RDG 521.01W LITERACY AND INSTRUCTION II

COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Tami Morton, PhD
Office Location: Sowers Education South (EdS) 216
Office Hours: Available upon request
Office Phone: 903.886.5537 (C&I office)
University Email Address: Tami.Morton@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication**: email**
Communication Response Time: 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

The instructor will provide links to educational textbook chapters and readings.

Optional Texts and/or Materials:
American Psychological Association (2020). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th Edition): ISBN: 978-1-4338-3215-4 (Hardcover)
ISBN: 978-1-4338-3216-1 (Paperback)

Course Description

This online course explores research proven classroom strategies for student comprehension, development and expression through writing, with a focus on the reader, the writer, texts, and the transaction. In addition, this course examines assessment of reading comprehension and writing, with attention on profiling class needs and individual needs and abilities, the selection of appropriate books and materials for grouping, and the teacher as a reading professional. This literacy course a required course sequence for the 30-semester hour master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Student Learning Outcomes (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

1. Continue to understand and value literacy-based research.

2. Explore and understand research-proven reading comprehension strategies.

3. Investigate and grasp the concepts of writing with the focus on the reader, the writer, differing texts, and the transaction between writer and reader.

4. Survey research in writing to understand the dynamic in writing fully.

5. Administer, analyze and interpret a variety of informal reading and writing assessments to plan and implement targeted reading instruction.

6. Examine and practice the structure of the reading/writing workshop.

7. Demonstrate growth as a literacy professional.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students must be able to access and use the D2L learning management system. All class components are shared under course name.

Instructional Methods

This class is entirely online. The instructor will foster discussions about the content and incorporate experiential learning opportunities.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

1. **In this online class, it is important to stay organized.** Keep track of all assignments, deadlines, and readings using a planner or digital tool.
2. **Take note of all due dates for activities and projects.**
3. **Make sure you stay current with the module readings.** This will enhance comprehension and contribute meaningfully to discussions. Take notes and highlight key ideas for future reference.
4. **The professor wants you to be successful.** Actively seek feedback from instructors and peers to improve your understanding and performance.
5. **Take advantage of the practical applications in class.** Try to apply theoretical concepts learned in class to practical situations, either in other courses or real-world settings.

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GRADING

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

Assessments

Digital Poster	20%
Writing Portfolio	20%
Literacy Assessment Binder	20%
Final Essay	40%

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

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 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

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

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.

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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

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/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf

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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
East Texas A&M University
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/

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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

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Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University, 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/counseling-center**

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

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Module Dates	Topic	Assessments & Projects
M1: **1/13-2/2**	Introduction to Literacy and Learning Styles (3 weeks)	Reflective paper on Learning Styles
M2: **2/3-2/23**	The Five Pillars of Literacy Instruction (3 weeks)	Digital Poster
M3: **3/3-3/30**	Writing Instruction and Digital Literacy (3 weeks + Spring Break)	Writing Portfolio
M4: **3/31-4/20**	Literacy Assessments (3 weeks)	Literacy Assessment Binder
Final: 4/21-5/4	Final-Essay format (2 weeks)	Essay Test

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