

Martha Young Rhymes

Assistant Professor of Reading

College of Education

Northwestern State University

Natchitoches, Louisiana

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Education

- 2003** Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia
Doctor of Education in Curriculum Studies
Dissertation Title: *The Phenomenal Harry Potter Books: A Cultural Study of Corporate Influence on Reading Instruction and Image-Making*
Advisor: Dr. William M. Reynolds
- 1997** Georgia Southwestern University, Americus, Georgia
Specialist of Education in Early Childhood
Thesis Title: *Possible Correlations between Self-Esteem and Academic Achievement*
Advisor: Dr. A. D. Carroll
- 1988** Louisiana State University in Shreveport, Louisiana
Master of Education, Major in Elementary Education
- 1981** Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, Arkansas
Bachelor of Science in Education, Major in Elementary Education
Social Studies Endorsement

Professional Experiences

- 2005 to Present ~ Assistant Professor, College of Education, Northwestern State University**
- 2006 to Present ~ Associate Member of the Graduate Faculty**
- 2006 to Present ~ Editorial board reviewer: Journal of National Association of Alternate Certification**
- 2007 to Present ~ Steward of all Graduate & Undergraduate Reading Courses**
- 2007 to Present ~ Literacy Pilot University Partner with Sabine Parish Schools**
- 2007 ~ Melba L. Steeg Endowed Professorship in Primary Education for 2007-2008**
- 2008 to Present ~ Literacy Consultant for the National Evaluation of Writing Professional Development Project ~ NSU Middle Laboratory School**

Classes:

- RDG 3030 Introduction to Reading
- RDG 3060 Teaching Reading in the Elementary School
- RDG 4060 Diagnosis and Correction of Literacy Difficulties
- RDG 4070 Practicum in Reading
- RDG 5010 Reading in the Elementary School
- RDG 5110 Reading Instruction
- RDG5210 Reading & Literacy Instruction
- RDG 5510 Diagnosis and Correction of Reading Disabilities
- RDG 5710 Advanced Diagnosis & Correction of Reading Difficulties
- RDG 6510 Practicum in Reading
- EDUC 4080 Literature and Language in Elementary Education

- EDUC 5370 Seminar in Teaching
- EDUC 5380 Seminar in Teaching
- EDUC 5640 Methods of Instruction
- EPSY 5480 Dynamics of Developing Learners
- EPSY 3010 Child and Adolescent Psychology

Present Committee Membership:

- NCATE Coordinator, 2006-to present-COE
- Chair, NCATE Accreditation Steering Committee, 2006- to present-COE
- Research Council, 2006 to present-University
- TEC, 2006 to present-University
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2006 to present-COE
- Admission & Retention Committee, 2008 to present-COE
- Conceptual Framework Committee
- Standard One (Candidates, Knowledge, Skills, & Dispositions) Committee, 2007 to present-COE
- Standard Three (Field Experiences & Clinical Practices) Committee, 2005 to present-COE
- Ad Hoc Revision of MAT Program, 2008, COE
- Ad Hoc Revision of Dispositions in Initial Programs, 2007-08, COE
- Ad Hoc C & I Program Design, 2006, COE
- Ad Hoc Committee: SACS Continuous Improvement Plan, 2006, COE

Professional Development

- Comprehensive Curriculum 2008; LSU A
- Louisiana Board of Examiners' Training 2008; Houma, Louisiana
- Quality Matters Online Class Development, 2008: NSU
- AACTE Conference ~ NCATE & SPAs, 2008: New Orleans
- NCATE Orientation, 2006: Washington, D.C.
- Microsoft Outlook, 2007: NSU
- Blackboard Training (Testing Online), 2007: NSU
- LaTAAP for the External Evaluator, Spring 2006: Natchitoches Parish
- Technology training for Blackboard and Pass-Port, 2005: NSU
- Advisement / SIS training, 2005: COE
- Pass-Port: 2005; NSU
- SREB, 2005: Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Professional Associations

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
National Association for Alternative Certification
International Reading Association
National Association for Teachers of English
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
Louisiana Middle School Association

Grants

- Co-Principle Investigator: SELECT Grant to support online program assessment 2008-2009
- Principle Investigator for NEF Grant for Professional Development-2009 (Funded)
- Co-Author: SELECT Grant *Podcasting and Delivering Online Reading Courses to Teachers in Rural Louisiana*
- Co-Principle Investigator with Vickie Gentry: *PK-16+ Partnership to Increase SPS with North Elementary School*: BOR-October 2005

Rejoinders & Redesigns

- MAT Graduate Course Design for Online Alternate Certification 2008

- English Content Committee for the Specialized Professional Association (SPA) report rejoinders 2006 - 2009
- UG, C & I, and MAT Reading Competencies 2006 – 2008
- PREP Reading Competencies 2006 – 2008
- SPED Gifted Programs 2006-2007
- Redesign Committee for the Undergraduate, Alternative Certification MAT, and Masters of Education Reading courses, COE
- The Curriculum and Instruction M.Ed. 2006

Presentations

International

- Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education, March 2008, Las Vegas, Nevada: *Technology Method Strategies: Reading in all Content Areas.*
- Phoenix Rising Symposium, May 2006, New Orleans, Louisiana: *Marketing “Fast Food” Curriculum: Scholastic’s Foray into Reading Instruction.*

