

# Course Syllabus

## Course description

This asynchronous course will instruct leaders on the foundational research of the science of reading. It will guide participants through the latest findings and practical applications and help lead a transformational implementation at their school that ensures that every student has the opportunity to become a proficient reader.

## Overall objectives

- Build foundational knowledge in research and evidence-based practices for literacy instruction.
- Implement immediate, impactful changes based on the science of reading.
- Identify and address challenges to implementing current literacy initiatives.
- Support teachers in adopting effective, research-backed literacy instruction methods.
- Develop a strategic plan to elevate literacy outcomes swiftly and sustainably.

## Modules

<b>The Science of Reading for Leaders Course Overview</b> Prime yourself for your learning. Gain an overview of the course requirements, how to enable your online learning experience for your learning needs, and how to navigate the course content.
<b>Module 1: Introduction: What Is the Science of Reading?</b> Understand the significance and key takeaways from the science of reading.
<b>Module 2: Understanding How Students Learn to Read</b> Explore the cognitive and linguistic foundations of reading.
<b>Module 3: Early Word Recognition</b> Learn about the building blocks of word recognition and instructional practices to support emergent reading.
<b>Module 4: Advanced Word Recognition and Building Fluent Readers</b> Gain insights into teaching the decoding of complex words and how to build reading fluency.
<b>Module 5: Growing Vocabulary</b> Discover best practices for vocabulary instruction.
<b>Module 6: Cultivating Comprehension and Knowledge</b> Grasp the key components of effective reading comprehension instruction.
<b>Module 7: Supporting Diverse Learners</b> Learn strategies for supporting multilingual learners and learners with reading and writing difficulties.
<b>Module 8: Identifying Aligned Literacy Interventions</b> Understand how to create balanced assessment systems and data analysis plans to inform strong literacy blocks.
<b>Course Closure</b> Wrap up your learning with deep reflection and a plan for continuous learning.

## Instructional format

This course combines online and offline activities. Online, engage with real-world scenarios, get inspiration from school leaders, and learn to implement the science of reading. Offline, conduct learning walks with support, reflect on data, and plan next steps with a school team.

### Online coursework

- 10 modules with in-course learning, videos, articles, and more
- Suggested time: 60–90 minutes per module

### Offline coursework

- Conduct multiple learning walks, engage in material reviews, and plan next steps
- Suggested time: 120+ minutes per module

## Demonstration of learning

Throughout this learning, you will have multiple opportunities to practice your knowledge, and the following assessments will gauge your understanding.

### 1. Pre-assessment

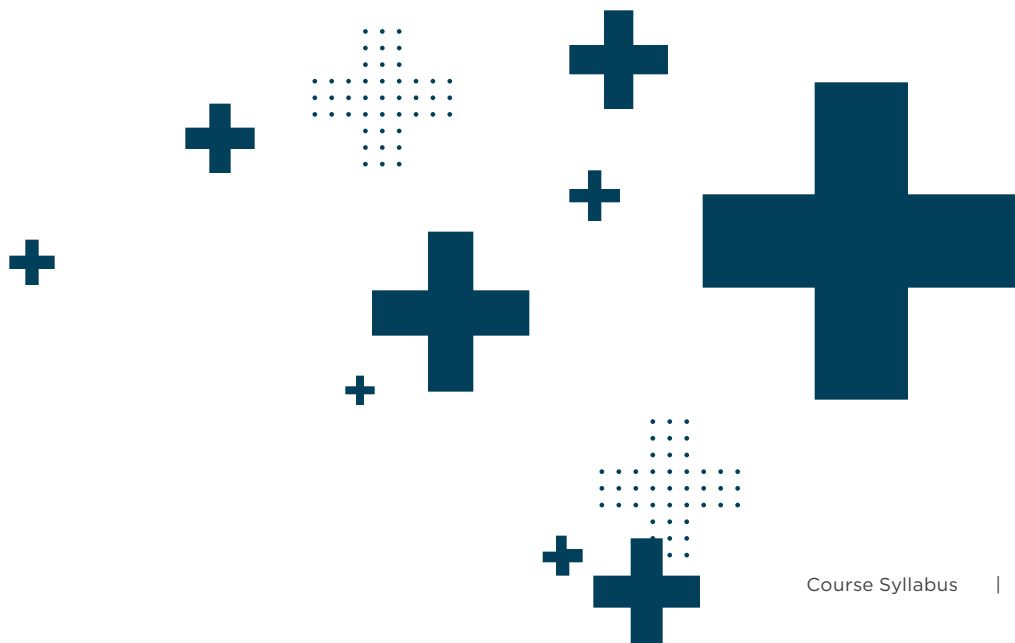
- **Part 1: Course pretest.** Administered at the start of the course to pinpoint specific learning needs and to evaluate progress
- **Part 2: Teacher Knowledge of Early Literacy Skills (TKELS).** Administered at the start of the course to identify knowledge of instructional best practices for teaching literacy prior to the course

