J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: EDU 220
Credits: 3

Course Title: Teaching Reading

Course Description: Provides instruction in concepts and strategies involved in teaching reading at the K-12 levels. Includes topics on literacy and components and development, various reading programs, technology integration, and assessment tools. May include a field placement in a K-12 school. Prerequisite: Students must satisfy general college curricular admission requirements. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: Teaching Reading is designed to provide students with strategies to help students learn how to read, improve their reading, and improve their comprehension.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:
Prerequisite: Students must satisfy general college curricular admission requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to
a. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles of reading instruction;
b. Identify the components and stages of literacy;
c. Identify common phonetic patterns and decoding strategies;
d. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic word recognition strategies;
e. Demonstrate the use of instructional strategies to enhance vocabulary development;
f. Demonstrate an understanding of a variety of comprehension strategies (including, but not limited to, thinking aloud);
g. Incorporate appropriate graphic organizers to enhance reading instruction;
h. Demonstrate knowledge of the reading/writing connection;
i. Research current state-approved reading programs;
j. Demonstrate expertise in matching specific reading programs to the needs of the reading students;
k. Give an oral presentation on a state-approved reading program;
l. Recognize the importance of reading in the content areas;
m. Demonstrate the use of effective strategies to enhance reading in the content areas;
n. Recognize the importance of technology in the reading classroom;
o. Demonstrate expertise in the various uses of technology in the reading classroom;
p. Evaluate technological applications to match the needs of the student;
q. Demonstrate expertise in selecting from and administering a variety of appropriate pre- and post-assessment tools (including, but not limited to, running records and PALS); and
r. Demonstrate an understanding of the results of reading assessment tools and how those results affect future reading instruction.

Major Topics to Be Included:
a. Definition of reading
b. Reading product (comprehension) vs. reading process (main aspects)
c. Principles and theories of teaching reading
d. Cognitive development
e. Emergent literacy
f. Print-rich classroom environment
g. Reading/writing connection
h. Journal writing in the reading classroom
i. Word recognition strategies (sight words, context clues, phonics, word structure clues)
j. Dictionary skills
k. Vocabulary development and instruction
l. Content area vocabulary
m. Reader’s schemata
n. Purpose for reading, motivating students to read
o. Organizational patterns of texts
p. Pre-reading, during-reading, and post-reading strategies and activities to improve comprehension.
q. Literal versus higher-order comprehension
r. Effective student questioning to increase comprehension
s. Major approaches and materials for reading instruction (basal series, literature-based series, language-integrated series, literature circles, language experience approach)
t. Reading/study techniques to use in the content areas (SQ3R, DRTA, study guides, graphic organizers)
u. Research skills (reference books, library skills, computer databases)
v. Integrating technology in the reading classroom (transparencies, television, audiotapes, videotapes, CD-ROMs, DVDs, videodiscs, computer applications)
w. Current views of assessment of student progress
x. Pre- and post-assessment tools
y. Readers with special needs (include main types of disabilities)
z. Current legislation for students with disabilities
aa. Using paraprofessionals and tutors in the reading classroom
bb. Involving parents in the reading classroom

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