



Chaminade
University
OF HONOLULU

EDUC 668 Course Syllabus

3140 Waiālae Avenue - Honolulu, HI 96816

www.chaminade.edu

Course Number: EDUC 780

Course Title: Special Topics: Understanding and Implementing the Science of Reading

College/School/Division: School of Education and Behavioral Sciences

Term: Spring 2025

Credits: 1

Class Location: Online (Canvas)

Instructor Name: Christopher Padesky, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: Office hours by appointment

University Course Catalog Description

This course provides an in-depth exploration of literacy instruction through the lens of the Science of Reading. Students will learn the importance of literacy skills and how to effectively teach those skills to diverse K-12 students. The course covers the major concepts of literacy instruction, including phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, reading comprehension, reading fluency, and writing. Additionally, this course examines how the Science of Reading can be utilized to enhance literacy achievement for all students in Hawai'i, considering its unique cultural and linguistic landscape.

Conceptual Framework:

The Education Division's Conceptual Framework is based upon a set of beliefs that flow from the University's vision and mission statements, the Division's vision and mission statements, and the core academic beliefs of Chaminade University. These values and beliefs are based on the Catholic Marianist principles; a commitment to mentor teacher and educational leader candidates to their fullest potential; a commitment to teaching, scholarship and research; and a commitment to serve the university and the larger community. This alignment is designed to prepare education professionals who meet the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) standards for effective teaching by demonstrating professional dispositions and empathy, content knowledge, and the pedagogical/leadership skills to work effectively with a diverse community of learners.

Education Division Mission Statement:

The Education Division's mission is to foster the development of knowledgeable, proficient, and reflective teachers and educational leaders. Our programs are based in the liberal arts tradition, Catholic Marianist values, current research, best practice, and professional standards. In this context we develop educators who demonstrate ethical, effective and culturally responsive practices, and a commitment to building a just and peaceful society.

Marianist Values

1. Educate for formation in faith
2. Provide an integral quality education
3. Educate in family spirit
4. Educate for service, justice and peace
5. Educate for adaptation and change

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Articulate the importance of literacy skills and how to effectively teach students through the Science of Reading.
2. Define the major concepts of literacy instruction including phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, and writing.
3. Recognize the unique strengths and needs of multilingual students and students with dyslexia and/or dysgraphia.
4. Describe how the Science of Reading can be used to improve literacy achievement for all students in Hawai'i

Learning Materials

- [Need to rent or purchase] Nanton, Nick. (2022). *The Truth About Reading*. DNA Films.
- [Need to rent or purchase] Mackenzie, Jenny. (2023). *The Right to Read*. Artemis Rising Foundation & LeVar Burton Entertainment.
- [Free]Macias, Luis. (2013). *Embracing Dyslexia*. Learning Foundations.
- [Free] Reading Rockets Modules
- All other resources will be provided.

Assessment

Assignments	Points
Weekly Assignments and Discussion	100
Total	100

May be subject to change based on the dynamics of current events. Late assignments submitted one-day late will receive a 10% deduction and two-days late with a 25% deduction. No late assignments will be accepted after. If there is an emergency, make sure to contact me before the due date of an assignment. No work will be accepted after the last day of the course.

Syllabus Change Policy: This syllabus is a guide and every attempt is made to provide an accurate overview of the course. Occasionally, it may be necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester due to the progress of the class, experiences of the students, and unforeseen changes in the schedule. Changes to the syllabus will be made with advance notice whenever possible.

Grading scale

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
0-69	F

Schedule

Week	Topic	Tasks
Week 1	Background on Literacy: History of reading and writing Background of Literacy in Hawai'i Overview of the Science of Reading	Week 1 Discussion: History of Reading and Writing
Week 2	Reading Challenges: Dyslexia and Dysgraphia Reading Assets: Multilingual Learners	Week 2 Discussion: Dyslexia and Multilingual Learners
Week 3	Phonemic Awareness	Week 3 Discussion: Phonological and Phonemic Awareness
Week 4	Phonics: Decoding and Encoding	Week 4 Discussion: Phonics
Week 5	Vocabulary	Week 5 Discussion: Vocabulary
Week 6	Reading Comprehension and Fluency	Week 6 Discussion: Reading Comprehension and Fluency
Week 7	Writing	Week 7 Discussion: Writing
Week 8	Assessment	Week 8 Discussion: Assessment
Week 9	Disciplinary Literacy: We All Teach Literacy	Week 9 Discussion: Disciplinary Literacy
Week 10	Reflections: Literacy as a Social Justice Issue	Week 10 Discussion: Social Justice

Credit Hour Policy

This is a one-credit-hour course requiring 45 hours of student engagement, per the official CUH Credit Hour Policy. Students in this course are anticipated to spend 6 hours listening and responding to the Sold a Story Podcast and about 4 ½ hours per week engaged in weekly reading, discussion, and assignments.

Model Code of Ethics for Educators

The Model Code of Ethics for Educators is intertwined throughout the various activities within this course, as well as the other courses you will take within this program. The responsibility to profession, of professional competence, to our students, to the school, and with the use of technology are integral to all aspects of this course.

Changes to the Syllabus

While the provisions of this syllabus are as accurate and complete as possible, your instructor reserves the right to change any provision herein at any time. Every effort will be made to keep you advised of such changes, and information about such changes will be available from your instructor.

