RDG 370-READING AND LITERACY II  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2013

Instructor: Dr. Tami Morton, Assistant Professor

Office Location: Education South 216, TAMU-Commerce Campus and Collin Higher Education Classroom

Office Hours: Monday 12:00-1:00 pm at Collin Higher Education Classroom and by appointment  
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbooks Required:


On-Line Resources:
TEKS for Language Arts and Reading available on-line at http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter110/index.html

English Language Arts and Reading Information from the Texas Education Agency available on-line at http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=4434&menu_id=720

English Language Proficiency Standards available on-line at http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter074/ch074a.html#74.4

Course Description:
This course builds upon the theoretical foundations of reading and literacy presented in the previous course, RDG 350. The developing teacher will explore how to integrate school reading and writing instruction. The focus of this course is an examination of how the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) can be implemented with basal readers, trade books, literature, cognition, reading comprehension, comprehension strategies, formal assessments, and informal assessment strategies.
Objectives:

Conceptual Objectives: (Supported through TEKS and TExES Standards)

This course will focus on the teacher knowledge and applications as supported by the following Standards:

- **Standard I. Oral Language**: Teachers of young students understand the importance of oral language, know the developmental processes of oral language, and provide a variety of instructional opportunities for young students to develop listening and speaking skills.
- **Standard II. Phonological and Phonemic Awareness**: Teachers of young students understand the components of phonological and phonemic awareness and utilize a variety of approaches to help young students develop this awareness and its relationship to written language.
- **Standard III. Alphabetic Principle**: Teachers of young students understand the importance of the alphabetic principle to reading English, know the elements of the alphabetic principle, and provide instruction that helps students understand that printed words consist of graphic representations that relate to the sounds of spoken language in conventional and intentional ways.
- **Standard IV. Literacy Development and Practice**: Teachers of young students understand that literacy develops over time and progresses from emergent to proficient stages. Teachers use a variety of contexts to support the development of young students' literacy.
- **Standard VI. Reading Fluency**: Teachers understand the importance of fluency to reading comprehension and provide many opportunities for students to improve reading fluency.
- **Standard VII. Reading Comprehension**: Teachers understand the importance of reading for understanding, know the components of comprehension, and teach young students strategies for improving comprehension.
- **Standard VIII. Development of Written Communication**: Teachers understand that writing to communicate is a developmental process and provide instruction that helps young students develop competence in written communication.
- **Standard IX. Writing Conventions**: Teachers understand how young students use writing conventions and how to help students develop those conventions.
- **Standard X. Assessment and Instruction of Developing Literacy**: Teachers understand the basic principles of assessment and use a variety of literacy assessment practices to plan and implement literacy instruction for young students.
- **Standard XII. Viewing and Representing**: Teachers understand how to interpret, analyze, evaluate, and produce.

Attention will also be paid to the Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities Standards:

- **Standard I.** The teacher designs instruction appropriate for all students that reflects an understanding of relevant content and is based on continuous and appropriate assessment.
- **Standard II.** The teacher creates a classroom environment of respect and rapport that fosters a positive climate for learning, equity, and excellence.
- **Standard III.** The teacher promotes student learning by providing responsive instruction that makes use of effective communication techniques, instructional strategies that actively engage students in the learning process, and timely, high-quality feedback.
- **Standard IV.** The teacher fulfills professional roles and responsibilities and adheres to legal and ethical requirements of the profession.
Student Learning Outcomes:
During the course of RDG 370, participants will be able to:

- Select and plan appropriate comprehension reading strategies for diverse elementary students to include ESL learners.
- Integrate appropriate children’s literature into reading comprehension lessons
- Observe and analyze experienced teachers’ methods for ensuring comprehension and assess student learning.
- Develop a variety of comprehension strategies to use for a variety of reading difficulties.
- Analyze current basal readers to determine how reading and writing comprehension can be taught
- Provide additional artifacts for their professional portfolio which will indicate growth in the five Teaching Proficiencies.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods / Activities / Assessments

- Written assignments must be well-written, typed, and error-free.
- No late assignments! You will receive only 50% if it is ONE day late. If it is two days or more late you will receive NO credit.
- Specific assignment details will be given for each assignment.

1. Attendance/Participation, including Professional Attitude:

Registering for a course is a commitment to yourself and your peers to reap the full benefits of the experience. Attendance is required and will be considered for your final grade. You are allowed two absences. After two absences you will be required to complete an article assignment, or lose 3 points from your final grade for each additional class missed. Life can be unpredictable at times; if you find you must be absent it is your responsibility to get assignments, handouts, or other information from a classmate (first) or me (second). If you know ahead of time that you will be absent, the courtesy of a phone call or email is greatly appreciated.

