

Content Area Reading – Professional Development
Florida Literacy and Reading Excellence Center (FLaRE) A project of Just Read, Florida!

60 points

General objective

This course is designed to help content area teachers improve instruction with the goal of helping every student become a good reader/writer, able to use literacy for a variety of purposes. The experience is intended as a support for content area teachers to implement a comprehensive approach to teaching and learning within a collegial network. The course is one component of implementation, which involves a comprehensive range of actions designed to develop literacy education in the content areas. The course is an essential step and it implies long-term school change based on scientifically based reading research.

Specific objectives

This course will help content area teachers to:

- understand and implement effective instructional practices in classrooms;
- understand the scientifically based research for the elements of effective literacy instruction in the content areas;
- understand the five critical elements of reading identified by the National Reading Panel;
- reflect on how the five critical elements are inherent in the content areas;
- become skilled observers of students' reading and writing behavior in the content areas;
- interpret and use dynamic and static data as a basis for teaching in the content areas;
- develop instructional plans for individuals, small groups, and classes in the content areas;
- reflect on and analyze their teaching of literacy in the content areas;
- evaluate and select literacy materials based on content;
- collect data to assess student learning;
- learn how to address issues in content area reading;
- develop a common language;
- investigate the creation of conditions for learning in content area classrooms;
- investigate strategic activities for sustaining literacy learning across content areas;
- investigate strategic activities for expanding literacy learning across content areas; and,
- amplify instruction utilizing writing to enhance literacy learning in content areas.

Description of activities:

Participants will be involved in a variety of activities to accomplish the specific objectives of this component. These activities may include but are not limited to: lecturettes, discussions, modeling of strategic activities, demonstrations of instructional practices, and hands-on training.

Evaluation of participants:

Evaluation of the specific objectives will be determined by the activity leader or designee through analysis of a reflection journal on outside readings. Participants must demonstrate increased competencies in ___% or more of the specific objectives in order to earn inservice credits.