

**Designs for Learning:
Secondary Language Arts
D01.00**

Dr. Geoffrey Madoc-Jones
Office: EDB 8673
Phone: 291-5969
E-mail: madocjo@sfu.ca

Tuesday
8:30-12:20 in EDB 7600

PREREQUISITE:

Educ 401/402

This course will focus on developing knowledge and understanding to create a rich and stimulating language arts program in the secondary school classroom. Issues in the teaching of the reading of literature, writing, speaking, listening and viewing will be examined through current theory and teaching practice. There will be some emphasis on teaching Canadian and B.C. authors.

Outline

1. The historical context of modernity and post-modernity and its cultural, social and individual ramifications for LA educators will be investigated.
2. The key concepts in this area of study, such as: literature, genre, semantics, semiotics, discourse, writing process reader response, hermeneutics, media studies, evaluation and education, will be examined through an investigation of their epistemological and historical roots as well as by an analysis of the contemporary debate in the area of language theory.
3. A series of literary works will be studied in common, both for the purpose of explication and as the basis for the development of practical criticism.
4. A variety of expressive forms, both written, spoken and visual, will be studied so that students can develop and present their own creative performances.
5. Recent contributions to our understanding of how secondary school learner's thinking and interests develop will be studied, as well as how these could affect the design of curricula and the implementation of instruction.
6. Drawing on the readings and the expressive activities, students will focus on the production of a piece of curriculum for the secondary LA classroom.

Requirements

1. Four brief pieces of work, using a variety of media where appropriate, on ideas and/or issues raised by the readings or work in class. (20%)
2. Group presentation of a didactic scheme. (20%)
3. Group performance-incorporating selections from the literary works. (20%)
4. Major paper or the creation of a piece of curriculum in the area of secondary language arts. (40%)

TEXTS

Merchant of Venice. William Shakespeare. Oxford World Classics. Oxford University Press.

Fugitive Pieces. Anne Michaels. M&S.

One Hundred Years of Poetry for Children. M. Harrison and C. Stuart-Clark. OUP.

West by Northwest. British Columbia Short Stories. Editors: David Stouck and Myler Wilkinson. 1998. Polestar.

*A contemporary Canadian novel.

*A book of poetry by a contemporary Canadian poet.

*See instructor for titles.