

Sul Ross State University

EDSR 3308 Language Acquisition and Emergent Literacy
Course Syllabus

Fall 2023

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Course Description: A course in language acquisition in children. Developmentally appropriate activities, diversity, and individual learning styles found in the educational setting are discussed as they facilitate language in young children. All theories and activities are presented as they ultimately contribute to an integrated curriculum. This course supports competencies within the Evaluative measure as identified by the State of Texas for Teaching Certification. In addition, this course utilizes the competencies prescribed for Early Childhood-6th grade as identified by the State of Texas.

**This course along with EDSR 4308 is a prerequisite to prepare EC-6th candidates for STR. This course should be taken prior to enrolling in the remaining advanced STR courses: (EDSR 4307, EDSR 4313, EDSR 4315).*

Student Learning Outcomes:

- SLO 1- Candidates will observe and identify the range of individual developmental differences that characterize students in early childhood through grade 6.
- SLO - 2 Candidates will identify instructional strategies to analyze children's strengths and needs for planning instruction.
- SLO - 3 Candidates will identify and select pertinent materials and resources including technological resources to enhance student learning and engagement in the planning process.

Required Textbook and Materials:

Vulkelich, C., Enz., B., Roskos, K., and Christi, J., (2020). 5th Edition. Helping Young Children Learn Language and Literacy: Birth Through Kindergarten. Pearson.

(Pearson+ subscription, Pearson etext, bundle and access package available)

Various journal articles

Marketable Skills:

1. Candidates will acquire public speaking skills to a variety of audiences.
2. Candidates will acquire writing skills for lesson plans and other scholarly documents.
3. Candidates will acquire organizational skills to effectively manage time and meet deadlines.
4. Candidates understand human growth and development.

5. Candidates recognize the influence of diverse social-cultural factors.
6. Candidates utilize multiple methods and strategies to achieve a goal.
7. Candidates effectively use technology.

Standards and Competencies:

Domain 1, Comp. 1 (001.A, 001.B, 001.D, 001.E, 001.G, 001.H, 001.I, 001.J, 001.K, 001.L, 001.N, 001.P, 001.Q, 001.R, 001.S), Comp. 2. (002.B, 002.D, 002.F, 002.H, 002.I, 002.J);

Domain 2, Comp. 3 (003.A, 003.B, 003.C, 003.D, 003.E, 003.F, 003.G, 003.H, 003.I, 003.J, 003.K, 003.L); Comp. 4(004.A, 004.B, 004.C, 004.D, 004.E, 004.F, 004.G, 004.H, 004.I, 004.J); Comp. 5 (005.A, 005.B, 005.C, 005.D, 005.E, 005.F, 005.G, 005.H, 005.I, 005.J, 005.K); Comp. 6(006.A, 006.B, 006.C, 006.D, 006.E, 006.F, 006.G, 006.H, 006.L, 006.M);

Domain 3: Comp.009(009.A, 009.D, 009.E, 009.L); Comp. 10(010A, 010C, 010D, 010E, 010K); Comp. 11(011.C 011D, 011E).

Domain 4 Comp. 013 (013.A, 013B, 013C, 013D)

Course Format:

- This is a hybrid course 16-week course, with a mix of TEAMS and online learning activities. Online learning is a very different kind of experience from the traditional face-to-face course. **Although online courses are convenient, you will shoulder a greater responsibility for your own learning than you might in a face-to-face course.** Successful completion of the course will require virtual attendance in course meetings and completion of online material which includes content coverage and graded assignments. Candidates should plan to attend all synchronous video class discussions. Class meetings are a course requirement. Students will be dropped for excessive absences from course meetings or deficient completion of online assignments.
- A variety of approaches will be included in the online course delivery that includes synchronous discussion, online discussion, small collaborative group work, student presentations, lecture, gathering of assessment data, and observation. Your ability to devote a *minimum* of 6-8 hours per week to your course work is critical for success.
- Successful completion of an online course requires dedication and constant effort. Do not fall behind in your work! Begin your assignments as soon as possible and adhere to deadlines. Circumstances often arise that may prevent you from making a deadline if you wait until that time to submit your work.
- This course is writing intensive to prepare candidates to administer, analyze, plan and communicate assessment outcomes and instructional planning to stakeholders. It is advised that candidates use Smarthinking, or other online proofreading services, for written assignments.
- Submit professional quality work. Have someone proofread your submittals and always use the grammar and spell check functions on your computer before submission. Every submission you make is considered a final draft and your very best work.

