyze, critique, and debate readings, research, and other class assignments.
- c) Participate regularly and follow the conduct rules.
- d) Demonstrate the attainment of a depth of knowledge commensurate with doctoral studies and professional behavior in all you do.
- e) Lack of preparation, participation, and/or professionalism (please see the Code of Student Conduct in the Texas A&M University-Commerce Student Guidebook) may result in removal from class or lowering of your final grade. Plagiarism may result in dismissal from the doctoral program.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Each of you are expected to participate fully in assigned readings related to course topics. Regular thoughtful and consistent course involvement will be expected of all students.

GRADING

Course Evaluation	
2 Exams at 100 pts.	100
Strategic Notebook at 100 pts.	100
Learning Journals (6 at 50 pts. each)	300
PowerPoint Presentation at 100 pts.	100

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades:

A = 451- 500 Points

B = 401- 450 Points

C = 351- 400 Points

D = 301- 350 Points

F = 300 & > Points

Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

Example:

Assignments 20%

Discussions 20%

Midterm Exam 30%

Final Exam 30%

TOTAL 100%

Assessments

Information on how assignments are related to the course outcomes and how they are assessed can be found in the course assignment section.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

My aim is to be in quick communication with you. I do respond to text and email quickly. If you have not heard from me within two day time frame, please text or email again. I might have missed the communication, or it did not come through. If you need to call me to discuss an issue, please feel free to call the number of the syllabus.

Correspondingly, I will make every effort to grade papers in a timely fashion. You will notice that I have given you several weeks to complete the quizzes, discussions and assignments for a set of chapters. This will allow you to go into depth on a topic you may be interested in researching further and not feel challenged to get an assignment done by just “skimming the surface” within a week’s time. Therefore, please note it will take me time to grade the large amount of assignments that are submitted. My goal is to have your grades posted by the due date of the next set of assignments.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Assignment Due Dates/Late Work Policy:

Plan ahead and to complete assignments well in advance to avoid last-minute problems.

Computer difficulties will not be accepted as an excuse for late submission.

Students are encouraged to check with different browsers, security levels; and, if settings on home computers are not compatible, they are encouraged to use libraries or computer labs on campus or local/private cyber cafes. It is a good idea to allow plenty of time for eleventh-hour adversities.

10 points will be deducted each day that an assignment is submitted past the deadline. Please notify the instructor before the assignment deadline concerning emergency situations that may prevent you from submitting assignments by the assignment deadline.

Materials from the course will not always be found in your text. Typically, you will be expected to read 1 to 3 chapters per week. It is advised that you do not wait until the night before to start the reading material. It is recommended that you stay current with chapter readings and read the assigned chapter/s in a timely manner.

Please understand that you should not come to me at the end of the semester, unhappy with your grade, asking for a way to change it. Grades will not be changed.

Written Assignments (if applicable): All assignments must be typed in legible (preferably Times Roman) 12 point font. College level writing is expected. If you feel insecure about your writing abilities, you may want to seek assistance from the writing lab in the department of literature and languages. They will not assist with spelling. Please make sure someone proofs your paper. Excessive grammar, spelling and vocabulary errors will result in a lower grade. You should demonstrate mastery of organizing, structure and editing. **All assignments should be written using the APA Style Manual, Version 7.**

Citizenship: All Students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student 92s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

Student Conduct: You are expected to demonstrate a professional attitude at all times. This includes respecting the thoughts of your peers as well as your instructor.

Also included are the following: participating in small and large group discussions, being on time, staying the entire time, accepting constructive criticism, listening, turning in high quality work, and understanding that this is a growth experience. Students who come into class expecting an A need to rethink their reason for being here. If you want an A, then you will work to earn the A.

Discriminatory, rude, and inappropriate language will not be tolerated, and students will be asked to drop the class. If a student continues to act in the same manner during future classes, the instructor reserves the right to drop the student from the course.

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.

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly work free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution.

Texas A&M University-Commerce has explicit rules and regulations governing academic dishonesty and academic misconduct. As the University states, “All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” These policies are stated in detail in the Student’s Guide Handbook. Each student is expected to read this document and abide by the contained policies. These university policies will be followed in this class. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be the assignment grade of 0 or F on the assignment. The maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

Texas A&M University-Commerce further does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it. Visit the following websites:

<http://www.plagiarism.org/>

<http://writingcenter.unc.edu>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

AI Use in Course

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

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.

Withdrawal Policy:

Every student has the right to drop the course without penalty until the drop-date. Students dropping the course during this period will be given a DP (drop while passing). A grade of DP is GPA neutral, but a grade of DF counts as an F on your transcript.

If you choose to stop attending class, you may be dropped from the course due to excessive absences. If you are not satisfied with your grade in the course and wish to drop, it is YOUR responsibility to drop the course. Once a grade of DP or DF has been submitted, it cannot be changed.

A student may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled 'Drop a Class' from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the Web page.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx).
<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- 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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-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.

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 the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content