

WESTFIELD STATE COLLEGE
PREVIEW PAGE: EDUC 650 Issues and Problems in Reading



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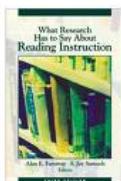
Course Description

This seminar will focus on research methods, quantitative and qualitative, as well as historical and current research in literacy. Students will be required to investigate and analyze an issue or problem in order to propose solutions, and subsequently to develop a literature review and research proposal for one of the solutions. Students will also be required to read and analyze several research articles that represent foundational knowledge and current trends. Students will lead at least one study group and will present their final project.

Course Rationale

This advanced seminar will enable graduate students in the Reading Specialist program the opportunity to interpret and extend both historical and contemporary research in literacy theory, curricula, and instruction via discussion and application. The contribution of relevant reading research to the field of literacy, the interpretation of research findings related to the improvement of instruction, and the conduct and application of research will inform the Reading Specialist candidate regarding the status of theoretical foundations and best practice in the field of literacy and literacy instruction. This course will also provide candidates the opportunity to provide professional development. Candidates are encouraged, but not required, to implement their research proposals and to seek out professional meetings to present their findings.

Required Text



Farstrup, A.E. & Samuels, S.J. (Eds.) (2002). What research has to say about reading instruction (3rd Edition). Newark, DE: International Reading Association.

TECCAS-P

This course is a Teacher Education Council Comprehensive Assessment System- Professional (TECCAS-P) linked course. This assessment system has been developed to gather the information needed to improve individual degree programs and the overall effectiveness of graduate education at Westfield State College. Each graduate program has defined learning outcomes appropriate to the license sought by its candidates. Within the relevant courses, candidates' mastery of the objectives is assessed. This information is collected by TECCAS-P and used by the graduate faculty for program evaluation. Your participation in this will require little or no extra effort beyond the requirements of the course. Course assignments and activities have been designed to assess the TECCAS-P learning outcomes. You will be informed of the assignment(s) chosen for this assessment; however, the TECCAS-P outcome score will be reported separately from your grade for the course. You may obtain the TECCAS-P score from your instructor or your advisor if you wish.

Additional information on TECCAS-P is available online at:
<http://www.wsc.ma.edu/yec/assessment/facguide.htm>.

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