

EDTD 6121
Research in Language Arts
Fall 2008
Department of Teacher Education, Augusta State University

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Office Hours: by appointment only

Prerequisites: EDTD 6121: Admission to the graduate program

Course Description: *Research in Language Arts Education*

Students in this course will examine current research and initiatives concerning English language arts education, including the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and using media. The philosophical underpinnings of a variety of curricular and instructional approaches will be examined. Results of these studies will be compared to the recommendations made in *Standards for English Language Arts*.

Course Objectives:

- To engage in intellectual activity within a community of learners.
- To use major sources of research and theory (i.e. books, periodicals, reports, proceedings of professional conferences, videotapes, electronic and non-electronic data bases) to understand the relationship between research and practice.
- To become aware of culturally relevant pedagogy as it applies to literacy learning.
- To analyze and think critically about visual and print media.
- To examine and critically question research-supported teaching pedagogies (constructivist, transformative, and other progressive, student-centered pedagogies).
- To examine research on issues of race, ethnicity, social class, culture, gender, language, and sexual orientation in relation to the practice of teaching language arts.
- To develop an inquiry project and/ or action plan on current research.

National Standards:

This course addresses the Five Core Positions as delineated by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (http://www.nbpts.org/the_five_core_propositio), the IRA/NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts (<http://www.readwritethink.org/standards/index.html>), and the INTASC Standards (<http://www.emu.edu/maed/INTASC.html>).

State Standards:

To view Georgia Department of Education, English Language Arts Standards, go to <http://www.georgiastandards.org/english.aspx> .

Attendance Policy: Attendance in class is expected. You should come prepared to discuss the materials assigned and to participate in class discussions. **Much of the learning will arise from the interactions within the classroom environment in large and small discussion groups.** According to the Augusta State University attendance policy, “If a student has been absent for more than 10% of class time, regardless of cause, then the professor may withdraw the student from the class for excessive absences.” Because this course meets only eight times during the semester, one absence will likely result in a grade penalty or withdrawal. Tardies and early exits interrupt the class and may be treated as absences. **Please keep all pagers and cell phones OFF during class time.** No children are allowed in class.

Academic Honesty: In an academic community, honesty and integrity must prevail if the work done and the honors awarded are to receive their respect. The erosion of honesty is the academic community’s ultimate loss. The responsibility for the practice and preservation of honesty must be equally assumed by all its members. (Augusta State University Catalog) Exclusions to academic honesty are listed in detail, and each is a serious offense. The most common offense, plagiarism, is the presentation as original work of ideas, words or thoughts belonging to someone else. You must provide a citation for any specific words, ideas, images, etc. taken from another source. Any project or paper containing incidents of plagiarism will, at a minimum, receive no credit or grade.

Disability/other-ability: If you have special needs and wish to receive accommodations in class, please contact the Office of Disability Services in Bellevue Hall.

Evaluation/Grading: Much of the learning in this course takes place during class as students interact with one another and the instructor. Therefore, regular attendance and active, engaged participation are essential. Throughout the semester, feedback on students’ work will be provided orally and in writing by both the instructor and peers. Specific guidelines for assessment of assignments will be provided and/or developed in class. In addition, reflective writing activities will provide students with opportunities for self-evaluation of their learning and growth. Submitting assignments on due dates are expected. Each assignment is due at the beginning of class on the designated due date even if you are absent or tardy. Late papers will be accepted only under the most extreme circumstances and will be penalized 10% per day (up to three days).

Grading Scale: A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = Below 60

Course Requirements:

20% - Regular and punctual attendance and class participation in discussions and activities

25% - Presentations of various types of research

25% - Annotated bibliography of readings

30% - Research report/Final Paper

Students are expected to check their ASU Campus Pipeline Account on a regular basis. Messages might be forwarded from your instructor.

Texts:

Various articles from nationally recognized scholarly journals (*Journal of Literacy Research, Harvard Educational Review, English Journal, English Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy, Reading Research Quarterly, Review of Educational Research, Research in the Teaching of English, American Educational Research Journal, Educational Leadership, or Teachers College Record*)

Internet Resources:

The IRA/NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts

(<http://www.readwritethink.org/standards/index.html>)

1. National Board Professional Teaching Standards and PDF Document: “What Teachers Should Know and Be Able to Do” (http://www.nbpts.org/the_standards/the_five_core_propositio)
2. NCTE’s Position on Teaching Grammar Skills <http://www.ncte.org/about/press/rel/125932.htm>
3. NCTE Beliefs about the Teaching of writing <http://www.ncte.org/print.asp?id=118876&node=367>
4. NCTE: On Reading, Learning to Read, and Effective Reading Instruction <http://www.ncte.org/about/over/positions/category/read/118620.htm>

Assignments will be discussed the first class. Please be on time. The schedule may change