

Summer Semester 2003

EDUC 472 - 4

**Designs for Learning:
Elementary Language Arts
D03.00**Jean Warburton
Office: EDB 8635
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Email: jwarburt@sfu.caThursdays 13:00-16:50
in AQ 5047**PREREQUISITE:**

Educ 401/402

This course is designed for teachers who are interested in creating rich, stimulating and effective language arts programs in the elementary classroom. It will explore the six strands of the language arts - listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and representing, and will focus on developing knowledge of theories of language and language acquisition, and on designing engaging teaching/learning activities. The course will pay particular attention to children's literature in the elementary classroom, how it supports the acquisition of language, and the continuing role it plays in the development of literacy. The course will also address issues related to language minority learners in the language arts classroom and the challenges of meeting their particular needs.

The course will involve a broad range of activities and experiences - professional readings, discussions, written responses, seminars, demonstrations, individual tasks, and small-group work. Students will have opportunities to examine the relationship between theory and practice, to critically reflect on their beliefs about the role of the teacher and the nature of good language arts teaching, and to develop a set of sound principles to guide their work with children.

TOPICS

- language and literacy
- language acquisition
- children's literature in the Language Arts classroom
- the development of oral language (speaking and listening)
- reading and writing
- viewing and representing
- the integration of the six Language Arts strands
- the minority language learner
- assessment and evaluation
- the Language Arts program

REQUIREMENTS

- regular attendance and participation
- completion of assigned professional readings
- completion of short oral and written assignments
- completion of practical projects

REQUIRED READINGS

Tompkins, G. (1998). *Language Arts: Content and teaching strategies (4th Ed.)* New Jersey: Simon and Schuster

Readings from selected children's books (on reserve in the library)

Additional articles/readings will be distributed/assigned throughout the semester.