

DAY

**EDUCATION 472-4**  
**Designs for Learning: English Language Arts**  
**(Intermediate-Secondary Focus)**

**Intersession 1995**

**D. Sumara**

---

**PREREQUISITE: EDUC 401/402**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will inquire into the teaching of the English Language Arts at the intermediate/secondary levels (grades 7-12). It is expected, therefore, that students who enroll in this course will have had some experience teaching at this level. The course will emphasize the integration of the various language arts (reading, writing, viewing, listening, speaking) through the development of issues- and/or theme-based units of instruction. Various theories and philosophies of language, reading, and writing acquisition and development will be studied within the context of in-class experiences supported by a variety of readings on these subjects.

Because it is believed that all teachers of English language arts should be experienced and knowledgeable readers and writers, the reading of fiction and the practice of writing will be integral components of the course. It is important to note that this course is not merely one which delineates various teaching skills, strategies and/or methods. Although these topics will be featured, the course aims to help participants articulate, interpret, and reconceptualize usually-invisible assumptions about literacy, the acquisition of literacy, the function of literacy in society, and the role secondary schools have in the development of literate practices.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Response to Reading: A prepared written response to one required reading. (10%)

Unit Plan: A mini unit developed around one of the required fictional texts. (30%)

Writer's Portfolio: At the end of the course each student will turn in a writer's portfolio which includes two completed pieces of original fiction (likely poetry) developed during the course, along with a short reflective essay. (Note: A grade will be applied to the *essay* not to the fiction). (30%)

Take Home Final Exam: The final exam will take the form of a position paper on the subject of English language arts teaching. (30%)

P.T.O.