

A Foundation of Teaching Reading

Course Description

A Foundation of Teaching Reading is the first in a series of three courses. This course is designed to provide and extend candidates' knowledge of the reading process by examining theory and research as a foundation for making instructional decisions for planning and implementing effective literacy programs. In order to inform such decision-making, candidates will explore current issues, materials, strategies, and approaches to teaching reading to P-12 children in our pluralistic society.

This course requires a 10 hour field experience, which is embedded within course assignments.

Course Goals

Participants in this course will increase knowledge and develop skills to:

- Analyze the major theories of language development, cognition and learning.
- Demonstrate an understanding of phonemic, morphemic, semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic cueing systems and their relation to the reading and writing process.
- Understand the structure of the English language, including phonology, morphology, semantics and syntax, and the way that print represent speech.
- Identify research-based instructional and assessment practices for promoting literacy development of beginning, developing and fluent readers and writers.
- Evaluate methods and materials that embrace and accept diversity