



## Strategic Instruction Model (SIM™) Educator Newsletter Spring 2026

### SIM News

**Research in Action**



Suzy Myers and Bonnie Palasak working side-by-side with teachers and students in Montana as they try out the iSTAR adaptive-writing program.

KU CRL Researchers are looking for SIM teachers to partner with next school year (2026-27) on the [iSTAR \(adaptive-writing\) Grant Project](#). Click the link above to learn more, and [complete this form](#) if you're interested in working with us next year.

Look for CRL Researchers, Jocelyn Washburn, Sean Smith, and Amber Rowland, at the [2026 CEC Conference](#), Mar. 11-14 in Salt Lake City (poster and breakout sessions)

New Online Courses have been added to the [SIM Events page](#):

- [Concept Comparison Routine](#)
- [Understanding Academic Language](#)
- [Course First!](#)
- [Supporting Adolescent Literacy for Successful School Change](#)

[Listen to Season 3, Episode 4 of Co-Teachers in Classrooms Getting Coffee](#) with KUCRL Co-Director, Dr. Jocelyn Washburn, to explore her personal experience with co-teaching and how

these HLP strategies transform real classrooms.

CRL Researchers are conducting research to support the [Kansas Blueprint for Literacy](#) initiative.

## Are you interested in becoming a SIM Professional Developer?

Elevate your expertise and become a Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) Professional Developer. Our Content Literacy Leadership Institute runs June-October, offering hands on learning, collaboration, and leadership development. Complete an [Intent to Apply Form](#) to get started. Let us know if you have any questions!

[Learn more about the Content Literacy Leadership Institute](#)

## Want to learn how to integrate SIM with Other Programs, Strategies, and Initiatives?

Visit our website for new crosswalks, matrixes, and other resources.

[Integrating SIM](#)

## TESTIMONIALS

"With SIM, students have stated that they feel more comfortable with reading and have moved to a less restrictive environment on their IEPs. Students' scores have increased on both reading fluency and comprehension."

~ North Carolina Teacher

"I don't know why SIM isn't all over the world at this point, and everyone isn't doing it because it works every time. If you implement it with fidelity, your kids will grow."

~ Tennessee Teacher



sim.ku.edu



## Looking for a 2026-27 Reading Intervention?

Are you planning ahead for a middle or high school reading intervention?

**KU CRL's *Xtreme Reading* program is research-backed, classroom-tested, and proven effective.**

Let's help students thrive!



sim.ku.edu



Visit the SIM website for more information about products and services.

[Visit the SIM Website](#)

Find free resources in the KU CRL Store.

[Find Free Resources in the Online Store](#)

## Featured Article: A Crosswalk: Structured Literacy and Strategic Instruction Model (SIM™) Instructional Tools and Interventions

*Collaboratively Designed with SIM Professional Developers*

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning (KUCRL) is pleased to share a new crosswalk designed to help educators better understand the relationship between Structured Literacy and the Strategic Instruction Model (SIM™). This resource highlights how selected SIM instructional tools and interventions can support the delivery of structured literacy elements and practices for adolescent learners. Structured Literacy, endorsed by the International Dyslexia Association and grounded in the Science of Reading, emphasizes explicit, systematic instruction across foundational and advanced language skills. SIM complements this approach by offering research-validated strategies and routines that help students access content, strengthen literacy processes, and engage in higher-level thinking. By comparing the elements and teaching practices of Structured Literacy with those embedded in SIM, this crosswalk illustrates how the two approaches intersect to support effective, efficient literacy instruction. Ultimately, the resource showcases how SIM provides both the “what” and the “how” teachers need to put structured literacy into action in classrooms. [Click Here to Read and Download the full Crosswalk.](#)

[Click Here for all of the SIM Crosswalks and Alignments](#)

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### Featured SIM Class: Course First!

Do you want to feel confident that your daily instruction is truly evidence-based, standards-aligned, and designed to give every student access to high-quality Tier 1 learning? Are you looking for practical ways to ensure students master grade-level content and take more ownership of their learning in the process? Then you’re in exactly the right place. The Course First! Content Enhancement Routines (CERs) online course introduces a modern approach to SIM professional learning. It shifts instructional planning toward strategically integrating CERs across an entire course to support the full learning journey. [Learn More and Register Today!](#)

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[Check out Upcoming SIM Events, Classes, and Institutes](#)



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