



College of Education and Human Development

Early Childhood Education Program
4400 University Drive, MS 4C2, Fairfax, Virginia 22030
Phone: 703-993-3844; Fax: 703-993-4370; email: earlyed@gmu.edu
<https://gse.gmu.edu/programs/earlychildhood/>

ECED 502 Foundations of Language and Literacy for Diverse Young Learners (3:3:0)
Spring 2013
Wednesdays, 7:20 – 10:00 pm
Enterprise Hall 274

Instructor: Peg Griffin, Ph. D.

Office: Johnson Center

Telephone:

Email address: pgriffin@gmu.edu

Office hours: by appointment Wednesdays on Fairfax campus; other times and places as needed

Course Description

Examines complexity of language acquisition and literacy development. Focuses on typical and atypical language development, connections between language and literacy, and diversity of communication styles in families and cultures. Emphasizes first and second language acquisition.

Nature of Course Delivery

This course uses a distributed learning format requiring timely and active participation of all students throughout the semester. Activities to support student achievement of the learner outcomes include instructor presentations, videos, student team presentations, collaborative student work in small groups in class and in on-line discussion groups, assigned readings, and projects leading to written products. Students engage in timely critical reflection and accountable talk and writing related to the learning activities.

Learner Outcomes

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

1. Describe language (especially English) and the growth of vocabulary, structures (phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics), functions (pragmatics and discourse rhetoric), and acts (expressive, receptive, metalinguistic) while addressing diverse learners (including first and second language learners, dialect diversity, and children with typical and atypical development patterns).
2. Describe social, cultural, affective, cognitive, and educational factors that play a role in language acquisition and literacy learning (reading and writing).
3. Describe reading and writing learning processes including interactions among phonological awareness (including phonemic awareness), word recognition (including phonics and decoding), reading fluency, reading comprehension, and spelling (orthography and developmental), as well as writing mechanics, composition, and completion of writing tasks.

4. Explain current research on typical and atypical language development, first and second language acquisition, literacy in various settings, as well as language and literacy assessment and instruction.
5. Describe assistive technology for students with special needs regarding early language and literacy instruction.

Professional Standards

This course is aligned with the standards established by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC).

Textbooks

Burns, M. S., Griffin, P. & Snow, C. E. (Eds.). (1999). *Starting out right: A guide to promoting children's reading success*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.

Paley, V. G. (1997). *The girl with the brown crayon*. Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press.

Paradis, J., Genesee, F., & Crago, M. B. (2011). *Dual language development & disorders. Second Edition*. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing.

Other required readings (available without fee electronically via GMU resources)

Collins, M. F. (2010). ELL preschoolers' English vocabulary acquisition from storybook reading. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 25(1), 84-97.

Gutiérrez-Clellen, V. F. , Simon-Cerejido, G. & Leone, A. E. (2009). Code-switching in bilingual children with specific language impairment. *International Journal of Bilingualism*, 13(1), 91-109.

Jones, C. D., Reutzel, D. R. & Fargo, J. D. (2010). Comparing two methods of writing instruction: Effects on kindergarten students' reading skills. *The Journal of Educational Research*, 103(5), Jun 2010, 327-341.

Leung, C.B. (2008). Preschoolers' acquisition of scientific vocabulary through repeated readaloud events, retellings, and hands-on science activities. *Reading Psychology*, 29, 165-193.

Marinak, B. A., & Gambrell, L. B. (2008) Intrinsic motivation and rewards: What sustains young children's engagement with text? *Literacy Research and Instruction*, 47, 9–26.

Stanton-Chapman, T. L., & Snell, M. E. (2011). Promoting turn-taking skills in preschool children with disabilities: The effects of peer-based social communication intervention. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 26(3), 303-319.

Ukrainetz, T. A., Cooney, M. H., Dyer, S. K., Kysar, A. J. & Harris, T. J. (2000). An investigation into teaching phonemic awareness through shared reading and writing. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 15(3), 331-355.