TITLE 19 EDUCATION

PART 7 STATE BOARD FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

CHAPTER 228 REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS

RULE §228.30 Educator Preparation Curriculum

- (a) The educator standards adopted by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) shall be the curricular basis for all educator preparation and, for each certificate, address the relevant Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).
- (b) The curriculum for each educator preparation program shall rely on scientifically based research to ensure teacher effectiveness and align to the TEKS. The following subject matter shall be included in the curriculum for candidates seeking initial certification:
- (1) the specified requirements for reading instruction adopted by the SBEC for each certificate;
 - (2) the code of ethics and standard practices for Texas educators, pursuant to Chapter 247 of this title (relating to Educators' Code of Ethics);
 - (3) child development;
 - (4) motivation;
 - (5) learning theories;
 - (6) TEKS organization, structure, and skills;
 - (7) TEKS in the content areas;
 - (8) state assessment of candidates;
 - (9) curriculum development and lesson planning;
 - (10) classroom assessment for instruction/diagnosing learning needs;
 - (11) classroom management/developing a positive learning environment;
 - (12) special populations;
 - (13) parent conferences/communication skills;
 - (14) instructional technology;
 - (15) pedagogy/instructional strategies;
 - (16) differentiated instruction; and
 - (17) certification test preparation.

§235.15. Science of Teaching Reading Standards, Early Childhood: Prekindergarten Grade 3.

- a) Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 Science of Teaching Reading (STR) standards. The STR standards identified in this section are targeted for classroom teachers of early learners

(birth through age eight). The standards address the discipline that deals with the theory and practice of teaching early reading. The standards inform proper teaching techniques, strategies, teacher actions, teacher judgements, and decisions by taking into consideration theories of learning, understandings of students and their needs, and the backgrounds and interests of individual students. The standards are also aligned with the *Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines* and Chapter 110 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading). The standards address early reading content knowledge in Prekindergarten-Grade 5, with an emphasis on Prekindergarten-Grade 3, in order to meet the needs of all learners and address vertical alignment.

(b) Reading Development. The Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers demonstrate understanding of Kindergarten-Grade 5 Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and *Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines* pertaining to reading and apply knowledge of developmentally appropriate, research- and evidence-based assessment and instructional practices to promote students' development of grade level skills within the following components of reading:

- (1) oral language development;
- (2) print awareness;
- (3) phonological and phonemic awareness;
- (4) phonics;
- (5) fluency;
- (6) vocabulary development;
- (7) comprehension of literary text;
- (8) comprehension of informational text; and
- (9) beginning strategies and reading comprehension skills.

(c) Reading Pedagogy. The Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers demonstrate understanding of the principles of reading instruction and assessment and use a range of instructional strategies and assessment methods to promote students' development of foundational reading skills, including:

- (1) implementing both formal and informal methods of measuring student progress in early reading development.
- (2) designing and executing developmentally appropriate, standards-driven instruction that reflect evidence-based best practices; and
- (3) acquiring, analyzing, and using background information (familial, cultural, educational, linguistic, and developmental characteristics) to engage all students in reading, including students with exceptional needs and English language learners.

Texas Pre-K Guidelines: https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/PKG_Final_2015_navigation.pdf

Assignments

In-Class Writing Prompts -Prompt 1 @ 25 -Prompt 2 @ 25	50 points
Discussion Boards -DB1 @ 50 -DB2 @ 50 -DB3 @ 50	150 points
TEKS Vertical Alignment	50 points
Read Aloud Application	100 points
Concepts of Print Assessment	100 points
Early Childhood Observation	100 points
Literacy Center Design and Presentation	150 points
Mid Term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	150 points
Contribution	50 points

(Descriptions and Supporting Resources will be posted in blackboard and discussed in class.)

In-Class Writing Prompts: (2 each @ 25 points = 50 points), Domain 1 Competency 001, Domain 2, Competency 003, 004, 005, Domain 4 Competency 013

Discussion Board Prompts: (3 each @ 50 points = 150 points), Domain 2, Competency 003, 004, 005

TEKS Vertical Alignment: (50 Points), Domain 1 Competency 001, Domain 2, Competency 003, 004, 005

Read Aloud Application: (100 Points), Domain 2, Competency 003, 004, 005

Concepts of Print Assessment: (100 Points), Domain 1 Competency 002, Domain 2, Competency 005

Early Childhood Observation: (100 Points) Domain 1 Competency 001

Literacy Center Design and Presentation (150 Points): Domain 2, Competency 003, 004, 005

Midterm Exam: (100 Points), Domain 1 Competency 001, 002, Domain 2, Competency 003, 004, Domain 4 Competency 13

Final Exam: (150 Points), Domain 1 Competency 001, 002, Domain 2, Competency 003, 004, 005

Contribution: (50 Points) Attendance for class is mandatory. Every class day is a participation grade, which requires candidates to be present and actively contributing in class. One letter grade will be deducted for every absence after four (4).

