

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION 393-3

SPECIAL TOPICS: ASSESSING GROWTH IN LANGUAGE (K-12)

Summer Session, 1989
(July 4 - August 11)
Tuesday/Thursday
9:30 a.m. - 12:20 a.m.
Location: MPX 8651

Instructor: Prof. Gloria P. Sampson
Office: MPX 8671
Phone: 291-4303

"I'm a whole language teacher . . . but the tests aren't."

OBJECTIVES

1. To understand the stages of normal language development (aural comprehension, speaking, reading and writing) in children and adolescents in Grades K-12 in a variety of subject areas, from language arts to mathematics.
2. To understand the relationship between affective (emotional) development and language growth.
3. To understand how family and social factors affect language growth.
4. To understand how cognitive changes and language growth are related.
5. To be able to assess the level of development of a child's or adolescent's language by means of classroom tasks and teacher-made tests.

TOPICS

1. The significance of language growth across the curriculum.
2. Stages of change and growth in the language of children and adolescents.
3. Analyzing and assessing language used by students in classrooms from kindergarten through senior secondary school.
4. Ways of encouraging language growth in the classroom.

ASSIGNMENTS

There will be no tests in this course. Students will submit two papers, length about 10-12 pages each, each worth 50% of the total grade for the course. Each paper will be a practical analysis and assessment of language produced by children and adolescents in classrooms.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Gillian Brown, Anne Anderscn, Richard Shillcock and George Yule. (1984). Teaching Talk: Strategies for Production and Assessment. Cambridge: University Press.

Katharine Perera. (1984). Children's Writing and Reading: Analysing Classroom Language. London: Basil Blackwell.

Terry D. Johnson and Daphne R. Louis. (1987). Literacy through Literature. Richmond Hill, Ontario: Scholastic-Tab.