

February 8, 2010

Dear English Language Arts Colleague,

You are invited to participate in a research study we are conducting at The University of Alabama designed to ascertain the book-length works taught in today's secondary literature curricula across 10 southeastern states. The study further seeks to understand how you select the book-length works for your curricula, your perspectives on various types of literature, and your beliefs about the state of adolescent literacy. You have been selected to participate in this study because you are a secondary English language arts teacher in one of the 1,000 middle and high schools we have randomly selected among 10 southeastern states.

If you decide to participate, the survey will take about 20 minutes to complete. You will be asked to complete a demographic section then asked to respond to questions about (1) the book-length works you use, (2) your reasons for making those selections, and (3) your students' attitudes about reading. You will not be compensated for your participation in this study, and your participation in the study will cost you nothing. There are no potential risks to you as a study participant. We believe the information resulting from the study may be useful to all of us as English language arts educators.

Participation in the study is voluntary. Only your email address has been used to disseminate this invitation. To assure anonymity of responses, you will be asked not to provide your name or any other identifying information in your responses. As well, anonymity and confidentiality will be maintained because your identifying information will not be collected in the online survey; therefore, your individual responses cannot be matched to you individually.

If you have any questions, please contact us at Box 870231, The College of Education, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487. You may also contact us via email at jstallwo@bamaed.ua.edu or lgibbons@bamaed.ua.edu or via telephone at 205-348-6051.

If you have questions about your rights as a study participant, you may contact Ms. Carpentanto Myles, Research Compliance Officer, The University of Alabama at cmyles@fa.ua.edu, 205-348-5746, or Box 870104, UA, Tuscaloosa, AL, 35487.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this important study. If you accept our invitation to participate, please click the following link to complete the survey:


[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Survey of Secondary English Teachers](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Survey_of_Secondary_English_Teachers).

Please complete the survey by **Monday, February 22, 2010.**

Sincerely,



B. Joyce Stallworth, Ed.D.
Senior Associate Dean
Professor of English Education, UA



Louel C. Gibbons, Ph.D.
English Teacher, Brookwood High School
Adjunct Professor, UA