

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION 472-4

**DESIGNS FOR LEARNING:
ENGLISH AND LANGUAGE ARTS (ELEMENTARY)
(D1.00)**

Fall Semester, 1991
(September 13 – November 22)
Tentative Dates: (8:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m.)
Friday Sept. 13, Friday Sept. 27
Saturday Sept. 28, Friday Oct. 11
Friday Nov. 1, Saturday Nov. 2
Friday November 22
Location: MLC Rm # TBA

Instructor: Louise Towill
Phone: 594-5640
594-5686 (answering
machine)

PREREQUISITE: EDUC 401/402, or equivalent.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on developing the knowledge, skills and strategies needed to create a rich and stimulating language arts program in the classroom. Issues surrounding the core elements of reading, writing, speaking and listening will be examined through current theory and teaching practice. Language acquisition will be viewed as a holistic and integrated process which will allow communication skills to develop naturally as children make meaning of their world.

You will have the opportunity to examine your personal beliefs pertaining to the child, the teacher and the Language Arts curriculum as well as to examine and explore the congruency between current theory and practice. This course will provide you with a framework in which to examine and reflect upon your beliefs regarding learning and teaching language and your role as teacher in engaging children in communicating and in searching for meaning.

This course will comprise of a broad range of experiences. These activities will include professional readings (discussion and written and oral reflections), seminars, demonstrations, individualized tasks and small-group work threaded through cooperative learning strategies. Upon completion of this course you should have an extensive repertoire of strategies and materials which will augment language learning in the classroom.

TOPICS INCLUDED

- the acquisition of language
- the process of reading
- the process of writing
- the development of oral language and listening skills
- the linking of reading and writing
- the integration of the four Language Arts strands
- reading and writing across the curriculum
- assessment and evaluation
- children's literature in the Language Arts classroom
- developing an effective Language Arts program

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- regular attendance and participation
- completion of assigned professional readings
- completion of short written assignments (including a professional journal)
- completion of one oral and one written project

REQUIRED TEXTS

Booth, David, & Thornley-Hall, Carol. (1991). Classroom Talk. Markham, Ontario: Pembroke Publishing Ltd.

McCormick-Calkins, Lucy. (1986). (Ed.). The Art of Teaching Writing. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann Educational Books.

Temple, Charles, & Gillet, Jean. (1989). Language Arts: Learning Processes and Teaching Practices. Glenview, ILL: Scott, Foresman and Co.

Watson, Dorothy; Burke, Carolyn, & Harste, Jerome. (1989). Whole Language: Inquiring Voices. Richmond Hill, Ontario: Scholastic.

Wells, Gordon. (1986). The Meaning Makers. London, Ontario.

REQUIRED PRE-READING ASSIGNMENT

Your task is to pre-read the following and come to the first class prepared for discussion.

The Meaning Makers by Gordon Wells. Chapters 1 to 5.

Classroom Talk by David Booth and Carol Thornley-Hall. Chapters 1 to 4.