

*Step 1: Introduction*

## Program Highlights Elementary Teacher Training in Reading

### U. T. System-wide Overview

- Since SB994 was passed in the mid 80's, no public institution in Texas has awarded a bachelor's degree in education.
- SB 994 limits the institutions to 18 credit hours in pedagogy plus 6 credit hours in reading for students seeking certification for teaching.
- In the early 90's, most component institutions began to teach field-based courses.
- Field-based instruction helps students to integrate theory with practice – especially important for phonics.
- Institutions with a significant part of the curriculum in field-based courses use a large number of public school teachers and staff as adjunct faculty.
- Most adjunct faculty have extensive classroom experience plus all have at least a Master's degree.
- Within the last two years most core courses in reading have been redesigned to incorporate material which is closely aligned with the new TEKS.
- The reading elements of the TEKS are based on current research and require a balance of phonics and whole language approaches.

*Chancellor Cunningham's Handout @  
8/13/98 Board meeting*

**Reading Program Summary**  
**The University of Texas System**

	U. T. Arlington	U. T. Austin	U. T. Brownsville	U. T. Dallas	U. T. El Paso	U. T. Pan American	U. T. Permian Basin	U. T. San Antonio	U. T. Tyler
Bachelor's w/Elementary Certification	172	287	62	n/a	321	251	52	289	63
Bachelor's w/Reading Specialist Certification	0	n/a	0	n/a	20	6	3	0	0
Campus-based Reading SCH - Spring 98	0	816	324	n/a	184	0	132	1617	1008
Field-based Reading SCH - Spring 98	309	1680	141	n/a	203	1122	252	279	498
Full-time Reading Faculty	4	27	6	n/a	3	5	5	6	5
Part-time Reading Faculty	11	4	2	n/a	10	4	3	10	3
Full-time Education Faculty	16	130	40	n/a	20	5	12	5	44.5
Part-time Education Faculty	23	58	36	n/a	30	4	6	7	24
<b>Pass Rates for Teacher Certification (ExCET) Percent Passed 1996-97</b>									
<b>All Exams:</b>									
First Time Pass Rates	89.81	97.11	71.93	92.98	79.1	75.41	84.28	87.12	88.21
Cumulative Pass Rates	97.48	98.7	88.47	97.41	92.16	88.45	91.96	96.05	96.45
<b>Professional Development (Elementary):</b>									
First Time Pass Rate:	92.09	98.05	71.69	n/a	72.41	69.39	84.62	89.12	88.14
Cumulative Pass Rate:	99.41	100	91.1	n/a	92.33	90.69	92.13	96.46	99.45
<b>Elementary Comprehensive:</b>									
First Time Pass Rate:	93.71	99.62	71.43	n/a	78.15	62.13	87.69	88.97	87.5
Cumulative Pass Rate:	100	100	94.44	n/a	97.36	96.73	98.55	99.11	100

# **Program Highlights**

## **Elementary Teacher Training in Reading**

### **U. T. Arlington**

- Two required reading courses (6 SCH) are entirely field-based to integrate practice with theory.
- Reading issues and teaching strategies are also covered in other field-based courses. Entire education program has been field-based for six years.
- Reading courses include a strong phonics component and tie to the TEKS.
- Full-time and part-time faculty members confer regularly on course content and teaching strategies.

## **Program Highlights**

### **Elementary Teacher Training in Reading**

#### **U. T. Austin**

- Strong research base in language acquisition and reading informs the classes in reading and language arts.
- 27 full-time faculty in three departments are involved. Only four part-time faculty members are part of the program.
- Since 1994, working with Austin ISD in a formal collaborative to revise curriculum with strong linkages between theory and practice.
- Two required reading courses are closely linked to TEKS and emphasize the individual differences of elementary students.
- Adding new required reading course for K-3 reading based on NRC report.
- Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts developing materials for teaching reading to students who are also learning English.
- More “laboratory” experiences are being built into curriculum.

## **Program Highlights**

### **Elementary Teacher Training in Reading**

#### **U. T. Brownsville**

- Minimum of two courses in reading required. One course includes 15 hours of direct observation in a public school classroom.
- Working with U. T. Dallas to do Reading One-to-One tutoring program. Forty-eight tutors work with thirteen elementary schools tutoring in either English or Spanish reading. Will also do follow-up research.
- Using Neuhaus Language Enrichment training for UTB faculty and for teachers in Brownsville ISD. Approach is based on reading research.
- Undergraduate reading program will be reviewed in 1998-1999 by public school administrators/educators, program graduates, and faculty. The three core courses will be aligned with ExCET proficiencies, TEKS objectives and Texas Reading Initiative requirements.

## **Program Highlights**

### **Elementary Teacher Training in Reading**

#### **U. T. Dallas**

- Does not prepare students for elementary teacher certification.
- Developed nationally acclaimed Reading One-to-One tutoring program.
- Cognitive science group also doing research on language acquisition.

## **Program Highlights**

### **Elementary Teacher Training in Reading**

#### **U. T. El Paso**

- Requires four reading courses including two taught by English department. One course is field-based.
- All courses have been redeveloped to include strong links to TEKS.
- All courses prepare teachers to work in multi-cultural, multi-lingual settings.
- Several years of working with public schools through the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence.
- Literacy Workshop provides an individualized diagnostic and instructional program to school age children by supervised reading education students.

## **Program Highlights**

### **Elementary Teacher Training in Reading**

#### **U. T. Pan American**

- All three required reading courses are field-based.
- Field-based instruction based on a developmental model has been used for five years.
- A comprehensive ExCET review process and related curriculum review was initiated in 1997-98.

## **Program Highlights**

### **Elementary Teacher Training in Reading**

#### **U. T. Permian Basin**

- Emergent Literacy course added to requirements for Early Childhood endorsement.
- Elementary reading courses are field-based since restructuring as a Center for Professional Development and Technology in 1994.
- Considering a reading concentration for all undergraduate elementary education students.
- Twelve hours reading concentration for post-baccalaureate elementary certification program.
- Two courses in reading required of all teacher certification students.

## **Program Highlights**

### **Elementary Teacher Training in Reading**

#### **U. T. San Antonio**

- Two courses in reading required of all elementary students – neither is currently field-based.
- Both required courses being redesigned to include field-based applications blocks and improved linkage to TEKS.
- Students with reading specialization take six additional reading courses, two of which are field-based.
- New Literacy Center being planned for Downtown Campus – will link to several community agencies.

## **Program Highlights**

### **Elementary Teacher Training in Reading**

#### **U. T. Tyler**

- All elementary education students take two required reading courses. Both courses require a field component.
- A required course, “Preschool and Primary Reading”, is closely linked to TEKS and covers a variety of techniques for achieving TEKS objectives.
- Field-based requirements are being increased in the total educator preparation program as a result of the implementation of a Center for Professional Development of Teachers.
- In the past three years, reading/special education faculty have engaged in three reading research projects with Tyler ISD.
- Reading faculty work cooperatively with school districts to offer specialized graduate-level reading courses.
- Students who select reading as a second specialization take 18 SCH in Reading. All courses require a field component.
- Reading specialization students complete a clinical practicum in the University Learning Development Center.