

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
EDUCATION 472
DESIGNS FOR LEARNING: LANGUAGE ARTS (ELEMENTARY)

Summer Session, 1991
(July 2 – August 9)
Monday & Wednesday
5:30 – 9:20 p.m.
Location: MPX 8620

Instructor: Joanne Holme

PREREQUISITE: Educ 401/402, or equivalent.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is designed for students and teachers who wish to explore a language communication-based approach to learning, called the Language Arts. This course will provide a framework in which you will examine and reflect upon; fundamental principles underlying a Language Arts program; your beliefs regarding learning and teaching the Language Arts; your role as teacher in engaging children in their search for meaning; methods and materials that will enhance language learning in the classroom.

The course will comprise a broad range of experiences from reflection and discussion of professional readings, seminars, lectures, workshops, individualized tasks and small group work.

OUTLINE OF TOPICS

- Overview of Language Arts Curriculum and programs (with special reference to what is termed 'whole language')
- Language learning and literacy
- Aural-oral aspect of the Language Arts — fostering and developing listening and speaking
- Children's literature in the Language Arts classroom
- The reading and writing processes — how to help children make the links
- Reading and writing across the curriculum
- Assessment and evaluation in Language Arts

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Attendance and participation in all parts of the course
- Completion of assigned professional readings
- Completion of brief oral and/or written assignments
- Completion of final self-evaluation summary

REQUIRED TEXTS

- McCormick-Calkins, Lucy. (1986). *The Art of Teaching Writing*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann. ISBN 0-435-08246-9
- Weaver, Constance. (1990). *Understanding Whole Language — From Principles to Practice*. Toronto: Irwin Publishers. ISBN 0-435-08535-2
- *Wells, Gordon. (1986). *The Meaning Makers*. London: Heinemann Educational Books. ISBN 0-435-08247-7

**Note: Read and be prepared to discuss Gordon Wells' The Meaning Makers for the second class (July 8, 1991).*

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Throughout the course the instructor will suggest additional articles and books for enrichment reading pertinent to the topics discussed in class. A complete bibliography will be handed out at the first class meeting.