



RED 6316
Emergent Literacy
81531 900
Fall 2026

Instructor Name

James King

University Course Description

The purpose of this course is to create an understanding of developmentally appropriate, research-based theories and practices that support young children's emergent literacy and language learning.

Course Requisites

Prerequisite(s):

Corequisite(s):

Course Format

Hybrid Blend

Student Learning Outcomes

The candidate will be able to demonstrate substantive understanding of the development of foundational literacy skills (i.e., oral language, phonological/phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary). (FL Reading

Competencies 1.A.1, 1.A.5, 1.B.1-3, 1.B.6, 1.C.1-2, 1.C.4, 1.E.3-4, 1.G.3, 1.G.6, 1.G.7, 1.G.9; FLCS LAR 1)

The candidate will be able to understand variations in language and literacy development for all students, including English learners and students with reading difficulties and/or characteristics of dyslexia. (FL Reading Competencies 1.A.4, 1.A.6-7, 1.B.4-5, 1.B.7-8, 1.C.5-6, 1.E.7, 1.G.1, 1.G.8, 3.8)

The candidate will be able to apply instructional strategies for scaffolding development of foundational literacy and language skills (i.e., oral language, phonological/phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, and integration across skills). (FL Reading Competencies 2.A.1, 2.A.5, 2.B.1-3, 2.B.6, 2.C.1-2, 2.C.4, 2.E.3-4, 2.G.3, 2.G.6-7, 2.G.9)

The candidate will be able to understand and administer appropriate emergent literacy and language assessments, and interpret and communicate results, to determine the abilities and needs of emergent literacy and language learners. (FL Reading Competencies 1.A.8, 2.A.8, 1.B.9, 2.B.9, 1.C.7, 2.C.7, 1.G.10-11, 2.G.10-11, 3.1-3.3, 3.5-3.7, 3.10, 3.12, 3.16; FLCS LAR 4)

The candidate will be able to develop and deliver differentiated instructional plans for emergent literacy and language learners, including those with characteristics of dyslexia and reading difficulties, based on assessment results. (FL Reading Competencies 2.A.4, 2.A.6-7, 2.B.4-5, 2.B.7-8, 2.C.5-6, 2.E.7, 2.G.1, 2.G.8; FEAP 1a)

Course Objectives

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Required Texts and/or Readings and Course Materials

- Bear, D.R., Invernizzi, M., Templeton, S., & Johnston, F. (2019). *Words their way: Word study for phonics, vocabulary, and spelling instruction*. Boston: Allyn & Bacon. 978-0-136-61550-7 (7th edition)
- Honig, B., Diamond, L., Cole, C. L., & Gutlohn, L. (2018). *Teaching reading sourcebook: For all educators working to improve reading achievement*. Arena Press. 978-1-634-02235-4 (3rd edition)
- - Access to school/local library with high quality children's literature.
 - Basic teaching supplies (crayons, markers, paper, scissors, etc.)
 - Tech tools (device with camera recording capabilities)

How to Succeed in this Course

To find success in this course, you must consistently attend class, read and think about assigned readings, participate in in-class activities, work collaboratively with your peers, think critically about assignments, consider all feedback (verbal and written) provided by your professor, and apply what you are learning in the field.

Grading Scale

The following grading scale and qualitative criteria will be used to determine your final grade. A minimum grade of C- is required to pass the course.

Grading Scale	
Grading Scale (%)	
97-100	A+
94-96	A
90 – 93	A-
87 – 89	B+
84 – 86	B
80 – 83	B-
77 – 79	C+
74 – 76	C
70 – 73	C-
67 – 69	D+
64 – 66	D
60 – 63	D-
0 – 59	F

Grade Categories and Weights

Assignment Weights

ASSIGNMENT	% of final grade
*Assessment Data Presentation	20%
*Interactive Read-Aloud Lesson	20%
*Phonemic Awareness/Phonics Lesson	20%
*Final Exam	20%
Reading Quizzes	5%
Weekly Participation	15%

Instructor Feedback Policy & Grade Dissemination

Written assignments will be submitted through Canvas, and you can access your scores at any time using "Grades" in Canvas.

USF Core Syllabus Policies

USF has a set of central policies related to student recording class sessions, academic integrity and grievances, student accessibility services, academic disruption, religious observances, academic continuity, food insecurity, pregnancy and related conditions, and sexual harassment that **apply to all courses at USF**. Be sure to review these online:

<https://www.usf.edu/provost/faculty-success/resources-policies-forms/core-syllabus-policy-statements.aspx>

Student Recordings

Florida Statute 1004.097 Free Expression on Campus

Students may, without prior notice, record video or audio of a class lecture for a class in which the student is enrolled for their own personal, educational use (USF Policy 10-048). A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a university course intended to present information or teach enrolled students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to lab sessions, student presentations (whether individually or part of a group), class discussion, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, private

conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty member is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the USF Student Conduct Code.

