

State University of New York - Oneonta

The Reading Clinic

Department of Elementary Education and Reading

Division of Education

The SUNY-Oneonta Division of Education continues to endorse the International Reading Association's mission to combat illiteracy. The graduate literacy education faculty promotes literacy research and instruction by providing high quality practicum experiences for candidates who are pursuing graduate studies in the literacy programs and offering assistance to children with reading and writing difficulties. The Elementary Education and Reading Department's Reading Clinic is an integral part of the graduate literacy programs, which provides two primary services in its operation, literacy assessment and tutoring, to students in grades two through eight initially, as a service to the communities surrounding SUNY-Oneonta. In the near future, the service will be extended to students in grades kindergarten through twelve. A \$25 fee is charged for both the literacy assessment and tutoring per semester.

The first of the services, assessment, provides a thorough literacy evaluation of the child's reading and writing. The assessment determines reading and writing potential and promotes reading and writing achievement. A few weeks after the assessment is completed, a conference is held with the family and with the referring agency, if any. The results of the assessments, an analysis of the student's reading and writing, and recommendations or suggestions for improving reading and writing will be discussed during the conference.

The second major service, tutoring, provides individual sessions per week during each fall and spring semester (approximately 20 sessions). Students usually attend the clinic twice a week during the spring or fall semesters. Children can be referred by their schools, from clinicians who previously worked in the Reading Clinic, or from their families.

The clinicians-in-training are primarily experienced classroom teachers and all are advanced graduate students enrolled in either EDUC 641: Literacy Coaching and Assessment Practicum (Birth -Grade 6) or EDUC 645: Literacy Coaching Assessment Practicum (Grades 5 - 12). The clinicians-in-training assess and tutor students primarily on a one-to-one basis. Ordinarily, 10 students per semester can be served through the clinic. The services are offered in Rooms 103 and 104, Fizzle Hall on the SUNY-Oneonta campus, where the clinic is located, and, when necessary, in local schools as well. The SUNY-Oneonta literacy faculty serve as the clinical supervisors.

The clinicians-in-training assess the students to identify their literacy needs, then work with them to overcome their reading and writing difficulties. A Case Study/Literacy Assessment report is shared with each student's regular classroom teacher and other school personnel at the end of the term with a series of instructional recommendations to foster the educational growth for that specific child. Additionally, parent conferences are held at the end of each term.

In addition to providing services to children, the reading clinic serves as a repository for the most current and success-oriented materials related to literacy assessment and instructional strategies in literacy education. The clinic maintains a variety of print and non-print assessment, tutorial, and instructional materials, including high interest books and magazines, reading series, relevant software, and other materials and equipment related to the wide range of abilities in reading and writing.

Scheduling for assessment and tutoring is an ongoing process. Educators, parents, and concerned others can inquire about the services offered by the Reading Clinic by contacting the Department of Elementary Education and Reading. We will be happy to send you an application, or to answer any questions that you might have. We hope that we can be of service and are looking forward to hearing from you.

The SUNY-Oneonta Graduate Literacy Education Program Faculty

Available Assessment Materials

Informal:

- An Observation Survey of Early Literacy Achievement by Marie Clay
- PALS - Phonologic Awareness Literacy Screening by University of Virginia
- Qualitative Reading Inventory - 4 by Lauren Leslie and JoAnne Caldwell
- Sand and Stones by Marie Clay
- TOPA - Test of Phonological Awareness by Joseph K. Torgesen and Brian R. Bryant
- TPRI - Texas Primary Reading Inventory by Texas Education Agency
- Yopp Singer Test of Phoneme Segmentation

Formal:

- EVT – Expressive Vocabulary Test
- PPVT - Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test
- SORT-R - Slosson Oral Reading Test