



**PREMIS: Wednesday 7 October 2026,
16.15-17:45 in Källan (C201)**

***The Wild West of Decodables for Structured Literacy: A
Call for Literariness***
Dr. Casie Hermansson

Welcome to another PREMIS seminar!

Structured Literacy is the literal law of much of the land in the United States and other Anglophone countries in 2026. Structured Literacy is the literacy education philosophy borne of the Science of Reading, and in the so-called “Reading Wars” opposes balanced literacy, reading recovery, or the three-cueing system that has been shown to contribute to mass reading failure. Decodable text, written to the scope and sequence of a structured literacy curriculum, is used to scaffold literacy education that is explicit, systematic, and sequential. But the decodables market is the new money-grab. Many decodables are AI generated, and even more are simply examples of “bad” writing. Many current decodables seem to eschew any literary standard. From the perspective of an English professor coming late to reading science, this presentation is a call to bridge the gap between the disciplines of English literature, Reading Science (often housed in Psychology programs), and Education, and a call to action for writing and selecting “quality” (literariness) in decodables. This presentation also outlines concrete steps we are taking on our campus to un-silo these three disciplines and work collaboratively on reading intervention.

The PREMIS-seminars are open to all – welcome!

Dr. Casie Hermansson, Chair of English and Modern Languages, Pittsburg State University (Kansas), Reading interventionist at the PSU Center for READING. Her research has moved in the past few years from the Bluebeard fairy tale to screen adaptations of children's metafiction to film, and meta-adaptation for children and youth.

What is PREMIS? It stands for Post-graduate Research in English: Multimodal and Interdisciplinary Studies, and refers to a literary and cultural seminar which promotes research at all levels. While the emphasis is on new developments in literature, the seminar also keenly appreciates multi-modal, interdisciplinary or multi-cultural input.