Course Policies: Grades

First Day Attendance Policy:

Students attendance in the first synchronous online session will count as first day attendance requirement.

Late Work Policy:

Assignments submitted beyond the due date may will lower the grade by 10% per day and assignments will not be accepted if overdue by more than seven days.

Make-up Exams Policy: Offer specifics about your policy on exam make-ups.

If a student cannot be present for an examination for a valid reason (validity to be determined by the instructor), a make-up exam will be given only if the student has notified the instructor in advance that s/he cannot be present for the exam. Make-up exams are given at the convenience of the instructor.

Extra Credit Policy:

There are no scheduled extra credit assignments. If extra credit is granted due to unexpected situations, details about the logistics will be provided at that time.

Grades of "Incomplete"

An Incomplete grade ("I") is exceptional and granted at the instructor's discretion only when students are unable to complete course requirements due to illness or other circumstances beyond their control. The course instructor and student must complete and sign the "I" Grade Contract Form that describes the work to be completed, the date it is due, and the grade the student would earn factoring in a zero for all incomplete assignments. The due date can be negotiated and extended by student/instructor as long as it does not exceed two semesters for undergraduate courses and one semester for graduate courses from the original date grades were due for that course. An "I" grade not cleared within the two semesters for undergraduate courses and one semester for graduate courses (including summer semester) will revert to the grade noted on the contract.

Campus Free Expression

It is fundamental to the University of South Florida's mission to support an environment where divergent ideas, theories, and philosophies can be openly exchanged and critically evaluated. Consistent with these principles, this course may involve discussion of ideas that you find uncomfortable, disagreeable, or even offensive.

In the instructional setting, ideas are intended to be presented in an objective manner and not as an endorsement of what you should personally believe. "Objective" means that the idea(s) presented can be tested by critical peer review and rigorous debate, and that the idea(s) is supported by credible research.

In this course you may be asked to engage with complex ideas and to demonstrate an understanding of the ideas. Understanding and engaging with an idea does not require you to believe it or to agree with it.

Course Policies: Technology and Media

This course is offered via USF's learning management system (LMS), Canvas. If you need help learning how to perform various tasks related to this course or other courses being offered in Canvas, please consult the [Canvas Student Guides](#). You may also contact USF's IT department at (813) 974-1222 or help@usf.edu.

In this class, software will be used to record live class lectures and discussions. As a student in this class, your participation in live class discussions will be recorded. These recordings will be made available only to students enrolled in the class, to serve as a resource for those who would like to review content that was presented.

Course Policies: Student Expectations

Health and Wellness

Your health is a priority at the University of South Florida. We encourage members of our community to look out for each other and to reach out for help if someone is in need. If you or someone you know is in distress, please make a referral at www.usf.edu/sos so that the Student Outreach & Support can contact and provide helpful resources to the student in distress. A 24-hour licensed

mental healthcare professional, offered through the counseling center, is available by phone at 813-974-2831, option 3. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, please dial 9-1-1.

Title IX Policy

USF is committed to fostering a safe and respectful learning environment, free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment, in accordance with Title IX and USF Policy 0-004. If a student shares an experience of sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, or relationship violence with a USF employee (including faculty), that employee will notify the Title IX Office. This allows the Title IX Office to send the student an email with information about support resources and options—if it is safe to do so. Students are not required to respond to this email. The Title IX Office is a private resource. Information is shared only on a need-to-know basis to provide students with support measures. To speak to a confidential resource, students may contact USF Center for Victim Advocacy at 813-974-5757. Confidential resources do not notify the Title IX Office unless the student requests it. For more information about Title IX, available resources, or to make a report, please visit www.usf.edu/title-ix.

Course Hero / Chegg Policy

The USF Policy on Academic Integrity specifies that students may not use websites that enable cheating, such as by uploading or downloading material for this purpose. This does apply specifically to Chegg.com and CourseHero.com – almost any use of these websites (including uploading proprietary materials) constitutes a violation of the academic integrity policy.

Professionalism Policy

Per university policy and classroom etiquette; mobile phones, iPods, etc. must be silenced during all classroom and lab lectures. Those not heeding this rule will be asked to leave the classroom/lab immediately so as to not disrupt the learning environment. Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, etc., and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade.

