



EDU C486-50: Targeting Struggling Readers to Succeed

Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Virginia's College at Wise
"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free." – Frederick Douglass

Instructor: Heather E. Short
Contact Info: hed4f@uvawise.edu
Credit: 3 Hour College Credit
Location/Time: Online via Moodle portal: <http://moodle.uvawise.edu>

Textbook: There is no textbook required. All resources and articles are provided online.

I. Course Description:

This course is designed to help educators target struggling readers in their classrooms and examine the different areas that could be causing their individual weaknesses. The course content will include exploring techniques and strategies that target the five main components of reading: phonological/phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. The course will provide an online community where educators can explore these areas together and begin to formulate new and exciting ways to target specific areas of reading difficulty in their classrooms.

II. Course Objectives:

On completion of this course students should be able to:

- Identify the specific areas of struggling readers in their classroom.
- Create activities that explicitly target areas of struggling readers.
- Build confidence in their students by using activities that build upon their current reading level.
- Recognize other areas of reading difficulty not included in the five main components.
- Improve small-group reading instruction using researched methods of success.
- Develop strategies to help parents assist their struggling readers at home.