

Spring Semester 2002

EDUC 367 - 4

**Teaching Children from Minority Language
Backgrounds in Elementary Classrooms
E01.00**

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Thursday 16:30-20:20 in EDB 8651/2

PREREQUISITES

60 credit hours

DESCRIPTION

This course will prepare pre-service and practicing teachers in effective elementary curriculum and instruction with students from a wide variety of linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Children of minority language backgrounds (those often labeled as ESL students) face particular challenges and bring particular strengths to learning English in elementary school. What practices and classroom conditions facilitate language learning? We will consider theory and research in second language learning and examine teaching/learning practices in multilingual, multi-ethnic classrooms. Participants will have an opportunity to develop plans for practice relevant to their own educational milieu.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Reflection essay: 10%
2. Responses to readings, presentations, class participation: 40%
3. Classroom observation: 20%
4. Final term paper or action research proposal: 30%

REQUIRED READINGS:

Toohey, K. (2000). *Learning English at school: Identity, social relations and classroom practice*.
Gibbons, P. (1991). *Learning to learn in a second language*.

Additional selected readings on reserve.