Optional Readings

- Bernstein Ratner, N. (2008). Atypical language development. Chapter 9, in Berko Gleason, J. & Bernstein Ratner, N. *The development of language* (7th edition). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
- Burns, M. S., & Kidd, J. K. (2010). Learning to read. In Peterson, P., Baker, E. & McGaw, B. (Eds.), *International Encyclopedia of Education, Volume 5* (pp. 394-400). Oxford: Elsevier.
- Conn-Powers, M. Cross, A., Traub, E., & Hutter-Pishgahi, L. (2006). The universal design of early education: Moving forward for all children. *Beyond the journal: Young Children on the Web*. <http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/styles/iidc/defiles/ECC/SRUD-MovingForwardArticle.pdf>
- Dickinson, D. K. (2011). Teachers' language practices and academic outcomes of preschool children. *Science*, 333, 964-967.
- Dyson, A. H., & Smitherman, G. (2009). The right (write) start: African American language and the discourse of sounding right. *Teachers College Record*, 111(4), 973-998.
- Glenberg, A.M., Goldberg, A. B., & Zhu, X. (2011). Improving early reading comprehension using embodied CAI *Instructional Sciences*, 39(1), 27-39.
- Hatcher, P. J., Hulme, C., & Snowling, M. J, (2004). Explicit phoneme training combined with phonic reading instruction helps young children at risk of reading failure. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 45(2), 338-58.
- National Early Literacy Panel. (2008). *Developing early literacy: Report of the National Early Literacy Panel*. Washington, DC: National Institute for Literacy. <http://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/NELPReport09.pdf>
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. (2000). *Report of the National Reading Panel. Teaching children to read: an evidence-based assessment of the scientific research literature on reading and its implications for reading instruction: Reports of the subgroups* (NIH Publication No. 00-4754). Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office. <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/publications/nrp/upload/report.pdf>
- Resnick, L. B., & Snow, C. E. (2009). *Speaking and listening for preschool through third grade*. Newark, DE: International Reading Association. [includes DVD].
- Roberts, T. A. (2008). Home storybook reading in primary or second language with preschool children: Evidence of equal effectiveness for second-language vocabulary acquisition. *Reading Research Quarterly*, 43(2), 103-130.
- Vasilyeva, M., Huttenlocher, J., & Waterfall, H. (2006). Effects of language intervention on syntactic skill levels in preschoolers. *Developmental Psychology*. 42(1), 164-174.

George Mason University Policies and Resources for Students

- Academic integrity (honor code, plagiarism) – Students must adhere to guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/>].
- Mason Email – Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, division, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account. Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>]
- Counseling and Psychological Services – The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops, and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].
- Office of Disability Services – Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor in writing at the beginning of the semester <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- The Writing Center (Optional Resource) – The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].
- University Libraries (Optional Resource) – The George Mason University Libraries provide numerous services, research tools, and help with using the library resources [See <http://library.gmu.edu/>].

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, Graduate School of Education, please visit our website [See <http://gse.gmu.edu/>].

Core Values Commitment: The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles.

Collaboration

Collaboration is an important human activity that involves shared responsibility in promoting healthy, productive lives, and educational success. We commit ourselves to work toward these goals in genuine partnerships with individuals, families, community agencies, schools, businesses, foundations, and other groups at the local, regional, national, and international levels.

Ethical Leadership

In all professions represented by the college, leadership is an essential component denoting ability and willingness to help lead professional practice to higher levels. We commit ourselves to practice ethical leadership through deliberate and systematic attention to the ethical principles that guide all leaders in a moral society.

Innovation

We have a history of creating dynamic, innovative programs, and we are dedicated to continue creating innovative approaches in all areas of our work. We commit ourselves to seeking new ways to advance knowledge, solve problems, improve our professional practice, and expand on our successes.

Research-Based Practice

The best practice in any discipline is based upon sound research and professional judgment. We commit ourselves to basing our instruction, scholarship, and policy recommendations on well-established principles that, wherever possible, emerge from research and reflection on its implications for professional practice.

Social Justice

Social justice embodies essential principles of equity and access to all opportunities in society, in accordance with democratic principles and respect for all persons and points of view. We commit ourselves to promoting equity, opportunity, and social justice through the college's operations and its missions related to teaching, research, and service.

