

I am a special education with 29 years of experience in the state of Connecticut. I also have my 6th year in reading and language arts. I have pursued a specialty in the area of SLD/Dyslexia as it was an area of need in my field. It was not part of my coursework at the University of Connecticut at the Master's level nor was it part of my coursework at CCSU for my 6th year degree as a reading and language arts consultant. I pursued training in implementation of interventions for individual's with SLD/Dyslexia on my own time as a volunteer for a non-profit organization that provided systematic reading instruction for adults with dyslexia. This was never offered as part of my professional development in my position as a public school teacher.

Because I pursued this training on my own, I was able to meet the needs of many students with SLD/Dyslexia over the last 16 years of my career. Unfortunately, I have found that this expertise is sorely lacking among teachers.

I hope this information will be helpful in changing the preparation of our pre-service and graduate level teachers. The opinions expressed here are my own and not shared on behalf of my agency.

Sincerely,

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