A= 900-1000 POINTS – Exceeds Expectation/highest level

B= 800-899 POINTS – Proficient/proficient level

C= 700-799 POINTS – Acceptable/average level

D= 600-699 POINTS – Emerging/inadequate level

F= less than 600 POINTS – Unacceptable

Grading.

- No late assignment will be accepted after its due date without prior instructor consent. Blackboard will notate if your assignment is “late”. Though late work will not be calculated into your grade, you will often receive feedback on quality of work. This policy is to support marketable skill development (3).
- Candidates seeking certification are required to complete a constructed response prompt that is formatted using APA style; therefore, all citations should be formatted using the American Psychological Association (APA) manual. Papers with APA citation errors will receive a reduction in points or no credit.
- All assignments are due at 11:30 pm on the designated date.
- There are no optional assignments in this course. All assignments are representative of required skills that must be demonstrated according to certification standards. Please do not request opportunities for “extra credit” to replace assignments that are missed or poorly executed.
- Do not ask for preferential treatment regarding course grading policies or deadlines. Each student in this class has a unique set of circumstances and while it is not uncommon for you to face challenges throughout the session or semester, it is expected that you will meet the course expectations as stated. My expectation is that everyone adheres to the same policies. No student should expect treatment that would not be offered to the entire class, so please do not ask for exceptions.

Understanding Grades:

Course grades are not meant to be elusive. It is important to understand what constitutes a grade. Some students think that merely meeting an assignment’s expectation warrants the highest level of performance, but that is not the case. Review the below descriptions of each letter grade and contemplate what goal you are going to set for yourself during this grading period. Work toward that goal realistically.

A – A work exhibits excellent work that demonstrates not only a clear understanding of the material (content) but also a superior ability to utilize that material in the assignment submitted. Not only is all criteria met, the student’s work goes beyond the task and contains *additional, unexpected or outstanding features*.

B – B work represents solid work that demonstrates a good understanding of the material under study and utilizes material well in assignments submitted. The student meets the assignment criteria, with few errors or omissions.

C – C work demonstrates a technical, or basic, understanding of the material under study and utilizes that material adequately in the assignment submitted. The work meets the minimum assignment criteria. Additional study will be required to meet STR exam requirements.

D – D Work fails to demonstrate a basic, or technical, understanding of the material under study and fails to use relevant material in the assignment submitted. Work may not address one or more criteria or may not accomplish what was asked.

F – F Work is incomplete, inappropriate, and/or shows little or no comprehension of the class material in the assignment submitted.

University and Course Policies:

Classroom Demeanor. Candidates are expected to maintain professional and courteous behavior at all times. This includes being respectful to other both your peers and the instructor, arriving on time, being attentive, and following ethical behavior as outlined in the [TEA Educator Code of Ethics](#). Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

Dropping a Class. During the course of a semester, circumstances can prevent students from completing a class successfully. Dropping a class may be necessary and/or advised in your specific case. Please feel free to contact me to discuss this option. Should dropping the class be the best course of action, you are responsible for completing the necessary actions by

November 17, 2023 at 4:00 pm.

University Programs and Services:

SRSU Distance Education Statement. Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

Technical Support

The Support Desk is where you can direct your more technical questions. For example, the Support Desk can help you if you are having issues submitting a document, getting videos to play, or using BlackBoard. The support desk is open 24 hours a day/7 days a week for your convenience.

You can reach the support desk:

- By calling 888.837.6055
- Via email blackboardsupport@sulross.edu
- Using resources from the Technology Support tab within blackboard
- Clicking the Support Desk graphic on the course homepage

SRSU Library Services.

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

The Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) Libraries at Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass. Offer additional access to library spaces and resources. Del Rio, Eagle Pass, and Uvalde students may also use online resources available through SWTJC website, <https://library.swtjc.edu>. The SWTJC Libraries serve as pick-up locations for InterLibrary Loan (ILL) and Document Delivery from the Alpine campus.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

RGC Disability statement

SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. RGC students seeking accessibility services should contact Paulette Harris, Executive Assistant to the Vice President and Dean, at 830-279-3023 or email pharris@sulross.edu. Ms. Harris's office is at 2623 Garner Field Road, Uvalde, TX 78801.

Alpine Disability statement

SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Alpine students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartze Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email mschwartz@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Academic dishonesty hurts everyone and reduces the value of college degrees. Doing someone else's work, presenting the ideas and work of others as your own, submitting the same paper for multiple classes, and/or failing to cite your sources when you utilize the ideas of others, are all examples of academic dishonesty. Academic misconduct, for which a student is subject to penalty, includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. Plagiarism is unacceptable and, for the purpose of this course, is defined as using in part or in whole any material written or designed by someone other than the student, unless appropriate credit is given to the person or resource material used. This includes, but is not limited to: lesson plans found on the internet, lessons provided by classroom teachers, materials located in any form of publication (books, magazines, internet sites, etc.), book reviews, and coursework completed by previous students. Disciplinary action for academic misconduct will first be considered by the faculty member assigned to the course and can result in failure of individual assignments and/or course credit.

