Early Grade Reading in Developing Countries
Online Courses – Fall 2018

1) How Children in Developing Countries Learn to Read
(taught in Spanish)
2) Materials & Technology for Early Grade Reading

Registration is now open! (since June 4, 2018)

The International Education concentration at UMass Amherst is offering two 12-week online courses starting September 4, 2018. These are university, for-credit graduate courses accessible to practitioners and policy makers around the world.

How Children Learn to Read (Spanish)
Why this course?
Offered in Spanish for the first time, this course is intended to help early grade reading project personnel understand the basics of early grade reading and apply key concepts to their own context. The goal is to help participants to:

- Develop an understanding of how children acquire and improve reading skills
- Consider the factors that support learning
- Articulate the rationale for investing in early grade reading (EGR)
- Consider the importance of language of instruction in learning how to read
- Find, read and analyze EGR initiatives that have happened in their country or region
- Engage with practitioners from around the world who are or will be involved in EGR
- Understand assessments of EGR, including the Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA)
- Articulate the ways in which learning to read can be complemented by learning to write
- Design a country profile for early grade reading.

Who is the instructor?
The instructor for this 12-week online course is Dr. Rebecca Stone, adjunct professor in International Education. Dr. Stone has worked on early grade reading projects for over 12 years, and she specializes in mother tongue-based multilingual education.

How do I register?
Participants can register for this course through UMass Amherst Continuing & Professional Education (see instructions on page 3). Tuition for this 3-credit course is currently $1,422. There is also a $47 non-refundable registration fee. Prerequisites: a bachelor’s degree and English skills equivalent to 80 or above on the TOEFL IBT (Note: You do NOT need to submit TOEFL scores).
Materials & Technology for Early Grade Reading

Why this course?
The purpose of this course is to help you understand the role of curriculum and material resources to support reading. By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Define **what goes into a curriculum** for early grade reading;
- Articulate the ways in which **classroom-based materials** can be effectively used for promoting early grade reading;
- Describe the **various technology** that can be used for promoting early grade reading;
- Identify the materials and resources needed to **support children’s reading acquisition**, inside and outside of the classroom;
- Articulate how **policy and systems** can be aligned for supporting continuous use and improvement of materials and technology for early grade reading;
- Supervise the **design of appropriate materials** considering technical, contextual, cost, and logistic factors;
- Support the development of materials using **locally available resources**;
- Explain mechanisms for **vetting and evaluating** the effectiveness of materials;
- Analyze and suggest ways to improve the **publication and distribution** of materials;
- Explain **how the ‘system of materials’ can be assessed** to improve design, vetting, production, distribution, and use of materials; and
- Create and present an **analysis** for applying knowledge about materials and technology to your own context and work.

Who are the instructors?
The lead instructor for this 12-week online course is **Nicholas Boke**, adjunct professor in International Education. Nick has over 30 years of experience in literacy programs in the United States and around the world, most recently in Africa and the Middle East. Joining him as co-instructor will be **Lukas Winfield**, doctoral student in International Education. Lukas has served as a research consultant and worked on early grade reading and materials development in Asia.

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SEE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE ABOUT HOW TO REGISTER
HOW TO REGISTER
Registration opens on June 4, 2018
http://blogs.umass.edu/egrcert/faqs
INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTERING

You can register for these courses through SPIRE, the student information system for the University of Massachusetts Amherst. There are 3 steps:

1. **Create a student account.** Go to spire.umass.edu. On the right hand menu, under *Apply/References*, click on **Non-Degree Enrollment Application**. Read the information and click “Continue”. Fill out the online form. (Note: although there is a field for Social Security number, you do NOT need a Social Security number to apply – just leave that field blank). You will receive an email with your NetID and password (this may take up to 3 days.)

2. **Get an enrollment appointment.** Once you have received your NetID and password, you can log in to SPIRE (spire.umass.edu). Go to *Main Menu > Enrollment > Summer/Wntr/Non-degr Enroll Appt* and follow the instructions. **(NOTE: It can take 1-2 days for SPIRE to recognize your NetID, so if you do not see these screens, try again the next day.)**

3. **Register for the class.** The enrollment appointment should be available immediately. Go to *Main Menu > Enrollment > Add Classes*.

   a. Search for the class:
      
      How Children in Developing Countries Learn to Read  
      **Class number: 81794**  
      Course number: EDUC 680

      Materials & Technology for Early Grade Reading  
      **Class number: 81793**  
      Course number: EDUC 687T

   b. Add the class to your “Shopping Cart”, then select the class from the Cart to “Enroll”.

**NOTE:** **Space is limited**, so please register now to reserve your place.

Feel free to pass along this flyer to others who may be interested in taking the course. Thank you!

**Questions?**

Email us: egrcert@umass.edu

Visit our Web site: http://blogs.umass.edu/egrcert/

See our Frequently Asked Questions