

**Sam Houston State University**  
**College of Education**  
**Department of Language Literacy and Special Populations**  
**Fall 2007**

**RDG 370**

**Monday/Wednesday 8:00 -10:00**

This is a required course for Reading/Language Arts Specialization

Through programs dedicated to collaboration instruction, field experience, and research, the candidates in Sam Houston State University's Educator Preparation Programs acquire the knowledge, dispositions, and skills necessary to create a positive learning environment. Employing a variety of technologies, these candidates learn to plan, implement, assess, and modify instruction to meet the needs of our communities' diverse learners.

<b>Department:</b>	Language, Literacy, and Special Populations
<b>Course Number/Title</b>	RDG 370: The Teaching of Reading
<b>Texts:</b>	Tompkins, Gaile E. (2003). <i>Literacy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</i> . Upper Saddle River, NJ: Merrill/Prentice Hall.  Savage, J. (2001). <i>Sound it out: Phonics in a balanced reading program</i> . Boston: McGraw Hill.
<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Melinda Miller Office: TEC 111D Phone and Voice Mail: 294-1357 e-mail: mmiller@shsu.edu Office Hours: M/W: 11:00-12:00; 1:00-4:00 T/Th: 1:00-3:00 F: By appointment

**Course Description: This course is designed to help candidates become informed, reflective decision makers who can translate understanding of literacy processes and methodology into appropriate instructional decisions for children. At the conclusion of this course pre-service teachers will be able to**

- 1) Discuss the degree and probable causes of children's difficulty with classroom reading-writing processes.
- 2) Use a range of assessment techniques to determine student's literacy strengths and needs.
- 3) Communicate student strengths and needs with colleagues and parents.
- 4) Identify, select, and implement instructional strategies appropriate for meeting student's assessed needs

**Course Matrix:** The objectives of this course correspond with the Conceptual Framework model developed for the Educator Preparation Program at SHSU.

Objectives/Learning Outcomes	Activities (*indicates field-based activity)	Performance Assessment	Standards: State Standards <i>ACEI Standards</i>
<p>1. Candidates will demonstrate their knowledge of theories, processes, and principles of children's language and literacy development from emergent through fluent level readers, writers, listeners, and speakers.</p>	<p>Responses to readings and group discussions</p> <p>*Writer's Workshop</p> <p>*Guided and shared reading or tutoring lessons</p> <p>Literature unit</p> <p>Book shares</p> <p>Professional Reading</p>	<p>Participation, rubric assessment of responses</p> <p>Rubrics assessing product and reflection on teaching. Student produced book</p> <p>Unit, lesson plans, reflections</p> <p>Lesson Plans</p> <p>Article, synopsis of article</p>	<p><u>1.1k-1.9k, 1.1s-1.6s</u> <u>2.1k-2.5k, 2.1s-2.6s</u> <u>3.1k-3.10k, 5.1k-5.8k,</u> <u>5.10k, 5.2s-5.8s, 5.10s-</u> <u>5.13s</u></p> <p><i>1, 2a, 2b, 2i 3a, 3d, 5b</i></p>
<p>2. Candidates will demonstrate knowledge of current approaches--basal reader, language experience, literature-based, thematic units, writing workshop, creative expression, and performing text--for teaching reading, listening, and speaking.</p>	<p>Responses to readings and group discussions</p> <p>*Writer's Workshop</p> <p>*Guided and shared reading or tutoring lessons</p> <p>Literature unit</p> <p>Book shares</p> <p>Basal Evaluation</p> <p>Strategy shares and minilessons for writer's workshop</p>	<p>Participation, rubric assessment of responses</p> <p>Rubrics assessing product and reflection on teaching. Student-produced book</p> <p>Lesson plans and reflections</p> <p>Unit, lesson plans, reflection</p> <p>Lesson plans</p> <p>Written analysis of basal readers</p> <p>Lessons plans and classroom presentations</p>	<p><u>2.6k, 2.4s, 2.5s, 2.8s,</u> <u>2.10s, 3.7s, 5.9k, 5.12s,</u></p> <p><i>1. 2b</i></p>
<p>3. Candidates will demonstrate skill in using language arts instructional strategies to help students become strategic readers and writers.</p>	<p>*Writer's Workshop</p> <p>*Guided and shared reading or tutoring</p>	<p>Rubrics assessing product and reflection on teaching. Student-produced book</p> <p>Lesson plans and reflections</p>	<p><u>3.9k, 3.1s-3.3s, 3.4s-</u> <u>3.9s, 4.1k-4.6k, 4.8k-</u> <u>4.10k, 4.1s, 4.9s</u></p> <p><i>1, 2a, 2b</i></p>