It is your responsibility to read and understand the university's policy on academic dishonesty in the SRSU Student Handbook, as all violations will be taken seriously and handled through the appropriate university process. In addition, please note that plagiarism detection software will be used in this class for written assignments, as well as monitoring software for course exams.

Course Calendar

This calendar is subject to change.

<p>Module 1: Foundations of Literacy and Oral Language</p>	<p>Welcome, review course syllabus, participate in introduction discussion, and course expectations. Review STR Competencies and PreK Guidelines Participate in class discussion, lecture and activities Read Vulkelich et. al. (2020) Chapter 1 and 4 Discuss Hart & Risley Study: Meaningful Differences Video Supplemental Resources</p> <p>Discussion 1: Meaningful Differences TEKS Vertical Alignment</p>
<p>Module 2: Families' Role and Environments Promoting language and early literacy</p>	<p>Read Vulkelich et. al. (2020) Chapter 2 and 3 Supplemental Readings and Resources Participate in class meetings, discussion, lecture and activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nguyen, N., Darling, S., Mosier, W., & Garnett, W. (2021). A collaborative and supplemental model to enhance early language and reading skills. <i>The Reading Teacher</i>, 74(4), 469-473. <p>In-class Writing Prompt 1</p>
<p>Module 3: Oral Language Comprehension</p>	<p>Read Vulkelich et. al. (2020) Chapter 5 and 6 Participate in class meetings, discussion, lecture and activities</p> <p>Supplemental Readings and Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Whorrall, J. & Cabell, S., (2015). Supporting children's oral language development in the preschool classroom. <i>Early Childhood Education Journal</i> (44), 335-341. <p>Discussion 2: Whorrall Article Read Aloud Assignment Midterm Exam (Text Chapters 1-6)</p>

<p>Module 4: Teaching Early Foundational Skills: Language, Vocabulary, Alphabetic Knowledge, Print Concepts, Early Phonological Development, Phonemic Awareness,</p>	<p>Read Vulkelich et. al. (2020) Chapter 7 Participate in class meetings, discussion, lecture and activities Supplemental Readings and Resources TBA</p> <p>Environmental Observation Assignment</p>
<p>Module 5: Early Orthographic Development (Phonics, Writing, and Spelling)</p>	<p>Read Vulkelich et. al. (2020) Chapter 8 Supplemental Readings and Resources Clay, M.M. (2000). Concepts About Print: What have children learned about printed language? Heinemann: N.Z.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examining early childhood teachers' writing practices: Associations between pedagogical supports and children's writing skills. <p>Participate in class meetings, discussion, lecture and activities</p> <p>Literacy Center Design and Presentation</p>
<p>Module 6: Assessment of Early Literacy Development</p>	<p>Read Vulkelich et. al. (2020) Chapter 9 Supplemental Readings and Resources Halliday's Functions of Language Participate in class meetings, discussion, lecture and activities.</p> <p>Concepts of Print Assessment Final Exam</p>

19 TAC §228.30(b): The curriculum is research-based. TEA Evidence: Syllabi/course outlines with bibliographies/references.

Clay, M.M. (2000). Concepts About Print: What have children learned about printed language?
 Heinemann: N.Z.

American Psychological Association (2020). Publication manual of the American psychological association (7th ed.). Washington, DC.

Whorral, J., & Cabell, S. Q. (2016). Supporting children's oral language development in the preschool classroom. Early Childhood Education Journal, 44(4), 335-341.

- Texas Education Agency. (2012a). ELPS instructional tool. San Antonio, TX: Region 20 Education Service Center.
- Texas Education Agency. (2012b). ELPS linguistic instructional alignment guide. San Antonio, TX: Region 20 Education Service Center.
- Paquette, K. R., & Rieg, S. A. (2008). Using music to support the literacy development of young English language learners. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 36(3), 227-232.
- DiLorenzo, K. E., Rody, C. A., Bucholz, J. L., & Brady, M. P. (2011). Teaching letter–sound connections with picture mnemonics: Itchy's alphabet and early decoding. *Preventing School Failure: Alternative Education for Children and Youth*, 55(1), 28-34.
- Cavanaugh, D. M., Clemence, K. J., Teale, M. M., Rule, A. C., & Montgomery, S. E. (2017). Kindergarten scores, storytelling, executive function, and motivation improved through literacy-rich guided play. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 45(6), 831-843.
- Walqui, A., & Heritage, M. (2018). Meaningful Classroom Talk: Supporting English Learners' Oral Language Development. *American Educator*, 42(3), 18.