

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**  
**EDUCATION 342-3**  
**CONTEMPORARY APPROACHES TO LITERACY INSTRUCTION**  
**(E1.00)**

Spring Semester, 1992  
(January 6-April 3)  
Thursdays, 4:30–7:20 p.m.  
Location: MPX 7600

Instructor: Carmen Rodriguez

---

**PREREQUISITE:** Education 341

**OBJECTIVES:**

- to reflect on the literacy theory studied in Education 341 and on its application to the field of literacy instruction
- to arrive at an historical understanding of the development of different approaches to adult literacy instruction
- to survey current approaches to literacy instruction
- to arrive at a critical understanding of some adult literacy programs in the Lower Mainland

**COURSE TOPICS:**

- the literacy/illiteracy issue: review of the theory/application to literacy instruction
- the purposes of literacy instruction, the role of the literacy instructor
- the adult literacy learner
- an historical overview of literacy instruction: the "bottom-up" approach, language experience, whole language, Freirian education
- the theory behind the practice: what is understood by reading and writing?
- literacy programs in Canada, the U.S., Great Britain and the Third World
- literacy programs in British Columbia, with particular emphasis on the Lower Mainland

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

- Joyce Cameron. A Guide for Tutoring Adult Literacy Students
- Adult Basic Literacy Curriculum Guide and Resource Book
- Audrey Thomas. Exemplary Adult Literacy Programs and Innovative Practices in Canada
- Katherine Kennedy and Stephanie Roeder. Using Language Experience with Adults: A Guide for Teachers
- Paula Davies and Ann McQuaid. Whole Language and Adult Literacy Instruction.

Other required texts:

- Carmen Rodriguez and Don Sawyer. Native Literacy Research Report

In addition, the instructor will provide a package of required readings and a list of recommended texts.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Student evaluation will be based on completion of a mid-term take-home exam (30-%), group presentations (30%), a final paper (30%) and class participation (10%)

**NOTE:** This course will begin January 16. An extra class will be arranged among the participants.