Turnitin.com

In this course, turnitin.com may be utilized. Turnitin is an automated system which instructors may use to quickly and easily compare each student's assignment with billions of web sites, as well as an enormous database of student papers that grows with each submission. Accordingly, you may be expected to submit all assignments in both hard copy and electronic format. After the assignment is processed, as instructor I receive a report from turnitin.com that states if and how another author's work was used in the assignment. For a more detailed look at this process visit <http://www.turnitin.com>.

Netiquette Guidelines

- Act professionally in the way you communicate. Treat your instructors and peers with respect, the same way you would do in a face-to-face environment. Respect other people's ideas and be constructive when explaining your views about points you may not agree with.
- Be sensitive. Be respectful and sensitive when sharing your ideas and opinions. There will be people in your class with different linguistic backgrounds, political and religious beliefs or other general differences.
- Proofread and check spelling. Doing this before sending an email or posting a thread on a discussion board will allow you to make sure your message is clear and thoughtful. Avoid the use of all capital letters, it can be perceived as if you are shouting, and it is more difficult to read.
- Keep your communications focused and stay on topic. Complete your ideas before changing the subject. By keeping the message on focus you allow the readers to easily get your idea or answers they are looking for.
- Be clear with your message. Avoid using humor or sarcasm. Since people can't see your expressions or hear your tone of voice, meaning can be misinterpreted.

Email and Discussion Board Guidelines

- Use the subject line effectively by using a meaningful line of what your email or discussion is about.
- Keep your emails and postings related to the course content. You should not post anything personal on a discussion board unless it is requested by the instructor.
- Any personal, course or confidential issues should be directly communicated to the instructor via email. The discussion boards are public spaces; therefore, any issues should not be posted there.

End of Semester Student Evaluations

All classes at USF make use of an online system for students to provide feedback to the University regarding the course. These surveys will be made available at the end of the semester, and the University will notify you by email when the response window opens. Your participation is highly encouraged and valued.

Food and Drink Policy (for in-campus sessions only).

Please adhere to the firm policy of no beverages (other than bottled/capped water), food, tobacco products, or like items in the classroom. Your understanding of the necessity for this policy and cooperation will be greatly appreciated. This policy will be strictly enforced.

Learning Support and Campus Offices

Academic Accommodations

Students with disabilities are responsible for registering with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in order to receive academic accommodations. For additional information about academic accommodations and resources, you can visit the SAS website.

[SAS website for the Tampa campus and Sarasota-Manatee Teachout site.](#)

[SAS website for the St. Pete campus.](#)

Academic Support Services

The USF Office of Student Success coordinates and promotes university-wide efforts to enhance undergraduate and graduate student success. For a comprehensive list of academic support services available to all USF students, please visit the [Office of Student Success website.](#)

Canvas Technical Support

If you have technical difficulties in Canvas, you can find access to the Canvas guides and video resources in the “Canvas Help” page on the homepage of your

Canvas course. You can also contact the help desk by calling 813-974-1222 in Tampa or emailing help@usf.edu.

[USF IT Services](#)

Center for Victim Advocacy

The [Center for Victim Advocacy](#) empowers survivors of crime, violence, or abuse by promoting the restoration of decision making, by advocating for their rights, and by offering support and resources. Contact information is available online.

Counseling Center

The Counseling Center promotes the wellbeing of the campus community by providing culturally sensitive counseling, consultation, prevention, and training that enhances student academic and personal success. Contact information is available online.

[Counseling Center website for the Tampa campus and Sarasota-Manatee Teachout site.](#)

[Counseling Center website for the St. Pete campus.](#)

Tutoring

The Tutoring Hub offers free tutoring in several subjects to USF undergraduates. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information, email asctampa@usf.edu.

[Tutoring website for the Tampa campus and Sarasota-Manatee Teachout site.](#)

[Tutoring website for the St. Pete campus.](#)

Writing Studio

The Writing Studio is a free resource for USF undergraduate and graduate students. At the Writing Studio, a trained writing consultant will work individually with you, at any point in the writing process from brainstorming to editing. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information or to make an appointment, email: writingstudio@usf.edu.

[Writing studio website for the Tampa campus and Sarasota-Manatee Teachout Site.](#)

[Writing studio website for the St. Pete campus.](#)

Student Ombuds Office

Florida Statute 1006.51 and Florida Board of Governors Regulation 6.011 require that all public institutions provide ombuds services to students. The Student Ombuds Office at USF is a confidential, impartial, informal, and independent resource for students experiencing challenges related to the university. Ombuds can help students safely explore options, clarify processes, and consider next steps. [Learn more or make an appointment at usf.edu/student-ombuds.](https://usf.edu/student-ombuds)