

CTRD 5710/6710: Literacy and Inquiry in the Content Areas: Grades 6-12

Summer 2012

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:45-2:35 PM, 2435 HC.

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Office hours: Monday and Wednesday, 4:00-4:50 PM, and likely at
other times as well. I hope you will feel welcome to e-mail,
telephone, or drop by the office to pursue ideas from this course.

Catalog description. Prerequisites: Admission to teacher
education. Strategies to enhance literacy and inquiry for student's
content-area learning in the middle and secondary school.

Literacy and Inquiry in the Content Areas is about reading to learn. Because most learning in middle school and secondary content areas is by reading, Literacy and Inquiry is a basic methods course for teaching. We assume students beyond the primary grades have learned to read, but many students do not read efficiently enough to learn independently from expository and literary texts. You will learn how to scaffold students' reading in textbooks and trade books in your content area, and how to teach students reading and study strategies for autonomous learning.

Texts. The required textbook is McKenna, Michael C., & Robinson, Richard D. (2009). *Teaching Through Text*. Boston: Pearson.

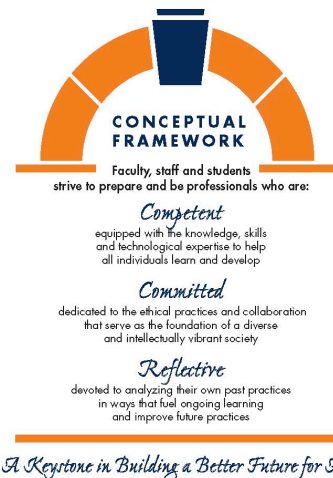
Course Goals. Those who successfully complete the requirements of CTRD 5710/6710 will know how to guide students to learn by reading. In general, content-area reading teachers prepare students to take an interest in and set purposes for what they will read, assist students' comprehension during reading, and help them reflect on what they have read. Accordingly, you will learn how to:

- ✎ Determine the readability of texts by formula and by qualitative analysis.
- ✎ Design prereading assessments of students' background knowledge.
- ✎ Prepare students to read by building their background knowledge, generating interest, and helping your students read purposefully.
- ✎ Teach students key vocabulary they will remember and use.
- ✎ Help students monitor their comprehension and locate important information during reading.
- ✎ Develop questions beyond the literal to guide students' higher-level thinking.
- ✎ Design reflective activities to help students consolidate and apply ideas and read critically.
- ✎ Design tests to assess your students' understanding of content-area concepts and skills.
- ✎ Develop writing activities to help students prepare, assist, and reflect on readings.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grading Plan. Approximately 560 points may be earned by various means. Semester grades will be calculated by determining the student's percentage of this total, where 90% is an A, 80% is a B, etc. Please note that this is only a plan; point totals for course achievements may change during the course of the quarter if assignments are added or deleted.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



- ✦ Attendance (60 points). 3 points per class by attendance or with documented approved absence; 2 points with provisionally excused absence or more than 5 minutes late.
- ✦ Unit plan project (200 points).
- ✦ Quizzes (110 points, 11 @ 10 points each)
- ✦ Midterm and final exams (200 points, 100 points each).

Attendance (10%). Class attendance and engaged participation are essential to achieving the goals of this course. Missing class is like skipping a chapter in a book—what follows is harder to understand. In class we will try out many of the activities we are studying in order to enhance our learning.

Excused absences are defined in the *AU Bulletin*: You may be excused for personal illness, a serious illness or death of someone in your immediate family, a field trip, a religious holiday, or a subpoena. For a provisional excuse, please notify me on or before the day you miss by leaving a message by e-mail or telephone (no documentation is necessary). For a fully excused absence, you will need to provide documentation for your absence.

You will earn points by attending each class session (see grading plan above). Quizzes and late assignments will lose 10% credit per unexcused weekday late (including days we do not meet as a class), to a maximum of 30% lost credit. Assignments will be due the next weekday after an excused absence and will begin to incur late penalties the following weekday. For example, a 20-point assignment due Thursday would be worth 14 points at most by the following Tuesday. If you must miss a class, please arrange for a classmate to secure notes and materials or e-mail me for notes. Assignments may be turned in by a friend or sent by e-mail to avoid late penalties. *E-mail errors will not lessen late penalties.* Look for my acknowledgement of any assignment submitted electronically.

