RDG 567
PRACTICUM IN ORGANIZING FOR EFFECTIVE LITERACY INSTRUCTION IN ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2015

Instructor: Dr. (Jim) Larkin Page--Associate Professor

Chancellor’s Teaching Excellence Award (3 times)-Texas A&M University System

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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:
None—all required readings will come from TAMU-Commerce libraries link

Optional:

Course Description:

The graduate reading course provides opportunities through practicum component to apply substantive, research-based instruction that effectively prepares reading specialist and Master Reading Teacher candidates to deliver a balanced, comprehensive program of instruction in reading, writing, and related language arts.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. This course will enhance educator understandings of multiple formal and informal literacy assessments used in educational settings.
2. This course will enhance educator understandings of multiple components of literacy.
3. This course will enhance educator understandings of multiple types of literacy research.
4. This course will enhance educator understandings of all levels of literacy practicum in organizing for effective literacy instruction.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments:**

**A. Expectations:** Students in this course are exposed to diverse perspectives in the context of literacy assessments that will stretch your thoughts and perceptions beyond your present experiences and knowledge. This action will occur while encouraging depth of knowledge through discussion and interaction with the professor and peers.

- Written assignments must be well-written, typed, and error-free.
- No late assignments! You will receive a ZERO if assignments are late.
- Specific assignment details will be given for each assignment.

**1. Attendance, including Professional Attitude: (200 pts. total)**

Online attendance will be monitored to ensure student success. When class activities are done via the internet with the professor and/or other students attendance grades will be given. This will include, but not limited to, being involved with web conversations during specific times indicated by the professor, full participation in individual and group work).

ONE MISSED CLASS = A DEDUCTION OF 100 PTS.
TWO MISSED CLASSES = A DEDUCTION OF ANOTHER 100 PTS.

If you are unable to attend class via the internet you will not receive attendance points and this will impact your final grade.

**Grading**

- 20%-(200 points) Attendance including Professional Attitude (see above)
- 80%-(800 points) Specific Activities/Readings/Assignments for each concept covered throughout the semester (see Tentative Course Schedule) (15 weeks of assignments/800 points)

In order to earn an A, you must have an **A average in all work, including attendance, participation, activities, readings, responses, and presentations.** Assignments must be turned in on time, students must **display a professional attitude** in all classes, have **missed no more than one class** (equivalent of three instruction hours) for any reason, and have been tardy no more than once. More than 15 minutes tardy will equal an absence.

In order to earn a B, you must have a **B (or better) average in all including attendance, participation, activities, readings, responses, presentations, display professional behavior, have missed no more than two classes, have been tardy no more than two times. More than 15 minutes tardy will equal an absence. Any exceptions to this need to be discussed with me during my office hours.**

**ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

**eCollege:** eCollege will be used for this course. You get to eCollege through your MyLeo account.
COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

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.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

A. No changes will be made to your final grade after I have submitted your grades at the end of the semester so it is your responsibility to keep track of your absences and tardies.

B. Professional Attitude: Student expectations for a professional attitude include active, respectful participation in eCollege classes. In addition, professional attitude means that you try to glean all the valuable information that you can from the interactions you have with other students in class.

C. All students enrolled at the University WILL follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student’s Guide Handbooks, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

D. 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. Therefore, if you need extra help, the writing center at the university can assist you at no charge.

Written Assignments should be:

*Use APA 6th edition style
*double spaced
*1” top and left side margins, 1” bottom and right side margins
*12 point font size
*Times New Roman or Arial
*revised for clarity and meaning
*edited for accuracy in grammar and mechanics
*saved on computer disk or copied on paper for your records

E. 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.

F. 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.

**University Specific Procedures:**
1. **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. **TAMU-C Quality Enhancement Plan:**

   **Objective of TAMU-C Quality Enhancement Plan:** “Preparing students for an Interconnected World” by improving students’ global competency.

   **Global competency** will be improved by implementing 3 student-learning outcomes:

1. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, trends, processes, and systems).
2. Students will be able to apply knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics.
3. Students will be able to view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.

3. A&M-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.