

Early Grade Reading in Developing Countries Group Courses

Information and Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why commission a course in early grade reading for your staff?

A. Usually we offer 1 or 2 courses each semester, which any individual from any organization can take for professional development. However, sometimes organizations would like a particular course to be offered at a particular time, to build capacity of their own staff and have staff “on the same page” in terms of foundational knowledge and shared concepts. Group courses can also be customized to a particular organization’s needs, for example in the discussion topics or readings that are assigned.

Q. What courses are available?

A. We offer the following fully-online courses, all of which are accredited by the UMass Amherst Graduate School. Each course is worth 3 graduate credits. Course details: <http://blogs.umass.edu/egrcert/courses/>

- *How Children in Developing Countries Learn to Read (in English or in Spanish)*
- *Systems to Support Early Grade Reading*
- *Teacher Preparation and Support for Early Grade Reading*
- *Materials and Technology for Early Grade Reading*
- *Role of Community and Family for Supporting Early Grade Reading*
- *How Children in Developing Countries Learn Math (new course, starting 2019)*

Q. What is the procedure for commissioning a course?

- A.** If you would like to schedule a course for your organization, please email us (egrcert@umass.edu) with:
- a) which course(s) you are interested in,
 - b) how many participants you have (minimum 10 participants)
 - c) when you would like the course to run (Fall/Sept, Spring/Jan or Summer/May); each course is 12 weeks

We will discuss your needs with you and check instructor availability. Once the course is confirmed, we will ask you to send participant information so we can arrange for group registration of your participants and a group bill to be sent to the organization. All participants must hold at least a Bachelor’s degree and have sufficient English reading and writing skills to participate in the course.

Q. What is cost of commissioning a group course?

We can offer a group course if there is a minimum of 10 participants. If there is a minimum of 15 participants, we can offer a 10% discount on the tuition fees. At current rates:

- Cost per participant without 10% discount = \$1,422 tuition + \$47 registration fee = \$1,469
- Cost per participant with 10% discount = \$1,280 tuition + \$47 registration fee = \$1,327