	<p>lessons.</p> <p>Literature unit</p> <p>Book shares</p> <p>Strategy shares and minilessons for writer's workshop</p> <p>Phonics test</p>	<p>Unit, lesson plans, reflection</p> <p>Lesson plans</p> <p>Lesson plans and classroom presentations</p> <p>Test score</p>	
<p>4. Candidates will demonstrate an awareness of diversity in student abilities, cultural backgrounds and language, and ability to use these understandings to develop appropriate instructional practices.</p>	<p>Responses to readings and group discussions.</p> <p>*Writer's Workshop</p> <p>*Guided and shared reading or tutoring lessons.</p> <p>Literature unit</p> <p>Book shares</p> <p>Inquiry projects</p>	<p>Participation, rubric assessment of responses</p> <p>Rubrics assessing product and reflection on teaching. Student-produced book</p> <p>Lesson plans and reflections</p> <p>Unit</p> <p>Lesson plans</p> <p>Presentations and reflections</p>	<p><u>4.19k, 4.12s</u></p> <p><i>2b, 3d</i></p>
<p>5. Candidates will demonstrate skills in developing students' content area literacy abilities.</p>	<p>*Writer's Workshop</p> <p>*Guided and shared reading or tutoring lessons</p> <p>Literature unit</p> <p>Book shares</p>	<p>Rubrics assessing product and reflection on teaching. Student-produced book</p> <p>Lesson plans and reflections</p> <p>Unit, lesson plans, reflection, language chart, and student products</p> <p>Lesson plans</p>	<p><u>4.11k-4.18k, 4.11s-4.18s</u></p> <p><i>2b, 3d</i></p>
<p>6. Students will demonstrate a knowledge of authentic reading and writing assessment techniques and skill in using them; understand formal testing instruments, including TAKS and demonstrate the ability to evaluate instructional materials.</p>	<p>Responses to readings and group discussions</p> <p>*Writer's Workshop</p> <p>*Guided and shared reading or tutoring</p>	<p>Participation, rubric assessment of responses</p> <p>Rubrics assessing product and reflection on teaching</p> <p>Lesson plans and reflections</p>	<p><u>3.1s, 3.2s, 3.11k, 4.1s, 4.21k, 5.12k, 5.1s</u></p> <p><i>2b, 4</i></p>

	lessons Inquiry projects	Presentations and reflections	
7. Candidates will demonstrate knowledge of children's literature, including those with multicultural emphases, and skill in using trade books to teach the language arts.	Responses to readings and group discussions Literature unit Book shares	Participation, rubric assessment of responses Unit, lesson plans Lesson plans	<u>4.7k, 4.10s</u> 2b, 5b, 5d

Web address for State Standards: [www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us)

Web address for Reading Professional Standards: [reading.org](http://reading.org)

**Course Format:** The course format includes in-class activities, minilessons taught by candidates, shared literature activities, readings from textbooks, and responses in quiz form and literature circles, 19.5 hours of student contact through guided reading activities and writing workshop, and professional reading in organizational journals.

**Course Content: 370--**Fundamental concepts and principles of reading instruction are taught with a focus on the developmental stages of reading. Word attack, comprehension, study strategies, and other aspects of a balanced literacy program are learned and applied.

**Course Requirements:**

**1. Reading Assignments.** Candidates will be assigned chapters of the text to read and will be held accountable for the information in group discussion format in literature circles. Groups will choose from two different formats for literature circles. These will be discussed in class. Candidates will fill out a self-evaluation after each literature circle. Group evaluations will be done randomly.

**2. Guided Reading Project.** Candidates will work with a student to develop his/her reading abilities. Candidates will use either the Guided Reading format or a shared reading experience format with the students. The method used will depend upon the literacy level of the students. **Optional Bonus Activity: one of these lessons will be videotaped for self-assessment and evaluation by the professor.** Each candidate (who chooses to do this activity) is responsible for making arrangements for equipment to film the video and for making the video. Videos will be submitted to the professor for viewing. *Please rewind your videotape before turning it in.*

**Each time you work with the students, you must have a completed lesson plan in evidence. These plans will be taken up randomly and assessed for completeness and appropriateness. BE PREPARED. If you do not have a completed lesson plan, you will not be allowed to work**

**with the student.** At the conclusion of the course, all lesson plans in chronological order and a reflective analysis of your learning are to be submitted (see below). **Two lesson plans (your choice) will be turned in to be graded.**

**3. Guided Reading Reflection Paper:** Students will write a reflection of their experiences with the students during the guided reading lessons. Candidates will describe their own learning as well as the students' learning. Reflection will be turned in with all lesson plans.

