

College of Education  
Department of Language Literacy and Special Populations

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.

Course Number and Course Title: RDG 393 – Emergent Literacy – Spring 2008

**Instructor:** Name **Cindy Clark**  
Madisonville, Texas

Email clc047@shsu.edu  
Office hours: M-F 10:45 – 11:00 Classroom 111-E

**Text/Readings:** McGee, Lea & Richgels, Donald (2000). *Literacy's Beginnings: Supporting Young Readers and Writers*.

Selected readings to be passed out in class.

**Standards Matrix:**

<b>Objectives/Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Activities (* indicates field-based activity)</b>	<b>Performance Assessment</b>	<b>Standards:</b> • <b>State Standards</b> • <b>Specialty Organization Standards</b>
The candidate understands that literacy develops in an often predictable pattern from pre-reading (emergent literacy) to conventional literacy and that individual variations occur in literacy acquisition.	Lecture In-class additional reading activities Text	Test	4.1k, 4.2k, 4.3k, 4.4k, 4.1s, 4.2s, 4.3s, 4.4s, 4.5s, 4.6s, 4.7s, 4.8s, 4.9s, 4.10s
The candidate understands the need for a variety of assessment tools and techniques and examines the rationale for and how to use specific informal assessment tools and techniques to determine the	Study of informal assessment tools and techniques of observation, interest inventories, checklists, writing samples, conferences, informal reading inventories, retelling  Lecture Text	Test  Student samples of Assessment tools	1.8k, 3.3s, 4.9s, 5.4k, 5.7s, 6.3k, 6.1s, 7.1s, 7.10k, 9.6k, 9.1s, 10.1k, 10.2k, 10.4k, 10.7k, 10.1s, 10.2s, 10.3s 2 2b, 4, 5

reading level of a student in order to provide reading/writing instruction.			
The candidate understands the components of a balanced literacy program.	Lecture Text	Test	7.1k – 7.3k  1, 2b, 2i
.The candidate understands the importance of fluency to reading comprehension and is aware of ways to provide opportunities for children to improve their fluency.	Lecture Text	Test	6.1k, 6.2k, 6.4k, 6.2s, 6.2s, 6.6s
The candidate understands that writing to communicate is a developmental process and is aware of ways to provide instruction that helps young children develop competence in written communication.	Lecture Text	Test Reading and Writing Connections	8.1k – 8.3k, 8.1s – 8.8.4s

Web address for state standards: [www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us)  
 Web address for specialty organization standards: [reading.org](http://reading.org)

**Course Format:**

**The format for the course will be discussion, group literature circles and discussion, lecture, and presentations by students.**

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Attendance: Regular attendance is expected. More than three hours absence may result in a drop of one letter grade in the final grade for each hour of absence.

2. Examinations: 4 examinations will be scheduled throughout the course period (200 points).
3. Learning to read reflection: Students will write a one-page reflection on what they remember about learning to read (40 points).
4. Learning to Read Interviews: Students will interview five readers about their memories of learning to read. The students should interview one person older than 70 years, one person who is 50 – 60 years old, one person who is 30 – 40 years old, one teenager, and one elementary student. Students will turn in a one page written reflection/summary with their interviews (40 points).
5. Reading/Writing Connection: Each student will prepare a reading and writing lesson for Kindergarten, First-grade, or Second grade. The student will choose a book and select a writing activity to go with it. The student will read the book to his/her group and present the writing activity (40 points).
6. Children's Book List: Each student will compile a list of his/her 25 favorite books to be used in the classroom with children. These can be picture books, chapter books, predictable books, or any books that you consider to be your favorites. The authors of the books should be included on the list (25 points).
7. Literature Circles: Students will be divided into groups for literature circles over the text. Each group will divide up their chapter for a jigsaw for each assigned chapter. Each person will be responsible for providing their group mates with a handout over their section of each chapter. (60 points).
8. Book Talks: Students will choose one of the books provided by the professor to read. Based upon that selection, students will be assigned to groups. Each group will meet several times throughout the semester in literature circles. Each person will be given a role. Near the end of the semester, each group will present a Book Talk to the class. (40 points)
9. Book Tasting: Students will be divided into groups and will share a picture book with the class and bring a food related to the book to share with the class (also bring your recipe!) We will sign up for times to share these. (20 points).

Grading Scale: 465 points are possible in this course.

A (90-100%)	418+ points
B (80-89%)	372-417 points
C (70-79%)	325-371 points
D (60-69%)	279-324 points
F (below 60%)	below 279 points

Late assignments will be accepted only if prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

All assignments must be completed in order to receive a grade for this class.

Friendly reminder...please turn off your cell phone before class.

### **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.*