Course Requirements

General Requirements

1. The timely completion of all readings assigned for the course is assumed. It is imperative that students keep up with the readings and participate in class and on-line.
2. Attendance in class is important to students' learning; therefore, students are expected to make every effort to attend class sessions. Absences, tardiness, and leaving early may negatively affect course grades. If, due to an emergency, students will not be in class, they must call the instructor and leave a message or send an email before class. The following policy is from the university course catalog:

Students are expected to attend the class periods of the courses for which they register. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but also to the class as a whole. Because class participation may be a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of nonparticipation. Students who miss an exam with [sic] an acceptable excuse may be penalized according to the individual instructor's grading policy, as stated in the course syllabus.
3. In line with Mason's policy that students should not be penalized because of observances of their religious holidays, students shall be given an opportunity to make up, within a reasonable time, any academic assignment that is missed due to individual participation in religious observances. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of any intended absences for religious observations in advance of the class that will be missed. Notice should be provided in writing as soon as possible.
4. During face-to-face meetings, cell phones, pagers, and other communicative devices are not allowed in this class. Students must keep them stowed away and out of sight. Laptops or tablets (e.g., iPads) may be permitted for the purpose of taking notes only, but students must submit a request in writing to do so. Engaging in any other activities, even if related to other parts of the course, will result in a significant deduction to a student's participation grade.

5. It is expected that assignments will be turned in on time (the beginning of the class in which they are due). However, it is recognized that students occasionally have serious problems that prevent work completion. If such a dilemma arises, students should speak to the instructor prior to the assignment due date (when possible). If the student does not communicate with the instructor, a late penalty will be applied.
6. Mason is an Honor Code university; please see the [Office for Academic Integrity](#) for a full description of the code and the honor committee process. The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously and violations are treated gravely. What does academic integrity mean in this course? Essentially it means this: When responsible for a task, the student will perform that task. When a student relies on someone else's work in an aspect of the performance of that task, they will give full credit in the proper, accepted form. Another aspect of academic integrity is the free play of ideas. Vigorous discussion and debate are encouraged in this course, with the firm expectation that all aspects of the class will be conducted with civility and respect for differing ideas, perspectives, and traditions. When in doubt (of any kind), students will ask for guidance and clarification.

Written Assignments

All written assignments prepared outside of class will be evaluated for content and presentation. The American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition (APA) style will be followed for all written work. All written work unless otherwise noted must be completed on a word processor and should be proofread carefully. (Use spell check!) If students are not confident of their own ability to catch errors, they should have another person proofread their work. When in doubt, they should check the APA manual. Portions of the APA manual appear at the Style Manuals link on the Mason library web guide at <http://infoguides.gmu.edu/style>. Students may consult the Writing Center for additional writing support.

Students will do the following:

1. Present ideas in a clear, concise, and organized manner. (Avoid wordiness and redundancy.)
2. Develop points coherently, definitively, and thoroughly.
3. Refer to appropriate authorities, studies, and examples to document where appropriate. (Avoid meaningless generalizations, unwarranted assumptions, and unsupported opinions.)
4. Use correct capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and grammar.

Grading Criteria

A = 95 – 100

A- = 90 – 94

B+ = 87 – 89

B = 83 – 86

B- = 80 – 82

C = 70 – 79

F = < 70

Grading Policy

All CEHD undergraduate and graduate students are held to the university grading policies as described in the Academic Policies section of the current catalog, which can be accessed at <http://catalog.gmu.edu>. Those students enrolled in a CEHD Licensure Graduate Certificate program, however, must earn a B- or better in all licensure coursework. A degree-seeking graduate student will be dismissed after accumulating grades of F in two courses or 9 credits of unsatisfactory grades (C or F) in graduate courses. A 3.0 grade point average is required for completion of the graduate degree.

