



Web address for IRA standards: <http://www.reading.org/advocacy/standards/introduction.html>

**Course Format:**

Seminars will meet monthly and will resemble a professional conference round table discussion. This course is designed to provide an orientation to doctoral level studies in literacy and leadership. Candidates will have the opportunity to explore topics of current interest and use these discussions to further their personal study and research goals. Some sessions will be led by leaders in the field. Students will read and respond to selected pieces authored by those leaders.

**Course Content**

Individual seminar topics will be presented monthly and will change for each semester in which candidates are enrolled. Topics will cover a wide variety of issues of interest to literacy educators and will include:

- Current research being conducted by faculty on campus (provides research opportunities for candidates)
- Current research being conducted by leaders in field of literacy and leadership presented by invitation
- Book clubs formed to discuss theory and practice that might otherwise not be covered in a class
- Presentations and discussions about the role of a professional in the fields graduates of the program might find themselves
- Presentations and discussions about survival of graduate school and life outside graduate school

Topics to be continued throughout the program and which are embedded in the content:

- Meeting the literacy needs of a diverse population
- Implementing and integrating appropriate literacy technology in the classroom
- Professionalism how a professional educator thinks, acts, and speaks
- Selection of course material for portfolio

**Course requirements**

1. The student will attend required workshop meetings (15 hours per one hour credit).
2. The student will complete all written assignments for the course.
3. The student will actively participate in meetings and any online discussions.

**Course Expectations**

Given the heavy emphasis on discussion and engagement, attendance is a requirement.

**GRADING:**

Student will receive a grade of for each semester in which attendance and requirements are met.

**Disability Statement:**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities from their instructors, school/department chair, or by contacting the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720. Any student with a disability that affects their academic performance is expected to arrange for a conference with the instructor in order that appropriate strategies can be considered to insure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. The physically impaired may contact the Director of the Counseling Center as Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students by phone, extension (936-294-1720).

**Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable time frame in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

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