These concepts include Comprehension/Comprehension strategies (throughout semester);
Reading Assessments;
Guided Reading;
Nonfiction/Poetry/Fiction;
ELL’s;
Writing;
Literature Circles;
Interactive read-alouds;
Independent reading;
Developing mini-lessons;
Vocabulary

*******SPECIAL NOTE: ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN DURING CLASS ON THE DUE DATE. If you fail to do this 50% of your points will be deducted from the total points. If it is two days or more late you will receive NO credit.
NO EXCEPTIONS.
Keep in mind, if you are absent and do not turn in your assignment you will loose 50% of your points if it is not turned in on the due date. If it is not turned in on the second day you will receive NO credit.

********IF YOU FIND YOURSELF SICK ON THE DAY OF A TEST YOU MUST HAVE A NOTE FROM YOUR DOCTOR FOR YOUR ABSENCE TO BE EXCUSED. IF YOU HAVE A NOTE YOU WILL TAKE THE TEST IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE NEXT CLASS PERIOD.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Access the Texas Education Association information on the Essential Knowledge and Skills requirements for English Language Arts and Reading.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:
E-mail is preferred for outside of class contact. Students are encouraged to inform the instructor of concerns they may have pertaining to the course.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures:

1. Attendance is required and is essential to your success in this class. Participants are expected to be on time and to actively and constructively participate. Arriving late and/or leaving early two (2) times will constitute one (1) absence. Your attendance and participation will impact your grade, particularly if you’re on the borderline of a grade. Contact the instructor (via email) if you anticipate an absence or are absent for any reason explaining the situation. This is a common courtesy that is expected by all teachers. It is also part of forming that “community of learners” that we need in the classroom. When you are gone, there is a “hole” at your learning tables, as you are important to your community. We are trying to encourage professional development and life-long learning skills. Remember: Class activities and group discussions cannot be made up; therefore, reinforcing the idea that attendance is important!

**Missed Class: In the event of a missed class, you are responsible for obtaining class materials/assignments/notes and being prepared for the next class meeting. I will not bring additional copies of handouts from previous classes; therefore, it is your responsibility to get the necessary materials and assignments from a designated class member. Select a buddy and exchange telephone numbers and e-mail with him/her. By exchanging information, your buddy agrees to collect all handouts for you and to explain any class materials/assignments/notes; however, it is your responsibility to contact your buddy for this information.
2. Professionalism: You will be evaluated on your growth in becoming a professional teacher. You must:
   a. Engage in self-evaluation processes: This will be done by using the rubrics provided for class projects.
   b. Demonstrate professionalism: This will be done by:
      (a) attending ALL classes,
      (b) paying attention,
      (c) participating actively and constructively,
      (d) being responsible and prepared,
      (e) being an equal partner in group work,
      (f) showing enthusiasm and interest in being a teacher (see Field-Based Teacher Education Program Handbook and Professional Behavioral Standards Evaluation Form),
      (g) following the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior. Code of student conduct can be found under discipline in the student’s guidebook.

   Your grade will be adjusted based upon these criteria (see grading section).

   Remember: You need to come prepared to class. For every 3 credit hour course you take, you are expected to spend 6-9 hours on homework each week. So, if you are taking 12-15 credit hours, you will be spending 24-36 hours on homework. Thus, you need to plan according.

c. Cell phones/IPODs: These items must be turned off during class time. If you are expecting an emergency call let the teacher know and your group know. Also, the phone must be on vibrate and set on the table. If the phone vibrates, pick it up and leave the room. It is important to keep your phone put away, as it disrupts your learning and the learning of those around you. In addition, it is disrespectful.

   d. Arriving to class on Time: You are expected to be in your seats and ready to start when class is ready to convene. Class will start on time and you will be dismissed on time. Therefore, if you are late to class, you are expected to enter the class quietly and not to disrupt your table members by talking. Remember if you are late and/or leave early two times, it is considered one absence.

   e. Leaving During Class: This is not acceptable behavior, as you are here to learn. When you are gone from class, you are missing both the lecture and the class discussion. If, for some reason you have an emergency (being sick, phone call or bathroom) your business is expected to be conducted in a timely manner with you returning to class quietly and quickly. Remember if you are late and/or leave early two times, it is considered one absence.
3. 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. Begin that practice now! Therefore, if you need extra help, the Writing Center can assist you. See http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/academics/colleges/artsSciences/departments/literatureLanguages/writingCenter/onlineWritingLab.aspx

   a. Written Assignments should be:
      * double spaced
      * 1” top and left side margins, 1” bottom and right side margins
      * 12 point font size
      * revised for clarity and meaning
      * edited for accuracy in grammar and mechanics
      * saved on computer disk or copied on paper for your records

   b. 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.

University Specific 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
      StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

   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). If you display disruptive behavior, you may be asked to leave class and/or drop the class.
3. 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.

4. 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 on contacting you and informing you of important information. It is available to you 24/7 at https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx.

5. eCollege: eCollege will be used for this course.

Course Requirements: More specific instructions on these will be given via handouts.