Assignments	Due Dates	Points
Attendance & Participation	Ongoing, see Course Schedule	15
On-line small group activities	Ongoing, see Course Schedule	10
Family Project Part 1: Language	March 20	20
Instructional Research Articles Analysis Project	Choice by April 3 Submit by April 17	20
Assisting Students with Special Needs during Language or Literacy Learning (group project)	Choice by April 21 Submit written by May 1 Present to class May 8	15
Family Project Part 2: Literacy	May 8	20
TOTAL		100

Attendance and Participation (15points)

Because active participation and engagement are imperative for optimal learning, preparation for and participation in in-class activities will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Students attend class, arrive on time, and stay for the entire class period.
- Students complete readings and prepare for class activities prior to class as is evidenced by their ability to discuss and write about the concepts presented and examined in the texts as well as participate fully in related activities.
- Students are actively involved in in-class and online learning experiences as is evidenced by (1) participating in all activities, assignments, and quizzes (2) engaging in small and large group discussions, face-to-face and on-line, (3) not using laptops and other electronic devices during class time except as approved to support learning within the current class activity, (4) reading and posting at least twice a week in small group on-line

activities and completing written work related to assignments (5) supporting the participation and learning of classmates on-line and face-to face.

- Students show evidence of critical reflective thinking and accountable language in class discussions and activities as well as in written work.

Note: To determine whether the campus is closed due to inclement weather, call 703-993-1000 or go to www.gmu.edu.

On-line small group activities (10points)

Active participation and engagement in small group on-line projects that use discussion forums on Blackboard are also imperative for optimal learning. Preparation for and participation in on-line small group class activities will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Students complete readings and follow activity directions to prepare for on-line activity tasks as is evidenced by their ability to post and respond to posts, participating fully in the tasks related to each of the four small group on-line activities.
- Students read and post at least twice a week in the small group on-line activities they belong to, from the opening date of the activity and for its entire period. Each student will be included in two activities that operate for the first half of the class and two new ones that operate for the second half of the class. For one activity in each time period, students will be assigned at random by the Blackboard tool for that purpose. For the other activity in each time period, each student will select a group to enroll themselves in, again using a Blackboard tool for the purpose.
- Students show evidence of critical reflective thinking and accountable language in their posts for all tasks for each small group online activity. Students support the participation and learning of others in their on-line small groups. Students apply material from the on-line activities to their written assignments.

Note: To determine whether the campus is closed due to inclement weather, call 703-993-1000 or go to www.gmu.edu.

Family Project Part 1: Language (20 points)

Goal: Review and summarize course information about language, demonstrating knowledge of the first half of the course. Prepare to (a) assist families to understand the complex nature of children's language growth and (b) to help parents partner with teachers for the child's benefit in the light of the beyond school factors that affect the child's development in her language or languages.

Audience: Families of young children

Content: Addresses the following topics explored throughout the first part of the term:

1. three language acts (expressive, receptive, meta-linguistic)
2. three aspects of language
 - Vocabulary
 - two types of functions (1. pragmatics, 2. rhetoric/discourse/genres)
 - four systems of structures (1. phonology, 2. morphology, 3. syntax, 4. semantics)
3. diversity related to languages and cultures
 - dual language development

- dialect differences
- 4. atypical language development among children identified with
 - Autistic Spectrum Disorders
 - Speech Impairments
 - Hearing Impairments
 - Specific Language Impairments

The final product should include the following features:

- a. a framework that orients families to what language is and motivates them to learn more about it
- b. introduction of specialized terms with examples explained
- c. some milestones or benchmarks
- d. research supported “how-to” segments (including materials, procedures, and rationale) so home activities can complement school work to enhance child language growth.

Resources: Power Points and notes from class posted on Blackboard, students own notes, required text books and articles assigned for classes 1 through 7, and small group on-line activity 1.

Material from Wikipedia or a general web search should be avoided unless its coherence with current scholarship is verified.

Associated online Blackboard activities: At least Activity 1: Child Talk and perhaps from Activity 2: Search for Research.