Unit plan project (35%). Throughout the course you will compose and pilot components of a unit plan in your area of content specialization. You will need to locate an appropriate text unit or chapter for the students you plan to teach. I will provide specific rubrics to help you prepare each component. To pilot a lesson component, you will try it out with a real student for 2 points extra credit, a simulated student (an adult simulating the role of a student) for 1 point extra credit, or an imagined student. At the conclusion of the course, you will have created an exemplary unit plan to guide your teaching of a chapter from a content area text. Specific point values for components of this project, with relevant chapter numbers in brackets, are as follows:

- 10 Photocopy an appropriate chapter or unit in a content area text; provide 1-2 page excerpt.
- 10 Determine the readability of the unit by formula and by checklist. [3]
- 15 Develop accommodation activities to build background knowledge for struggling readers. [5]
- 15 Develop a lesson to teach key vocabulary for the unit. [6]
- 10 Design and explain a graphic organizer to show relationships among concepts in your unit. [6]
- 15 Develop purpose-setting activities to help readers focus attention during reading. [7]
- 15 Design a content literacy guide to assist students during reading. [8]
- 15 Develop an exemplary daily lesson plan using one of the major lesson formats. [9]
- 10 Plan a discussion as a reflection activity, including questions that go beyond the literacy guide. [10]
- 15 Develop a reflection activity to help students consolidate, apply, or think critically about the unit. [11]
- 15 Develop a writing-to-learn activity to deepen understanding of the unit. [11]
- 20 Design a 100-point test for the unit. [12]
- 15 Additional resource or activity (student choice).
- 20 Publish an edited final version of the unit plan with a table of contents.

Quizzes (20%). Quizzes will be administered periodically (see calendar) to monitor your understanding of assigned readings. My intention with quizzes is to make them so easy that anyone who has read the material carefully will do well, but so difficult that anyone who has not read will not do well.

Exams (35%). The midterm and final exams will feature both objective questions (e.g., multiple choice, true-false, and matching) and essay items (brief explanations, abbreviated lesson designs, and at least one extended essay (selected from several options and planned using an outline, web, or graphic). For each exam, you will consider or devise teaching activities on texts I will provide. Exams will cover both assigned readings and class work (see calendar for schedule).

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE POLICIES




Participation. All students are expected to participate in all class discussions and participate in all exercises. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor if assignment deadlines are not met and for initiating arrangements for missed work.

Unannounced Quizzes. There will be no unannounced quizzes.









Accommodations. Students who need special accommodations in class, as provided for by the American Disabilities Act, should arrange a confidential meeting with the instructor during office hours the first week of classes – or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. You must bring a copy of your Accommodation Memo and an Instructor Verification Form to the meeting. If you do not have these forms but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Program for Students with Disabilities, 1244 Haley Center, 844-2096.

Academic Honesty Policy. All portions of the Auburn University student academic honesty code (Title XII) found in the Tiger Cub will apply to this class. All academic honesty violations or alleged violations of the SGA Code of Laws will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee.















Professionalism. Faculty, staff, and students in professional settings are expected to demonstrate professional behaviors as defined in the College's conceptual framework. These professional commitments or dispositions are as follows: Engage in responsible and ethical professional practices; contribute to collaborative learning communities; demonstrate a commitment to diversity; model and nurture intellectual vitality.

Summer Term 2012: Tentative Calendar. Assigned readings are indicated by the symbol , assignments by , and exams and quizzes by . Readings are to be completed *before* the class for which they are assigned. Assignments and dates are subject to change.

















May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Fri	Sat
13	14	15	16	17 Course introduction.	18	19
20	21	22  Chap 1. Topic: Content area reading.	23	24  Chap 2. Topic: Literacy processes.  Unit photocopy.  Chap 1.	25	26
27	28 <i>Mem Day</i>	29  Chap 3. Topic: Assessment and readability.  Chap 2.	30	31  Readability analysis.  Chap 3.		

June 2012

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3	4	5  Chap 5. Topic: Building background knowledge.	6	7  Chap 6. Topic: Teaching vocabulary.  Chap 5.  Accommodations.	8	9
10	11	12  Chaps 6.  Vocabulary lesson.	13	14  Midterm exam.	15	16
17	18	19  Chap 7. Topic: Setting purposes.  Graphic organizer.	20	21 No class: MS1 reading period.	22	23
24	25	26  Chap 8. Topic: Reading guides.  Chap 7.  Purpose-setting activity.	27	28  Chap 8.  Content literacy guide.	29	30

July 2012

1	2	3  Chap 9. Topic: Scheduling reading.	4 <i>Ind Day</i>	5  Chap 10. Topic: Effective questioning.  Chap 9.  Exemplary lesson plan.	6	7
8	9	10  Chap 11. Topic: Extending content knowledge.  Discussion plan.  Chap 10.	11	12  Reflection activity.	13	14
15	16	17  Chap 12. Topic: Study.  Writing-to-learn activity.  Chap 11.	18	19  Unit test.	20	21
22	23	24  Chap 12.  Unit project with TOC and additional resource or activity.	25	26  Optional early final exam.	27 End	28
29	30  Scheduled final exam, 4:00-6:30 PM.	31				