

ELIS 4800 - Teaching Language Arts in Grades 3-5

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 02, CRN 41923,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Courtney Cruz

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Courtney Cruz

Instructor Professional Qualifications:

Ph.D., Special Education, Kent State University, 2026

M.Ed., Early Childhood Education, Youngstown State University, 2014

B.A., Early Childhood Education, Mount Vernon Nazarene University, 2004

Instructor Office Location:

Beeghly Hall # 2419

Department of Teacher Education and Leadership Studies

Beeghly College of Liberal Arts, Social Sciences, and Education (BCLASSE)

Youngstown State University

Instructor Office Phone: (330) 941- 3223

Course Description

4800. Teaching Language Arts in Grades 3-5. Candidates focus on identifying and modeling developmentally appropriate strategies used for problem solving, communicating, and reasoning in elementary education language arts. Candidates create effective learning environments using content-specific pedagogy to make connections to stimulate students' development of language arts concepts and skills in a diverse 3-5 classroom. Field hours required. Prereq.: TELS Upper Division Status, ELIS 3701, ELIS 3702, ELIS 3703, ELIS 3704. Coreq.: ELIS 4801, ELIS 4802, ELIS 4803, ELIS 4804. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts		

No course textbook

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Provided in BB	Introduction Activities / Course Overview / Syllabus/ Discussion of intro/video and field placements ELA: Introduction to 3-5 Grades Common Core Standards SPED: All things Specialized	In-Class Assignment #1: Co-Teaching



8/31	Provided in BB	Lesson Plan Discussion ELA: Reading Standards: Reading Literature (Key Ideas and Details, Craft and Structure, Integration of Knowledge and Ideas) SPED: Accommodations, Modifications, Strategies and Supports	In-Class Assignment #2: Family Partnerships & Involvement
9/7	Provided in BB	ELA: Reading Standards: Informational Text (Key Ideas and Details, Craft and Structure, Integration of Knowledge and Ideas) SPED: (continued) Accommodations, Modifications, Strategies and Supports	
9/14	Provided in BB	ELA: Reading Standards: Foundational Skills (Phonics and Word Recognition, Fluency) SPED: Inclusive Literacy Practices, Techniques & Specialized programs	ELA Lesson Plan #1
9/21	Provided in BB	Teach in Field Lesson Plan #1 ELA: Speaking and Listening Standards (Comprehension and Collaboration, Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas) SPED: Behavior and Classroom Management in the Inclusive ELA Classroom	
9/28	Provided in BB	ELA: Scripted Lesson Plans SPED: Universal Design for ELA	In-Class Assignment #3: Scripted Curriculum
10/5	Provided in BB	ELA: Language Standards (Conventions of Standard English, Knowledge of Language, Vocabulary Acquisition and Use) SPED: Interventions & Strategies for Language (e.g., small groups, individual feedback, goal setting)	In-Class Assignment #4: Banned Books
10/12	Provided in BB	ELA: TBD	In-Class Assignment #5: Cursive Handwriting Critical Task: ELA Lesson Plan #2
10/19	Provided in BB	Teach in Field Lesson Plan #2 ELA: Writing Standards (Text Types and Purposes, Research to Build and Present Knowledge) SPED: Interventions & Strategies for Writing (e.g., small groups, individual feedback, goal setting) SPED Activity Directions	In-Class Assignment #6: Professional Organizations and Associations
10/26	Provided in BB	Asynchronous Learning SPED: Co-teaching in the General Education Classroom	Scripted Lesson Plan
11/2	Provided in BB	TEACH SCRIPTED LESSON PLAN Asynchronous Learning SPED: Progress Monitoring and Data Collection	
11/9	Provided in BB	Asynchronous Learning SPED: Progress Monitoring and Data Collection	SPED File Folder Activity
11/16	Provided in BB	Asynchronous Learning SPED: Family Partnerships & Involvement	
11/23	Provided in BB	Asynchronous Learning SPED: Growing in Self-Determination as a TC	
11/30	Provided in BB	Asynchronous Learning SPED: Self-Determination for Elementary Students	
12/7	Provided in BB	Asynchronous Learning ELA & SPED: Wrapping it Up & Course reflection	All required forms

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.