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<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
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| 1. PERSONAL LITERACY HISTORY  
You will create a time line or other graphic organizer showing your literacy development and then write a 2-3 typed page paper describing your history. Each person will share their personal literacy history in class. |
| 2. ANNOTATED BIBIOGRAPHY AND POSTER  
You will create an annotated bibliography of 25 books of various genres and textual forms. The annotations will provide information on the summary, as well as how they can be used in the classroom. In addition, you will design and create a poster that highlights the books and their genres to be shared in class. More guidelines to come. |
| 3. GUIDED READING PROJECT  
Students will create and write two guided reading lesson scripts—one will be done for a fiction text, and the second will be designed for a nonfiction text. Each guided reading lesson will cater to different grades. More guidelines to follow. |
| 4. EXAMS  
We will have a midterm exam and a final exam in this class. |
| 5. Classroom Attendance/Classwork and eCollege Participation  
Participation in all aspects of class is paramount as your participation is needed as a basis to consider our response based and content reading strategies. There will be a number of assignments within class as strategies are modeled and you have the opportunity to experience them both individually and as a group. These will be informally assessed and counted in participation points. We will also use eCollege to support our class, and it is expected that if we have a discussion or if you are to post assignments and then visit those assignments of others, that you are involved. |

Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal Literacy History</td>
<td>40 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography and Poster</td>
<td>75 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guided Reading Project</td>
<td>75 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Live Binder</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>200 points (100 points each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>eCollege and Class Participation and Attendance</td>
<td>60 points</td>
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<tr>
<th>Points Range</th>
<th>Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500-450</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>449-400</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>399-350</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>349-300</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>299 and below</td>
<td>F</td>
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### COURSE SCHEDULE

**CF**= Fountas & Pinnell Teaching for Comprehending and Fluency  
**GR**=Fountas & Pinnell Guided Reading: Good First Teaching for All Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading (Done Prior Class)</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wk 1:</td>
<td>Welcome; introductions</td>
<td><strong>Throughout semester additional readings may be required by professor to ensure enhanced learning of topics</strong></td>
<td>Introduce yourself on our eCollege page by Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/15 &amp; 1/17</td>
<td>Go over syllabus, course expectations, course schedule; eCollege;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Personal Literacy Profile</td>
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<td>Wk 2:</td>
<td>What is reading comprehension?</td>
<td>_article</td>
<td>Personal Literacy Profile paper due on Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/22 &amp; 1/24</td>
<td>Cognition</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 3:</td>
<td>Fiction and Poetry</td>
<td>CF: Chapter 14-Understanding the Demands of Fiction and Poetry</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/29 &amp; 1/31</td>
<td>Biographies and Informational Books</td>
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<td>Wk 4:</td>
<td>Reading strategies: Making connections, Visualize, and Ask questions</td>
<td>Article and websites</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/4 &amp; 2/6</td>
<td>Biographies and Informational Books</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 5:</td>
<td>Reading strategies: Infer, Determine Importance, and Synthesize</td>
<td>Article and websites</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/5 &amp; 2/7</td>
<td>Providing instruction through interactive read-alouds</td>
<td>CF: Chapter 16-Create a literate culture through an Interactive Read Aloud</td>
<td>Posters and Annotated Bibliographies Due on Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 7:</td>
<td>Creating a Reading Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/19 &amp; 2/21</td>
<td>Engaging Independent Readers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 8:</td>
<td>Reading Assessment</td>
<td>CF: Chapter 22-Maximizing Independent Reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/26 &amp; 2/28</td>
<td>Creating a Writing Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 9:</td>
<td>Developing mini-lessons</td>
<td>CF: Chapter 23-Developing mini-lessons</td>
<td>Midterm Exam on Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/5 &amp; 3/7</td>
<td>Writing Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of</td>
<td><strong>SPRING BREAK</strong></td>
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<td>3/10-3/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 10:</td>
<td>Providing Vocabulary Instruction</td>
<td>CF: Chapter 31-Explaining Vocabulary Across Instructional Contexts</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/19 &amp; 3/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Reading Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 11</td>
<td>3/26 &amp; 3/28</td>
<td>ELL’s and Literacy Literature Circles</td>
<td>ELL’s and Literacy Articles;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk 12</td>
<td>4/2 &amp; 4/4</td>
<td>What is guided reading? Essential Components of a Guided Reading Lesson</td>
<td>CF: Chapters 12 and 24 GR: Chpts. 1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk 13</td>
<td>4/9 &amp; 4/11</td>
<td>Guided Reading of Fiction Texts</td>
<td>CF: Chapter 25-Using Guided Reading to teach for the comprehension of fiction texts GR: Chpts. 4 and 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk 14</td>
<td>4/16 &amp; 4/18</td>
<td>Guided Reading of Nonfiction Texts Assessment of Guided Reading lessons</td>
<td>CF: Chapter 26-Using Guided Reading to teach for the comprehension of nonfiction texts GR: Chpts 6 and 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk 15</td>
<td>4/23 &amp; 4/25</td>
<td>Guided Reading Projects</td>
<td>Guided Reading Presentations Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 16</td>
<td>4/30 &amp; 5/1</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Final Exam on Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 5/6</td>
<td></td>
<td>FINALS WEEK</td>
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