National

- National Youth at Risk Conference, Spring 2009 Savannah, GA with Lisa Rougeou. *Addressing Apathy: The Power of Self-Selected Social Justice Research & Writing Topics in Engaging Students.*
- National Association for Alternative Certification (NAAC) Convention, Spring 2009 San Antonio, TX with Kimberly McAlister & Dee Dee Perot: *Online Delivery: An Alternate Route to Certification that Makes a REAL Difference in Louisiana Schools.*
- National Association for Alternative Certification (NAAC) Convention, Spring 2008 Atlanta, GA with Dee Dee Perot & Connie Melder: *“PREP”ing Alternate Certification Interns for Success.*
- National Association for Alternative Certification (NAAC) Convention, Spring 2006 Chicago, IL with Dee Dee Perot, Vickie Gentry, and Brenda Hanson: *Recruit, Select, Verify, Prepare-Place and Support (R.S.V.P.—P.S.): One University’s Approach to Alternative Certification.*

Regional and Local

- Staff Development for Natchitoches Parish Schools 2008: PK-3 Teacher Group Training for Parish Writing Across the Curriculum Teams
- NSU Research Day 2008 with Karen McFerrin & Frank Fuller: *Content Area Reading: Technology Methods & Strategies.*
- Louisiana Library & Media Professionals (LAMP) Annual Conference, September 2007, Natchitoches, Louisiana: *Librarians CAN Positively Affect School Reading Scores.*
- NSU Research Day 2006 with Dee Dee Perot, Vickie Gentry, & Brenda Hanson: *Recruit, Select, Verify, Prepare-Place and Support (R.S.V.P.—P.S.): One University’s Approach to Alternative Certification.*
- ArkLaTex Middle School Conference, October 2006, Bossier City, Louisiana, with Karen McFerrin: *Increase Learning in the Content Areas: Teaching Students How to Approach Informational Text.*
- Professional Development for General and Inclusion Teachers at Zwolle Elementary, October 2006, in Zwolle, Louisiana with Barb Duchardt: *Moving to the Next Level of Collaboration.*
- Professional Development for Grades 6-12 for Catahoula Parish teaching staff, February 2006 in Jonesville, Louisiana with Dee Dee Perot and Connie Melder: *A Pedagogical Bag of Tricks: Every Teacher Needs One.*
- Staff Development for Elementary Lab School Faculty for the Writing Project (2004-2005):
 - *Celebrating Children’s Writing through Publishing*
 - *Drafting and Peer Conferencing in the Workshop Venue*
 - *Setting up the Writing Workshop Revisited*
 - *Step One of the Process: Prewriting*
 - *Setting Up and Implementing a Writing Workshop in the Classroom*
 - *How to Use a Student-Centered Approach to the Writing Process*

- *Establishing a School-Wide Writing Acceptable Minimum Standard*
- *Project Write: Natchitoches Parish's Focus for the New School year*
- Gifted education professional development for Russell Elementary School, Quantico, Virginia
 - *Differentiating Instruction in the Regular Classroom*, 2003
 - *Identification of the Young Gifted Child*, 2002

Publications

Articles & Book Chapter

- McFerrin, K., Fuller, F. & Rhymes, M. Y. (2008). Technology method strategies: Reading in all content areas. In McFerrin, K., Weber, R., Carlsen, R. *Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International conference annual 7* (pp. 4235-4242). Las Vegas, NE: AACE.
- Rhymes, M. Y. (2008). *Marketing "Fast Food" Curriculum: Scholastic's Foray into Reading Instruction*. In Goetz, S. K. Phoenix Rising: *Collected Papers on Harry Potter*. Sedalia, CO: Narrate Conferences, Inc.
- Rhymes, M. Y. (Fall, Spring 2000). *Mattel and Disney: Corporate image makers for American girlhood* GSU Educational Forum, 6 (1).

Dissertation (available online at ProQuest #AAT 3081511)

The Phenomenal Harry Potter Books: A Cultural Study of Corporate Influence on Reading Instruction and Image-Making (2003). Directed by: Professor William M. Reynolds. Statesboro, GA: Georgia Southern University.

This study explores possible links between author J. K. Rowling's content messages in the highly popular *Harry Potter* series and the identity formation of the child reader regarding issues of gender, race, and class. It also interrogates the role of the corporate publisher and the possible influence that the publisher has on both the book's content and the reading instructional approach presented to children in the classroom venue through the instructional guides produced specifically to accompany the books.

Research Interests

Integrating Reading and Writing Process Strategies with Informational Text
Political, Corporate, & Cultural Influences on Reading & Writing Practice in the Schools
Critical Literacy: Heightening Teacher Awareness of the Consumerist Mindset in Current Children's Literature

Public School Work Experiences

- 2004 to 2005** Writing Coordinator, Cooperating Teacher for NSU education methods candidates, and English/ Language (ELA) teacher for Grade 5 NSU Warren Easton Laboratory School, Natchitoches, Louisiana
- 2001 to 2004:** Gifted Education Resource Teacher, Grades K – 3 Department of Defense Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools (DDESS), Russell Elementary School, Quantico MCB, Virginia
- 1993 to 2001:** Teacher, Grades 3, 4, and 5 DDESS, Linwood Elementary School, Robins AFB, Georgia
- 1990 to 1993:** Teacher, Grades 3 and 6 Department of Defense Dependent Schools (DoDDS), Ramstein Elementary School, Ramstein AB, Germany
- 1989 to 1990:** Teacher, Grade 2 Caddo Parish Schools, Atkins Elementary School, Shreveport, Louisiana
- 1981-1989:** Teacher, Grades 6, 7, & 8 for subject areas of English, Science and Reading Bossier Parish Schools, Cope Junior High, Bossier City, Louisiana