



Trials and Tribulations of Learning to Teach with Technology

SESSION OVERVIEW

Welcome! You have the unique opportunity to participate in an alternative EC-4 certification program. This project is dedicated to improving the quality of educational experiences offered to children in low-income neighborhoods in the greater San Antonio area. To that end, The UTSA and the College of Education is offering a research-focused, innovative, EC-4 certification program. Students who are interested in the following are encouraged to [apply](#) to participate.

Teaching Reading and the Language Arts:

The ability to read and write in a literate society is critical to social and economic equity. Never before has learning to read and write during elementary education years been so important. Beginning teachers who participate in the LTLC will be competent, confident teachers of reading and writing by the end of this project. They will be able to explicate what quality literacy instruction looks like. Additionally, they will be able to employ a variety of instructional literacy strategies in order to meet the needs of the diverse students with whom they will work during their first years of teaching.

Teaching and learning through the use of technology:

Technology has become a pervasive part of our society. Teachers must be critical consumers of technology both themselves and as reading, writing, math, science, and social studies teachers. Beginning teachers who enroll in this project will be immersed in a technology-rich environment. These beginning teachers will have access to an iBook laptop during their participation in this project. Technology will be a pervasive part of the field experience opportunities this group has with children throughout this project.

Teaching and learning with students, teachers, and schools in low-income communities:

The work of the LTLC will be focused in the Harlandale Independent School District. The home-based school, Flanders Elementary, is a short drive from the Downtown campus. It serves a primarily Hispanic, low-income community. All classes taken during the course of this program will be conducted at Adams Elementary. Additionally, participants in the LTLC will work with one of three other schools: Flanders, Schultze, or Gillette Elementary schools. All of the principals and teachers with whom the LTLC will work are innovative and dedicated professionals. They are all very excited to be working with the LTLC over the next year.

Teaching and learning within a supportive learning community:

The work of the LTLC is centered on the premise that learning occurs best when surrounded by others. To that end, the LTLC will be a group of 25 preservice teachers entering into their professional development coursework. The LTLC is designed to capitalize on the knowledge of the group and will be guided by two dedicated instructors, Dr. Misty Sailors and Professor Lucretia Fraga. With over 19 years of classroom and 8 years of university teaching experiences between them, Misty and Lucretia are happy to be part of the LTLC.
