



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Syllabus Design and Materials Writing

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
LIN	5003	54045	2, 2006	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOEDU
Academic org:	FOE002
Student contribution band:	National Priority Teaching
ASCED code:	070115

STAFFING

Examiner: Jane Kehrwald
Moderator: Ann Dashwood

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: LIN5000 and LIN8001

SYNOPSIS

This course introduces students to principles of course design and looks at a number of frameworks for development of language teaching/learning material. The course will look at the inter-relationships between theory of language, theory of learning, aims of syllabi, the social and personal contexts of student learning. It will also examine a number of different frameworks within which syllabus design is embedded and which determine the ways materials might be developed. Students will also be introduced to issues in language assessment as a way of evaluating the effectiveness of a course. Students will be asked to prepare a "course of work" based on principles encountered in the program, to teach the course to a group of learners and to evaluate the success of their course of work. **IMPORTANT NOTE: Working with Children: State law in Queensland requires that all adults (including university students, pre-service educators, trainers, vocational teachers, industry educators) working with children under the age of 18, in the state of Queensland*, obtain approval before commencing such work. Many education courses include a practical component (professional experience, project work, research, assessment etc.) that may require engagement with children under the age of 18. It is your responsibility to ensure that you possess a current suitability card (Blue Card) before commencing any practical components of this course. DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 UNLESS YOU POSSESS A CURRENT 'BLUE CARD'. For further information:** <http://www.childcomm.qld.gov.au/employment/bluecard/informationSheets.html>. *If you are undertaking practical experience outside the state of Queensland, Australia you should check local requirements.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students will be able to:

1. demonstrate an understanding of the inter-relationships between theory of language, general theory of learning, aims of a course, the context in which teaching and learning is taking place and the extent of the outcomes. Such understanding will be shown by discussing these relationships and the way they operate in particular concepts.
2. Critically discuss some of the language frameworks that have been used in language teaching and learning (including the Australian Language Levels Guidelines) and demonstrate the understanding of the rationales underpinning them.
3. demonstrate an understanding of theory and practice by designing a unit of work based on one of the frameworks.
4. demonstrate an understanding of ways of going about evaluation and of current issues in language testing and evaluation by evaluating assessment instruments as well as producing an assessment instrument.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Usable theories - Towards a General Framework for Syllabus Design	15.00
2.	Goals of language programs and their relationship to choice of particular syllabus designs.	15.00
3.	Looking at some syllabus designs including communicative, structural, notional, procedural	30.00
4.	Evaluation and issues in language testing	10.00
5.	Devising a unit of work; a practical example	30.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Nunan, D. 1988, *Syllabus design*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Richards, J. 2001, *Curriculum development in language teaching*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Brown, J. D. 1995, *The elements of language curriculum: A systematic approach to program development*, Heinle & Heinle, Boston.

McGrath, I. 2002, *Materials evaluation and design for language testing*, Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh.

Vale, D., Scarino, A., & McKay Carlton, P. 1991, *Pocket all*, Curriculum Corporation, Victoria.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	35.00
Directed Study	70.00
Private Study	40.00
Tutorials	26.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT 1 (2000-2500 WORDS)	25.00	25.00	25 Aug 2006
REFLECTIVE JOURNAL	5.00	5.00	25 Aug 2006 (see note 1)
MAJOR ASSIGNMENT PART A	40.00	40.00	03 Nov 2006
MAJOR ASSIGNMENT PART B	25.00	25.00	03 Nov 2006
REFLECTIVE JOURNAL	5.00	5.00	03 Nov 2006 (see note 2)

NOTES

1. Journal is to be submitted with each assignment on the assignment due date.
2. Journal is to be submitted with each assignment on the assignment due date.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available (or at least a grade of C-).
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
A penalty may be applied if an arrangement for an assignment extension has not been negotiated before the due date.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% of the available weighted marks for the summative assessment items.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
N/A

- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
N/A
- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner.
- 2 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the Examiner.
- 3 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 4 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media.
- 5 The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile.
- 6 Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the examiner of the course to negotiate such special arrangements.
- 7 In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the Examiner's convenience.
- 8 Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in a course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of a course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete - Make up). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non directed personal study.
- 9 Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination; IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Working with Children: State law in Queensland requires that all adults (including university students, pre-service educators, trainers, vocational teachers, industry educators) working with children under the age of 18, in the state of Queensland*, obtain approval before commencing such work. Many education courses include a practical component (professional experience, project work, research, assessment etc.) that may require engagement with children under the age of 18. It is your responsibility to ensure that you possess a current suitability card (Blue Card)

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