

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**  
**EDUCATION 480-4 (F5.00)**  
**DESIGNS FOR LEARNING: FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE**

Spring 1995  
(January 20-21st- April 1995)  
Friday, 16:30-20:20 }  
Saturday, 9:30-15:20 ) Every 3 weeks, 4 week-end sessions  
Location: College Heights Secondary School, 6184 Domano Blvd,  
Prince George, B.C. V2N 3Z4 (Room 149).

Instructor: Deborah Swaffield  
Telephone: 964-4431 (Work)  
962-8693 (home)

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*Instruction in English*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course aims at demystifying second language instruction by examining the links and differences between first and second language acquisition. Second language education has drawn on knowledge about first language learning to trace a picture of second language development. Recent work in this area highlights the similar focus on making meaning during the acquisition processes across languages. Yet, there remain differences in the surface features of each linguistic system and in the cultural practices surrounding language use. Moreover, the status of the first and second language can vary according to social and educational contexts. This naturally has an impact on the particular type of classroom support needed to foster growth in a given language.

Through a variety of large group, small cooperative groups, and individual activities, we will explore our own processes as second language learners and work with a number of classroom approaches that can be applied to teaching French as a second language. Current Ministry documents, curriculum practices, and teaching materials related to the second language classroom will also be examined.

**OUTLINE OF TOPICS:**

- (a) Second Language Acquisition (based on current research)
- (b) Role of the First Language in Second Language Learning
- (c) The Use of Contextual Clues for Comprehension
- (d) Strategies for Teaching in the Second Language Classroom
  - cooperative learning techniques
  - modeling
- (e) Analysis of the Integrative Approach
  - other subject integration (i.e., Music, Social Studies, Phys Ed., etc.)
  - experiential learning
- (f) Practical Classroom Applications
  - getting started
  - keeping student interest and motivation
  - teaching grammar and vocabulary in context
- (g) Curriculum concerns
  - specific objectives
  - classroom interaction
  - use of authentic sources for cultural context
  - evaluation of the 4 areas of second language acquisition

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Term project and presentation .....	40%
Portfolio of Resources and materials .....	30%
Curriculum overview .....	20%
Language acquisition research .....	10%

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Rivers, W. (1987). Interactive Language Teaching. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS:**

Nunan, D. (1991). Language Teaching Methodology. Englewood, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Skehan, P. (1989). Individual Differences in Second Language Learning. London, UK: Routledge.

Stern, H.H. (1992). Issues and Options in Language Teaching. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.