

Texas A&M University-San Antonio
College of Education and Human Development
EDEC 5320 Critical Approaches to Literacy in Early Childhood
(HB 2504 Syllabus)

A. Major Course Assignments

- Attendance and class participation
- Weekly reflections
- Family literacies assignment
- Children's literature project
- Text Set Final Project

B. Learning Objectives

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

- SLO 1. SLO 1. Understand significant research, theoretical foundation, tenets, and pedagogies related to critical literacy in early childhood.
- SLO 2. Describe connections between theory and practice related to critical literacy
- SLO 3. Analyze how theories or significant research within the field of emergent literacy have encouraged positive relationships between families and teachers as well as impacted how families, communities, and themselves to engage in literacy-based activities.
- SLO 4. Develop a text set grounded in critical literacies to address a social issue relevant to early childhood settings.

C. Lecture or Discussion Topics

- Family literacy practices;
- Funds of knowledge;
- Expansive definition of literacy and what it means to be literate;
- Critical literacy;
- Everyday texts;
- Rethinking readiness;
- Critical inquiries in classrooms;
- Culturally relevant children's literature

D. Required Readings

- Vasquez, V. (2014). *Negotiating critical literacies with young children*. (10ed.) New York, NY: Routledge.
- Additional Readings as assigned and posted on Blackboard.

E. Recommended Websites:

- Worlds of Words: Center of Global Literacies and Literatures <https://wowlit.org/>
- Rethinking Schools <https://rethinkingschools.org/>
- Key Aspects of Critical Literacy: An Excerpt <https://ncte.org/blog/2019/07/critical-literacy/>