

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
EDUCATION 420-4
COGNITIVE STRATEGIES IN LEARNING
(E1.00)
(Cat #44867)

Spring Semester, 1993
(January 5—April 2)
Thursday, 4:30 – 8:20 p.m.
Location: MPX 9511/12

Instructor: D. L. Butler
Office: MPX 8645
Phone: 291-4548

PREREQUISITES: EDUC 220 and EDUC 320.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, students will study basic and applied research on the nature and instruction of cognitive strategies. The course will provide knowledge that is critical in the planning, delivery, and evaluation of instruction that incorporates cognitive strategies for learning. For psychology students, the course will extend understandings of learning and motivation through focussing on research conducted in instructional settings.

OBJECTIVES

Participants in this course will be able to:

1. Describe the nature of cognitive strategies, and their roles in students' learning and motivation.
2. Describe the potential contribution of cognitive strategies across tasks (e.g. writing, reading, or solving problems) and across curriculum domains (e.g. English, Science, Mathematics, or Social Studies).
3. Evaluate the effectiveness of prevalent approaches to the instruction of cognitive strategies.
4. Describe methods of assessment, of students' thinking generally, and of their use of cognitive strategies.
5. Critically examine the contribution of instruction in cognitive strategies, considering educators' broader objective of enhancing the quality of student 'thinking'.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Two short-answer, in-class quizzes on readings 30%
2. Three short take-home assignments, where students respond to questions pertaining to readings 30%
3. A final paper 40%

READINGS

Students can expect to be assigned roughly 30—40 pages of reading per week. Selections will be drawn from current publications (e.g. journals, books), and will be made available in class, in the CET, and/or on reserve in the library.

NO TEXTBOOK REQUIRED.