



RDG 667.01W & Reading Processes: Theories & Implications

COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Tami Morton, PhD
Office Location: Sowers Education South 216
Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 2-5 pm
University Email Address: Tami.Morton@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: **email**
Communication Response Time: 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: All readings will be provided by the professor or found in resources available at Waters Library.

Optional Texts and/or Materials:

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association 2020: The official guide to APA style* (7th ed.). American Psychological Association: ISBN: 9781433832161

Course Description

The Reading Process: Theories and Implications. Three semester hours. An in-depth analysis of varied definitions and theories of reading including examination of implication for reading instruction.

Prerequisite: Doctoral level standing or consent of the instructor.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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

1. Introduce the concept of reading as a complex cognitive process.
2. Discuss the importance of understanding reading processes for effective instruction.
3. Explore cognitive processes of reading, including decoding and fluency.
4. Understand the neurobiological underpinnings of reading.
5. Examine how sociocultural contexts shape the reading process.
6. Analyze the impact on identity and power on reading experiences.
7. Investigate how digital environments change the reading process.
8. Develop and understanding of new literacies and their influence on reading.
9. Synthesize reading processes and theories to inform instruction.
10. Design instructional plans that reflect comprehensive understanding of the reading process.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students are required to log into D2L for all course materials and assignments. Additionally, it is important for students to regularly check their myleo mail for any updates or communications.

Instructional Methods

In this online course, students will engage with lectures, reading, and small group activities that will comprehensively cover topics related to reading processes, including various theories and their implications. Active participation is expected from all students to enrich their learning experience.

Student Responsibilities

Students are accountable for taking an active role in their own learning. This responsibility includes being mindful of and adhering to deadlines, regularly checking class emails, seeking clarification through questions, and actively participating in course activities.

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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

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Assessments

1. *Reading Through My Lens: A Reflective Assignment*, (100 points). A personal assignment that invites you to engage in a thoughtful reflection of your reading processes and experiences. Over the years, you have developed unique approaches to reading that have shaped your understanding and engagement with texts.
2. *Roundtable Discussion of Cognitive and Neurobiological perspectives* (50 pts.) All students will participate in a roundtable discussion featuring articles or research of interest that share information about cognitive and neurobiological perspectives and their influences on reading processes.
3. *Textual Exploration through a Sociocultural Lens* (50 pts.) Each student will provide a literature review that provides a textual exploration through a sociocultural lens.
4. *Evaluation of a Digital Literacy platform* (50 pts.) Each student will provide an evaluation of a digital literacy platform and share results in class discussion.
5. *Ubiquity Critical Praxis Article* (150 pts.) As a class, we will collaboratively write a Critical Praxis article for the Ubiquity journal. You can learn more about the journal at [Ubiquity Journal](#). Students will choose a specific aspect of this class that they wish to discuss, and together, we will structure this content into a cohesive article

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

During this summer session, we will conduct our online meetings synchronously on Tuesdays from 5 to 7 PM CST. Alongside reading, reflecting, and engaging in discussions, our weekly meetings will also provide opportunities for lectures and small group interactions. Please correspond through email (Tami.Morton@tamuc.edu) for any questions.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

1. **Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to log into the D2L class each day during this summer session and join online class sessions each week on Tuesdays (6/3, 6/10, 6/17, 6/24). Tuesday sessions will be recorded for those not able to attend.
2. **Grading Criteria:** This class will be graded using the Ungraded approach. Each assignment will be given an expected percentage toward the grade. Through reflection, students will give the grade that best represents their attention and effort. Dr. Morton will consider recommendations and maintain or change based on feedback from class.
3. **Assignment Submission Guidelines:** Each assignment has a designated due date. Late assignments (one day or more) will be considered acceptable, however with a lower grade.

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- 4. Communication Protocols:** Email is the best way to communicate with Dr. Morton. A response will be provided in 24 hours or less. Also, check your myleo mail on a regular basis. That is the email that I use to contact students.
- 5. Course Materials:** All course materials will be provided by the professor, whether it is a book that is reserved in the library, or pdfs that will be uploaded into the class.

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>

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>

ETAMU 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 East Texas A&M University 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](#)

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<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>

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.

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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 East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

ETAMU 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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week 1: June 2-8	Foundations of the Reading Processes	Readings: Rumelhart, D.E. "Toward A Theory of Reading"	<i>Reading Through My Lens: A Reflective Assignment</i>
Week 2: June 9-15	Cognitive and Neurobiological Perspectives on Reading	Readings: The "Reading Brain is Taught, Not Born: Evidence from the Evolving Neuroscience of Reading for Teachers and Society" "Inside the Bilingual Writer"	<i>Roundtable Discussion of Cognitive and Neurobiological perspectives</i>
Week 3: June 16-22	Sociocultural Influences on Reading Processes	Readings: Street, B. "Literacy and Power".	<i>Textual Exploration through a Sociocultural Lens</i>
Week 4: June 23-29	Digital Reading Processes and Literacy	Readings: Lankshear, C. & Knobel, M. "Digital Literacies"	<i>Evaluation of a Digital Literacy platform</i>
Week 5: June 30-July 3	Implications for Practice in Reading Instruction	Readings: Allen, J. "Classroom Strategies for Interactive Learning"	Complete <i>Ubiquity Critical Praxis</i> article by 7/3.

References:

<https://worldliteraturetoday.org/2018/may/inside-bilingual-writer-erik-gleibermann?src=longreads>

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