

**Course Title:** Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools, Part II

**Instructor:** Carol Mowen

**Length:** 15 hours

**Dates:** Rolling admissions

**Prerequisites:** Bachelor Degree

**Number of credits:** 1

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides practical and effective strategies for getting secondary students to read. The reluctant reader and the impact of adult role models and peer pressure on adolescent learning are explored. Choice theory is explored and incentives for reading and establishing long-term goals are provided for adolescence. Media literacy and the use of available technology to promote literacy are discussed. Assessment and lesson plan design to improve literacy are presented with a variety of materials for classroom use. The framework of the course has an emphasis on developing a secondary school that enhances literacy for all students. This course may be taken alone or with *Improving Literacy in the Secondary Schools, Part I* that highlights the changing definition and multicultural traditions and history of literacy.

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Knowledge –at the end of this course the student will be able to understand
  - a. characteristics of the reluctant reader,
  - b. media, technology and literacy, and
  - c. authentic assessment to increase literacy.
2. Skills –after this course a student will be able to
  - a. develop portfolios and authentic assessment tools,
  - b. use research-based strategies that work to promote literacy, and
  - c. design lesson plans for mastery.
3. Dispositions – they will appreciate out of this
  - a. positive reinforcement and role modeling promote literacy,
  - b. definitions of reading and writing change over time, and
  - c. technology is an important tool for closing the gap.

**Session Topics (8):**

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choosing Reading: Getting secondary Students to Read</li> </ul> | Carol Mowen |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Role Models and Adolescent Literacy</li> </ul>            | Carol Mowen |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the Reading and Writing Connection</li> </ul>            | Carol Mowen |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literacy and Technology</li> </ul>                              | Carol Mowen |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media Literacy in the Secondary School</li> </ul>               | Carol Mowen |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson Design to Improve Literacy</li> </ul>                    | Carol Mowen |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment in Literacy</li> </ul>                               | Carol Mowen |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a Secondary School that Enhances Literacy</li> </ul> | Carol Mowen |

**Methods of Instruction:**  
*Credit*

*Percentage of Course*

Methods of instruction will include:

- |                                    |                |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| • 8 individual sections (15 hours) |                |
| • 8 pre assessments                | 5%             |
| • 8 graded post assessments        | 20%            |
| • 8 Video Lectures                 | 35%            |
| • Polling questions                | part of videos |
| • 8, 60-100 pages Study guides     |                |
| • Handouts                         |                |
| • Projects                         | 40%            |

**Texts (included in program)**

- 200 page study guide provided in the program

**Assignments**

- 40 pre assignment
- 64 post assignments

**Grading:**

Grading Requirements include a Lesson Plan or Implementation Plan and a Guided Reflection.

**Due dates of major assignments, projects, and examinations:** Online self running programs can be started and completed at the participants own leisure within 2 months from the day they begin the course.

**FINAL EXAM PROJECT:** Develop a lesson plan that integrates activities to promote literacy into your curricular area. Which strategies and/or activities mentioned in the lectures do you feel would be the most helpful in increasing critical thinking skills and comprehension in your subject area? How do you plan to use technology and other concepts presented to reach diverse and struggling learners? \* Include the following:

1. Select a standard of learning objective from a specific content area.
2. Develop one or more activities that you will use to promote literacy in your classroom.
3. Create one or more cooperative learning activities that can be used to address the standard or learning objective.
4. Incorporate activities that allow for students to perform tasks successfully in a mixed-ability classroom
5. Describe one or more assessment measures that you will use to check for understanding. Create a rubric to provide a common framework of stated lesson objectives and student understanding.

Incorporate anecdotal evidence and data to indicate that your lesson plan was successful or may need revision for future lessons. Discuss your experience in implementation of this lesson plan and the possible *pros and cons* of adapting the lesson for future classroom use.

*A KDS Lesson Plan and Reflection Guide are attached and should be followed to provide a comprehensive assessment of course objectives. \*However, if you are unable to implement your Lesson Plan and Guided Reflection in an actual classroom, please project what anticipated outcomes would be.*