

## 2025 Day of Dyslexia: A Structured Literacy Symposium

### Meet the Presenters



#### **LuAnn Jordan**

Dr. LuAnn Jordan is an Associate Professor of Special Education at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Florida in Special Education as well as a Masters Degree in Special Education and Learning Disabilities from East Carolina University. She teaches courses in written expression methods and the Introduction to Special Education course in the Graduate Certificate program. Dr. Jordan's current areas of interest and research include written expression for students with disabilities and students at risk for academic failure, learning strategies and support that increase the academic achievement of adolescents with high-incidence disabilities in middle and secondary schools, and inclusion of students with disabilities in general education settings. Dr. Jordan's experience at UNC Charlotte has included extensive distance education program planning, teaching, and advising beginning special education teachers, especially professionals entering special education as a second career. Dr. Jordan is a professional developer in the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning (KU-CRL) Learning Strategies and has worked with a statewide project in North Carolina to provide professional development and coaching in learning strategies and content enhancements to middle and high school teachers.



#### **Chris O'Brien**

Dr. Christopher O'Brien is an Associate Professor and Undergraduate Program Director for General and Adapted Special Education in the Department of Special Education and Child Development at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He holds a Ph.D. in Exceptional Children Education as well as a Masters Degree in Speech and Language Pathology from Central Florida. Dr. O'Brien's extensive experience ranges from the undergraduate level to the Doctorate level at UNC Charlotte and includes exceptionality in school and society, content area instruction for inclusive classrooms, lifespan development for exceptional individuals at the graduate level, college instruction in Special Education, and modifying instruction for middle and secondary learners with diverse needs. Dr. O'Brien's research interests and areas

of expertise include teacher education for inclusion and adolescent literacy support, research-to-practice and implementation science in special education and adolescent literacy (e.g., MTSS; Content Literacy Continuum), prevention of school failure for at-risk learners in high-needs communities, technological innovations in teacher preparation and universal design for learning and technological enhancements for learning experiences of at-risk learners. He has earned many awards and honors for his extensive work in Exceptional Education.