**4. Inquiry Project.** Students will select a topic with a partner or individually related to the language arts and research, using multiple sources, answers to personal questions about the topic. A class presentation, a poster session, and a handout for the class will complete the experience.

**5. Attendance.** Regular and punctual attendance is required. This is a "hands-on" course in which many of the instructional techniques are demonstrated in class and are debriefed in large and small group discussions. Attendance also demonstrates a level of responsibility and commitment that future employers like to see. **It is not a good idea to miss any class. A student may have six hours of absence (1 1/2 class periods). After one absence, consideration will given to the lowering of the grades for the course. After six hours of absence, the student's grade will be lowered by one letter grade (after missing more than six hours, the most you can make is two "B's"). Attendance is strictly required for any class period spent working with the students in the school setting.** Students will sign into class. Tardies and early departures are noted. Two early departures or tardies will be the equivalent of one hour's absence.

**6. Phonics Test.** A multiple-choice/matching/short answer test designed to demonstrate the candidates' knowledge of linguistic concepts is required of all Block Students. To successfully complete this course, candidates must pass this test with a minimum score of 80%. You may take the test as many times as necessary to achieve mastery; however, your first test score will be recorded and subsequent attempts will not affect your score.

**7. Professional Reading and Discussion.** Candidates will select and read one article from either *The Reading Teacher* or *Language Arts* or another approved literacy journal that relates to the content of this course and prepare a reflective synopsis. Both of these journals are available in the library and on-line. Information from the article will be shared in class in literature circles. Articles must be full-length features and not departmental columns. A copy of the article will be submitted with the synopsis.

**8. Literature Unit.** Candidates will prepare a literature unit that is based upon a theme or books by a particular author. Activities for a week will be prepared. Activities must be developed for all content areas.

**9. Quizzes.** Candidates will take 2 quizzes throughout the semester over class content and discussions.

**10. Exit Interview.** Candidates will participate in an exit interview with the professor at the end of the semester.

**11. Professionalism.** Candidates are expected to behave in a professional manner. We will be discussing professionalism in class, and you will be graded on your professionalism.

**12. Phonics Group Project.** Candidates will work in groups to teach a portion of the phonics text to their classmates.

**13. Book Share.** Candidates will choose a favorite book and find 10 extension activities to go with the book. They will list and describe the activities, as well as the bibliographical information for the book. Candidates will read the books to their group and share with them the activities they have chosen.

*Late assignments will be accepted only if prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. Points will be deducted for late assignments.*

**Points:**

Readings from the textbooks - discussion groups	70 pts.
Phonics Group Project	50 pts.
Phonics Test	50 pts.
Professional Reading	50 pts
Book Share	50 pts.
Guided Reading Lesson Plans – (2 @ 25 pts. ea.)	50 pts.
Inquiry Project	50 pts.
Dispositions	50 pts.
Literature Unit	50 pts.
Quizzes (2 @100pts. ea.)	200 pts.
Mentor Teacher Evaluation	50 pts.
Guided Reading Project	100 points
Video Lesson (optional)	10 bonus points
Total Points: 820	

**Evaluation:**

A= 94-100%

B= 87-93%

C=80-86%

D=73-79%

Candidates will receive three grades for this block (Grades are combined with Mrs. Holcomb's 380/390). To receive three "A's" candidates must have a 94%.

87% - 93% is three B's, etc. Borderline grades will be given case by case consideration. **All assignments must be completed to receive a grade for this course.**

**The professor reserves the right to alter course requirements to better meet the learning needs and maturity levels of the preservice teachers.**

## **Americans with Disabilities Act**

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

### ***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 timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.*

Teaching Materials: The following is a list of materials you will need to work with students. These are suggestions only. You may wish to wait and purchase them as you see that you need them.

crayons	broad-tipped markers	narrow-tipped markers
unlined paper	lined paper	stapler with staples
tape	glue sticks	construction paper
white-out	ruler	sticky tack wall adhesive

paper clips  
scissors

post-it-notes  
hole punch

colored index cards

For your video-taped lessons, you will need access to a camcorder and a video tape (DVD's are acceptable also!)