Disciplinary literacy: Understanding specialized knowledge in the disciplines

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Abstract: This session will discuss the role of disciplinary literacy on student learning. Disciplinary literacy introduces students to the knowledge, abilities, language, discourse patterns, and purposes of each discipline (Fang, 2012; Shanahan & Shanahan, 2012). A disciplinary literacy approach teaches students how to navigate these expectations and to use strategies specific for the discipline and teaches students to modify others that work in many discipline. Will will discuss classroom approaches for utilizing disciplinary literacy as a way to prepare students for college success.

Jodi Patrick Holschuh is Chair and Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Texas State University. Jodi has presented many conference papers and has written numerous articles on college student literacy, study strategies, and college success. She is a co-author of several textbooks including Effective College Learning, College Success Strategies, and Active Learning. She has also co-authored a popular trade book on learning entitled College Rules! Her research interests include learning in the sciences, students’ beliefs about learning, making the transition from high school to college learning, strategies for academic success, and disciplinary literacy. She can be reached at holschuh@txstate.edu.