### 2. Module content and quizzes

- Participants must complete all content, including knowledge checks, to pass the module.
- At the end of each module, participants must complete a quiz with a minimum score of 80% to advance to the next module.

### 3. Final assessment

- **Part 1: Course posttest.** Taken at the conclusion of the course to assess comprehensive understanding; participants must achieve a minimum score of 80% to successfully complete the course
- **Part 2: TKELS.** Participants must achieve a minimum score of 80% to successfully complete the course.



## Resources

Throughout the course, you'll have access to a variety of resources designed to help you apply your learning and achieve your professional goals:

### Action Planning Template

An all-encompassing action plan to keep track of course progress and instructional “look-fors” and to help apply learning to craft your next steps

### Literacy Glossary

Digestible definitions for terminology used throughout the learning plan

### Learning Walk Tool

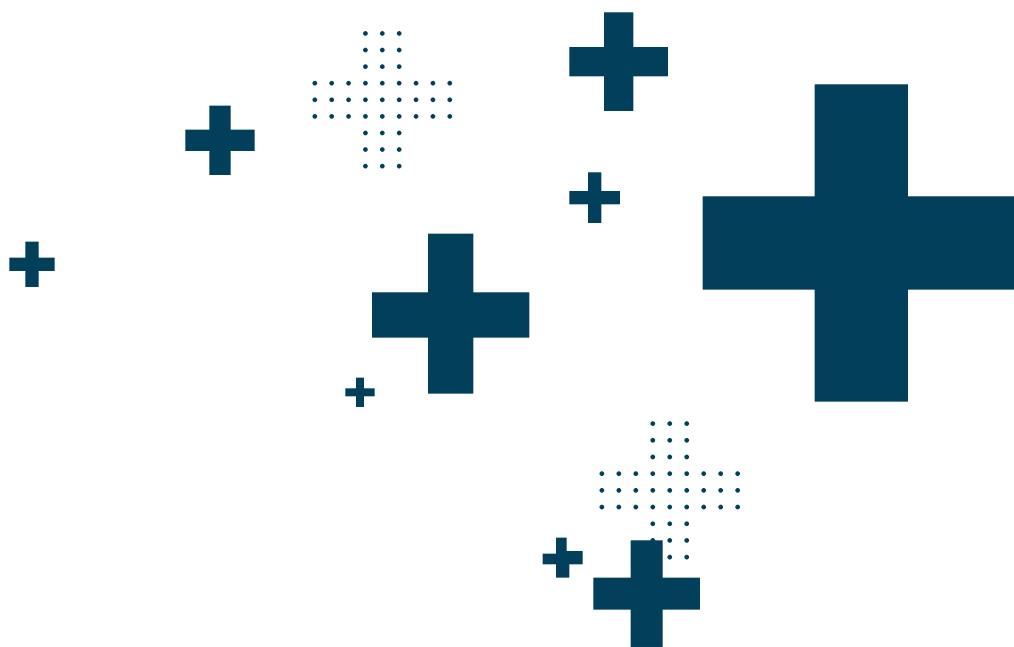
A tool that supports recognition of educator practices and learner responses aligned with the science of reading

### Links to current research and blogs

Resources for learning and utilization with staff during implementation

### Alaska-specific resources and support

Alignment and support to current Alaska-specific literacy resources



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