

TERG 3711 - Reading Application in Content Areas, Secondary Years

Summer 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 31150,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Jackie Mercer

Professional Qualifications:

Ed.D., Educational Leadership, Youngstown State University, 2024

MA, Professional Communication, YSU, 2021

MA, English, YSU, 2012

BS, Integrated English Education, YSU, 2009

Senior Lecturer

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Communication Expectations:

I check email regularly M-F from 8am – 5pm and when possible, outside of those times. YSU email is our primary form of communication. Please DO NOT rely on Blackboard messages for communication.

How to Refer to me:

Dr. Mercer

Course Description

3711. Reading Application in Content Areas, Secondary Years. Study of Ohio's Learning Standards for English Language Arts, comprehension skills, word attack skills, study skills, pre-reading strategies, and writing development as they relate to content area reading in secondary years. The role of literature in the content-area classroom. 25 field hours required. Prereq.: 50 semester hours completed. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	# Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz (2021). Content area reading: Literacy and learning across the curriculum (13th ed.). New York, NY: Pearson.		

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

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Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
5/11	None	Course introduction, introduction to literacy	Begin fieldwork. Complete at least 12.5 hours and complete journal entries
5/18	None	Course introduction, introduction to literacy	Continue fieldwork. Complete remaining 12.5 hours and journal entries
5/25	Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, Chapter 1: "Literacy Matters"	Introduction to literacy	Contextual Factors due 5/31 Fieldwork Hours due 5/31 Fieldwork Journal due 5/31



6/1	Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, Chapter 3: "Culturally Responsive Teaching in Diverse Classrooms"	Culturally responsive teaching Lesson plan work	Reading Response #1 due 6/7 Practice Lesson Plan Submission #1 due by 6/7
6/8	Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, Chapter 4: "Assessing Students and Texts"	Assessment Lesson plan work	Practice Lesson Plan Submission #2 due by 6/14 Reading Response #2 due by 6/14
6/15	Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, Chapter 5: "Planning Instruction for Content Literacy"	Planning Dyslexia Project	Dyslexia Project due by 6/21 Reading Response #3 due by 6/21
6/22	Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, Chapter 6: "Activating Prior Knowledge and Interest"	The role of prior knowledge Lesson plan work	Practice Lesson Plan Submission #3 due by 6/28 Reading Response #4 due by 6/28
6/29	Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, Chapter 7: "Guiding Reading Comprehension"	Reading Comprehension	Reading Response #5 due by 7/5
7/6	vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, Chapter 8: "Developing Vocabulary and Concepts"	Vocabulary Development Critical Task Work	Critical Task Proposal/Outline due by 7/12
7/13	Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, Chapter 9: "Writing Across the Curriculum"	Writing across the curriculum Lesson plan work	Standards and Objectives (Critical Task Practice 1) due by 7/19 Reading Response #6 due by 7/19
7/20	Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, Chapter 10: "Studying Text"	Working with struggling readers	Critical Task Practice 2 due by 7/26
7/27	Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, Chapter 11: "Learning with Multiple Texts"	Multiple Texts	Reading Response #7 due by 8/2
8/3	See Blackboard	Lesson plan work Literacy and scaffolding	Critical Task Practice 3 due by Friday, 8/7
8/10	No reading this week	Critical Task	Final Critical Task Submission by Friday, 8/14

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.