Online Course Guidelines

- Students should communicate with each other using common courtesy, politeness, and appropriate behaviors. Inappropriate behavior, including, but not limited to the following, are unacceptable: bullying in any form, harassment in any form, making demeaning and/or derogatory comments, other aggressive behaviors in-person or virtually and/or other forms of communication.
- Discussion Participation: You will be evaluated on the quality of your contributions and insights. Quality comments possess one or more of the following properties: Offers a response that is relevant and contributes to moving the discussion forward, transcends simply stating "I agree," and demonstrates in-depth thinking.

Writing Standards

All work submitted by Chaminade University students must meet the following writing standards. Written assignments should:

- Use correctly the grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure of Standard Written English.
- Develop ideas, themes, and main points coherently and concisely.
- Adopt modes and styles appropriate to their purpose and audience.
- Be clear, complete, and effective.
- Carefully analyze and synthesize material and ideas borrowed from sources. In addition, the sources of the borrowed material should be correctly acknowledged to avoid plagiarism (see Plagiarism).

Academic Honesty

Violations of the Honor Code are serious. They harm other students, your professor, and the integrity of the University. Alleged violations will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs. If found guilty of plagiarism, a student might receive a range of penalties, including failure of an assignment, failure of an assignment and withholding of the final course grade until a paper is turned in on the topic of plagiarism, failure of the course, or suspension from the University.

Violations of Academic Integrity: Violations of the principle include, but are not limited to:

- Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise.

- Fabrication and Falsification: Intentional and unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification is a matter of inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.
- Multiple Submissions: The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work for credit (including oral reports) more than once without authorization.
- Plagiarism: Intentionally or knowingly presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source).
- Abuse of Academic Materials: Intentionally or knowingly destroying, stealing, or making inaccessible library or other academic resource materials.
- Complicity in Academic Dishonesty: Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying or borrowing liberally from someone else's work without his/her knowledge or permission; or with his/her knowledge or permission and turning it in as your own work.
- Copying of someone else's exam or paper.
- Allowing someone to turn in your work as his or her own.

- Not providing adequate references for cited work.
- Copying and pasting large quotes or passages without properly citing them.

While AI technologies can be useful tools for research and learning, the Academic Honesty policies apply when using these technologies. The use of AI is not permitted to compose essays or produce content for assignments and exams. Students should give proper credit to sources when using information obtained through AI tools or other sources. It is essential that we uphold academic integrity while fostering a culture of creativity and critical thinking.

Native Hawaiian Values

Education is an integral value in both Marianist and Native Hawaiian culture. Both recognize the transformative effect of a well-rounded, value-centered education on society, particularly in seeking justice for the marginalized, the forgotten, and the oppressed, always with an eye toward God (Ke Akua). This is reflected in the 'Ōlelo No'eau (Hawaiian proverbs) and Marianist core beliefs:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith (Mana) E ola au i ke akua ('Ōlelo No'eau 364) May I live by God.
2. Provide an Integral, Quality Education (Na'auao) Lawe i ka ma'alea a kū'ono'ono ('Ōlelo No'eau 1957) Acquire skill and make it deep.
3. Educate in Family Spirit ('Ohana) 'Ike aku, 'ike mai, kōkua aku kōkua mai; pela iho la ka nohana 'ohana ('Ōlelo No'eau 1200) Recognize others, be recognized, help others, be helped; such is a family relationship.
4. Educate for Service, Justice and Peace (Aloha) Ka lama kū o ka no'eau ('Ōlelo No'eau 1430) Education is the standing torch of wisdom.
5. Educate for Adaptation and Change (Aina) 'A'ohe pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ho'okahi ('Ōlelo No'eau 203) All knowledge is not taught in the same school

Title IX and Nondiscrimination Statement

Chaminade University of Honolulu is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes the dignity of all people, inclusivity and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator.

Nondiscrimination Policy & Notice of Nondiscrimination

Chaminade University of Honolulu does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and its regulations, including in admission and employment. Inquiries about Title IX may be referred to the University's Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both and contact information may be found at the [Chaminade University Title IX Office Contact Information and Confidential Resources website](#). On-campus Confidential Resources may also be found here at [CAMPUS CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES](#).

Student with Disabilities Statement

Chaminade University of Honolulu offers accommodations for all actively enrolled students with disabilities in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act (2008).

Students are responsible for contacting Kokua Ike: Center for Student Learning to schedule an appointment. Verification of their disability will be requested through appropriate documentation and once received it will take up to approximately 2–3 weeks to review them. Appropriate paperwork will be completed by the student before notification will be sent out to their instructors. Accommodation paperwork will not be automatically sent out to instructors each semester, as the student is responsible to notify Kokua Ike via email at ada@chaminade.edu each semester if changes or notifications are needed.

Disability Access

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services. Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations to Kōkua Ike: Center for Student Learning by the end of week three of the class, in order for the instructor to plan accordingly. Failure to provide written documentation will prevent your instructor from making the necessary accommodation. If you would like to determine if you meet the criteria for accommodation, contact ada@chaminade.edu.

Kōkua 'Ike: Tutoring & Learning Services

Chaminade is proud to offer free, one-on-one tutoring and writing assistance to all students. Tutoring and writing help is available on campus at [Kōkua 'Ike: Center for Student Learning](#) in a variety of subjects (including, but are not limited to biology, chemistry, math, nursing, English, etc.) from trained Peer and Professional Tutors. Please check Kōkua 'Ike's website for the latest times, list of drop-in hours, and information on scheduling an appointment. Free online tutoring is also available via TutorMe. Tutor Me can be accessed 24/7 from your Canvas account. Simply click on Account > TutorMe. For more information, please contact Kōkua 'Ike at tutoring@chaminade.edu or 808-739-8305.