

Ryan Adams 48/50 (NCATE score 4)

Literacy Instruction Observations (50 points)

In order to gain a better understanding of literacy instruction, students enrolled in Educ 340 must observe a **minimum** of ten hours of literacy instruction at local elementary schools. Teachers have volunteered to have observers in his/her classroom during instruction time. While you are not required to teach during this placement, you should get as involved as the teacher would like.

- Observe **five hours in k-3rd** grade settings; observe **five hours in 4th-6th** grade settings
- Do NOT cram the observations all into one day or a few – these should be spread out!
- Keep an accurate log of your visits; have the teacher sign the log EVERY TIME
- Have each teacher complete the provided evaluation sheet
- Dress professionally – NO JEANS/FLIP FLOPS/T-SHIRTS!
- Be punctual – do not skip observations unless you are ill. If you cannot make your scheduled time, it is your responsibility to contact the school and teacher as well as your professor.
- You are a guest in the school and that specific classroom; please represent Manchester College well. Wear your name badge and get involved where appropriate.
- Keep a journal of what you observe, making a point to document elements we have discussed in class as well as make notes about neat activities that you observe; use the “Observing a Balanced Classroom” article as a guide
- Date each journal entry, and indicate the placement location/grade level; entries must be specific and developed. It should be obvious that you have taken the time to reflect on what you observed and made connections between coursework and observations.
- Write a three-page (minimum) reflection paper about what you learned through your observations. Based on your journals, draw connections between what you saw and what we talked about in class, comparing the settings if you want.

Turn in the following components on the due date.

5 10 hours of observations (separate placements as outlined above/signed log sheet)(5 points)

25 Journal (25 points)

- Each journal is dated
- Do not use specific names – refer to them as “teacher” or “a student”
- These do not have to be in complete sentences, but rather legible notes
- **Identify things we have talked about in class** (lit circles, phonics, word walls)
- Use the “Observing a Balanced Literacy Classroom” article for ideas

18 Reflection paper (20 points) (SUBMITTED VIA ANGEL)

- Minimum of three pages
- Organize your thoughts about what you learned drawing connections between our text and class discussions with what you observed
- Conclude what you would like to use in your own classroom or what you will not do

Before attaching your Reflection Paper, be sure it has been named using the following guidelines:

Assignment File Name = your reversed username (with uppercase initials) +

course number + abbreviated name of assignment

Example: SchillingHA340FieldRef