

EDU 3450 -Foundations of Reading Instruction

Description: This course is designed to provide information on balanced reading instruction in grades PreK-6. Specific topics addressed will include: theories/models of the reading process, language acquisition, phonemic awareness, word identification strategies (sight vocabulary, phonics knowledge, structural analysis, and contextual analysis), vocabulary development strategies, comprehension strategies, reading-writing connections, and assessments (formal and informal). This course requires 30 hours of field experience in a K-6 classroom setting.

Objectives:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of language acquisition and development as related to how reading is defined, as well as to the major theories of the reading process.
2. Explain the concept of “emergent literacy” and how this literacy relates to language development.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the major terminologies and concepts related to reading and language arts.
4. Explain the major components of the language arts and how these components are interrelated.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL’s) for language arts in the elementary setting.
6. Explain the interrelatedness of phonemic awareness, phonics, and spelling, with respect to word knowledge development.
7. Demonstrate competency in identifying basic phonic elements (i.e., initial consonant phonemes, short and long vowel patterns, schwa, r-controlled vowels, consonant blends and digraphs, vowel digraphs, diphthongs, etc.)
8. Explain how the uses of shared, guided, and independent reading strategies contribute to children’s growth in comprehension.
9. Identify and explain how a teacher’s knowledge of the levels of cognition (Bloom’s Taxonomy) can facilitate the design of lessons that promote upper – level thinking skills in children.
10. Describe how methods and materials used in language arts instruction may be adapted to meet specific children’s needs (i.e., gifted, delayed, and ESL).
11. Describe various methods for integrating the language arts within a balanced Pre-K -6 curriculum.
12. Explain the role of the family in developing and reinforcing literature.

This course is being offered as an online class. Students are expected to read all assigned readings and complete all requirements of the course on time as set forth by the instructor. Late assignments may not receive full credit.