

Secondary School Reading in Content Subjects

The Secondary School Reading in Content Subjects course was developed specifically to meet the reference Florida's DOE required reading competencies for Secondary School Teachers of a content reading course in the preparation program for candidates seeking teaching certification. It is unique to the FSU-Teach program because the content and focus of the course is the use of reading strategies exclusively in the content areas of science and mathematics. This course is required for students pursuing science or mathematics teaching certificates, and it is highly recommended for all other teacher candidates in the FSU-Teach program. Secondary School Reading in Content Subjects enables students to be perceived as and educated to be both subject specialists and teachers of reading.

Science and mathematics teachers have historically focused on content acquisition rather than the competencies required to enable content acquisition. The purpose of literacy is to increase the learning of critical content. In this course, science and mathematics teachers must shift their thinking about curriculum design and delivery, moving away from simply covering the available content to instead focusing on organizing curriculum experiences around compelling critical content and then developing plans and teaching routines which ensure that all students master that content.

One of the goals of an educational system is to help students become more strategic readers. A reading program that implements successful comprehension instruction increases students' interest and success in reading, providing them the intrinsic motivation for continual learning. Learning to read and reading to learn are interrelated processes that lifelong learners use to refine and expand what they currently know and believe about the world.

Course Procedures: Secondary School Reading in Content Subjects

This course is designed to promote understanding and expertise in instructional strategies for reading in science and math. The course includes an overview of the reading process, based on current research and instructional strategies for promoting reading and learning. During the course, students learn how to implement effective comprehension strategies for the transition from learning to read and reading to learn in science and math at the middle grades.

In this course, students investigate the complex process of comprehension, involving knowledge, experience, thinking, and teaching. Students build and draw on a rich knowledge base of content, pedagogy, and technology to learn how to provide relevant and meaningful learning experiences using reading resources for all students. They learn how to create a learner-centered community in which teachers collaboratively identify needs and plan, implement, and assess reading instruction, using a variety of resources, including technology. Students design reading strategies to respond appropriately to diverse groups of learners. They demonstrate effective professional and interpersonal

communication skills. The ultimate outcome is that students develop a commitment to learn, to improve the profession, and to maintain professional ethics, and personal integrity as reflective practitioners dedicated to the success of all students.

Course Objectives: Secondary School Reading in Content Subjects

Students Will Be Able To:

Demonstrate an understanding of the role of literacy and language, specifically reading, in the teaching and learning of science and mathematics

Develop a framework of instruction that emphasizes pre-reading strategies, during-reading strategies, and post-reading strategies

Develop an inquiry-based 5E instructional model designed to ensure depth of understanding of science and/or mathematics concepts and literacy development

Develop a repertoire of reading strategies and a system of study skills that emphasize reflective thought and systematic progression toward the goal of independent learning

Respond to classroom diversity by scaffolding instruction in order to make students competent with using a variety of reading strategies; to encourage talking about texts; and to engage students in collaborative learning

Evaluate the usefulness of resources, including technology, in achieving learning outcomes and selecting and using resources to develop lessons that use reading beyond the textbook to extend and

Evidence (Student Products)

Inquiry unit project consisting of five 5E reading lesson plans for middle grades students

Daily reading assignments
Inquiry unit project consisting of five 5E reading lesson plans for middle grades students

Inquiry unit project consisting of five 5E reading lesson plans for middle grades students

Class discussions
Daily reading assignments
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enrich science and mathematics
curriculum

Develop a repertoire of assessment
strategies that can be used to
implement a system of continuous
assessment designed to gather data
in order to identify student needs
and assess instruction

Acquire and draw on a rich
knowledge base to provide relevant
and meaningful learning
experiences for all students, using
effective communication skills

Class discussions
Daily reading assignments
Inquiry unit project consisting of
five 5E reading lesson plans for
middle grades students

Class discussions
Final presentation