

**Education 472
Designs for Learning Language Arts
Intersession 1996**

Course Outline

Rationale:

The essential elements of Language Arts listening, speaking, writing, reading, viewing and representing, are acts of mind by which we make meaning. Language learning is a holistic integrated process which is taught and learned across the curriculum in a variety of ways. Our ability to communicate with others and understand the meaning of what we hear and read enables us to develop more effective human relationships. Actual experience as a Language Arts learner enhances understanding of the process of acquiring language arts skills.

Goals:

The course will examine the fundamental principles of philosophy underlying the Language Arts Curriculum. Children's language development will be examined and means of selecting and developing materials, strategies and techniques to enhance children's language learning will be considered. Participants will participate in Language Arts activities and reflect on their experiences as a learner.

Topics will include:

- child development and the acquisitions of language
- a consideration of oral language opportunities for children
- the importance of and opportunities for listening
- as examination of different approaches to reading instruction and their underlying philosophy
- an examination of the language arts curriculum
- an examination of the value of children's literature
- an examination of the writing process
- evaluation and the role it plays in children's learning.

Assignments - Education 172

Readings: Written response to all readings. This does not need to be in a summary/ response format.

Field Projects:

- Observe the interactions in a group of children. Record your observations and comment in light of your readings.
Audio or Video tape.
- Read a story to a child and analyze your reading and interactions.
- Have a child read to you and analyze the reading and interactions.

Lesson Plans: Write six lesson plans, each incorporating a strand of Language Arts.

Paper: Write a personal paper (three to five pages) in which you discuss what you feel have been significant learnings concerning Language Arts.

Begin a Language Arts binder:

Project: Explore an area of Language Arts that interests you. Present your findings and their practical classroom application.

Class Participation:

- demonstration lesson
- participating as a learner
- attendance

Self Evaluation: