



University of Utah  
Department of Educational Psychology

# READING & LITERACY PROGRAM

Fall 2020 Newsletter

## Spring 2021 Course Information

### Spring 2021 M.Ed./Endorsement Courses

Reading & Literacy M.Ed./Level 1 Endorsement Course:  
EDPS 6124 *Children's Literature in the Schools*  
TH - 4:35-7:15 pm; IVC; Instructor: Dr. Lauren Aimonette Liang

Reading & Literacy M.Ed./Level 2 Interventionist Endorsement Course:  
EDPS 6842 *Reading Interventionist Capstone Course*  
W - 4:35-7:05 pm; IVC; Instructor: Dr. Christy Austin

M.Ed. students and endorsement students should register for Section 030 through AOCE. Please note that this course is only for those who are in the last semester of the Level 2 Reading Interventionist endorsement program.

### Reading & Literacy M.Ed. Coursework Forms

All Reading & Literacy M.Ed. students should update their coursework form and send to Dr. Lauren A. Liang (lauren.liang@utah.edu) no later than Monday, December 14th

### Thinking Ahead to Summer 2021 - EDPS Course Offerings

First Session - Level 1 Endorsement Course:  
EDPS 6711 Foundations of Literacy

One-Week Elective Course:

EDPS 6331 International Children's and Adolescent Literature:  
Focus on Latin American Children's Literature

More information about these classes will be sent to you in Spring 2021

### M.Ed. Comprehensive Exams: Reading and Literacy AND Elementary Education

If you are planning to take comprehensive exams in Spring 2021, please email Dr. Lauren Aimonette Liang (lauren.liang@utah.edu) by December 14th. Also, register for EDPS 6725 Sec 030 RL Exam Preparation. (This is a 1.0 credit, 60\$ course.)

Comprehensive exam dates for Spring 2021 will be Friday, March 5 - Monday, March 22.

### Olene Walker Scholarship - Level 1 Reading Endorsement Courses

The Olene Walker Scholarship application will be open for applications in February 2021. These scholarships for Utah teachers reduce the cost of the Level 1 Reading Endorsement Courses (7 Courses) to \$300/course, approximately one-half of the regular rate. Watch your email in February for the application packet.

Application Deadline: Friday, March 20th at 5:00 pm. Return completed applications to Dr. Lauren Aimonette Liang (lauren.liang@utah.edu).

### Current Olene Walker Scholarship Recipients

Are you a current Olene Walker Scholarship recipient? Email Dr. Lauren Aimonette Liang (lauren.liang@utah.edu) no later than Tuesday, December 1st with the courses you will be taking in Spring 2021.

## Scholarship Information

## Graduation Spotlight



### Graduating Soon?

Please review the instructions in the Reading and Literacy handbook about graduation, and online at the Graduate School at this link:

<https://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/graduategraduation.php>

Keep an eye on the deadlines for each semester.

### M.Ed. Students

Contact Academic Coordinator JoLynn Yates (jo.yates@utah.edu) at the beginning of the semester prior to the semester in which you will graduate. She will help you set up your supervisory committee.

This is also the time to submit your Program of Study and to fill out the graduation information through the Graduate School at the link above.

Comprehensive exams should be taken in the semester you are graduating. (If you are graduating in the Summer semester, you will need to take comprehensive exams in the Spring semester.)



Congratulations to Ph.D. student **Margaret Osgood Optaz** on winning a *Children's Literature Assembly Student Conference Grant!* Margaret will be attending the National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE) conference virtually this November.



Congratulations to Ph.D. students **Liz Thackeray Nelson** and **Margaret Osgood Optaz** on their upcoming presentation at the National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE) conference in November: "What Does This Text Have to Do With Me? Creating and Sequencing Confluent Text Sets to Increase Reading Engagement and Achievement."

## Students in the News

## Spread the Word

Do you want to encourage your colleagues to pursue a M.Ed. in Reading and Literacy or a reading endorsement? The program has brochures available to share with your school and district. Please ask your current instructors or email Dr. Lauren A. Liang (lauren.liang@utah.edu) for copies.

Thinking about a doctorate in Reading and Literacy? Email Dr. Lauren A. Liang for more information about the Reading & Literacy PhD program, including requirements, part-time options, etc.

Have information you want to share in future newsletters about upcoming conferences/events, or exciting student news? Please contact Dr. Lauren A. Liang.

## Resources for You

### Teaching Reading with Young Children Remotely:

Check out these resources from Dr. Nell Duke of Michigan on providing small-group reading instruction remotely. The first one is shown with literacy coaches being the students. The second one, which is designed as a follow-up, has real students.

[https://youtu.be/hNHlmv\\_iKEM](https://youtu.be/hNHlmv_iKEM)

[https://youtu.be/PFsKu7rf8\\_I](https://youtu.be/PFsKu7rf8_I)

Check out the resources at our very own University of Utah Reading Clinic. This video offers several examples:

<https://uorc.utah.edu/Educators/Videos.php>

### Using Children's Literature in Your Remote or Hybrid Classroom:

<https://www.childrensliteratureassembly.org/blog>

Visit the Children's Literature Assembly's BLOG for weekly posts that support preK-12 teachers as they share children's literature with their students in all classroom contexts. This semester the blog has highlighted the work of the [Biography Clearinghouse](#) in the classroom and using the Notable Books for the Language Arts 2019 winning titles in your curriculum.

### Upcoming National Events:

Watch for online access or social media videos of sessions at these national reading and literacy conferences!

National Council for Teachers of English Virtual Annual Convention - November 19-22, 2020

<http://convention.ncte.org/>

Literacy Research Association Virtual Annual Conference - November 20 - December 5, 2020

<https://lira.memberclicks.net/annual-meeting>

The Reading and Literacy Faculty congratulates all of our students on their hard work and persistence during this difficult time. Please continue to follow the information and guidance at the [Covid-19 Central @ the U page](#). Also, please be aware that the College of Education has an Emergency Student Support Fund if you find yourself in deeply serious circumstances.

<https://education.utah.edu/about/emergency-fund.php>