Form: Individual written material submitted in electronic form using the Blackboard assignment tool or GMU email. Many different formats are acceptable: handbook, newsletter, series of columns or blog postings (provided in an off-line form), Power Points with discussion notes for bi-monthly family meetings, etc. See also the “Written Assignments” section above. The style and format should be appropriate to the family audience. Sources consulted should be indicated and families should be informed about them. Complete adherence to the APA style for articles submitted for professional publications is not required, but good academic writing standards should be adhered to.

Due: By March 20.

Family Project Part 2: Literacy (20 points)

Goal: Review and summarize course information about literacy, demonstrating knowledge of the second half of the course. Prepare to (a) assist families to understand the complex nature of children’s literacy growth and (b) to help parents partner with teachers for the child’s benefit in the light of the beyond school factors that affect the child’s development.

Audience: Families of young children

Content: Address the following topics explored throughout the semester:

1. integrated components for accomplished reading, including
 - a. foundations in language development (including phonemic and phonological awareness), activities (conversations, play, read-alouds, exploring varied literacy purposes and forms, trying to write), print concepts and letter knowledge, and motivation to read;
 - b. comprehending written language by using background knowledge (with vocabulary depth and breadth) and comprehension strategies for varied forms and domains;

- c. printed word identification (alphabetic principle, phonics, syllabic and morphological chunking, and sight words) with accuracy and automaticity;
 - d. fluency that coordinates (b) and (c) above.
2. integrated components for writing, drawing on literacy foundations developed also for reading but including
 - a. composing meaningfully in diverse genres using topic knowledge and vocabulary, varied and complex syntax, semantic s, rhetoric, showing audience awareness, using planning , organizing,, monitoring, self-regulation (attention, persistence)
 - b. producing written words using fine motor and transcription skills, the alphabetic principle, and spelling strategies & patterns
 - c. finishing with self-evaluation, editing, revising, publishing
 3. how literacy development is related to language and cultural diversity
 4. how reading difficulties can be prevented, identified, and treated

The final product should include the following features:

- e. frameworks to orient and motivate families to learn about both the reading and writing sides of literacy
- f. introduction of specialized terms with examples explained
- g. some milestones or benchmarks
- h. research supported “how-to” segments (including materials, procedures, and rationale) so home activities can complement school work to enhance child literacy.

Resources: Power Points and notes from class sessions, materials from small group Blackboard discussions, class books and articles required and optional in the syllabus and on Blackboard.

Material from Wikipedia or a general web search should be avoided unless its coherence with current scholarship is verified.

Associated online Blackboard activities: At least Activity 3: Beyond Class Plus and perhaps Activity 2: Search for Research and Activity 4: .Needs and Assists

Form: Individual written material submitted in electronic form using the Blackboard assignment tool or GMU email. Many different formats are acceptable: handbook, newsletter, series of columns or blog postings (provided in an off-line form), Power Points with discussion notes for bi-monthly family meetings, etc. See also the “Written Assignments” section above. The style and format should be appropriate to the family audience. Sources consulted should be indicated and families should be informed about them. Complete adherence to the APA style for articles submitted for professional publications is not required, but good academic writing standards should be adhered to.

Due: By May 8.

Instructional Research Articles Analysis Project (20 points)

Goal: Familiarity with the professional research literature that informs early childhood educators about good practices for promoting children’s language and literacy.

Audience: Early childhood education academic colleagues

Content: Analyze two refereed (also called peer reviewed) articles about attempts to improve child language or literacy learning or development. There is a hands-on part of the project, intended to enable and demonstrate deep understanding of the instruction implemented in at least one of the articles. It is *not* a replication of a study. It calls for using materials like those used in

one of the studies being analyzed and trying to do the instruction described in the article with the assistance of at least one child confederate.

The written paper should include the following:

- an introduction of the topic about language or literacy growth and how it is addressed by each of the two articles, including
 - the purpose(s) of each article,
 - a summary of each author's theoretical motivation,
 - a summary of the background research literature the study is developed from;
- a description of the empirical base for each study, giving details about
 - the instruction involved, including the procedures and materials used,
 - the design of the study, including assignment of child subjects to different conditions as well as how data was collected, and which measures and analytic techniques were used,
 - the major findings, interpretations, and conclusions;
 - if/how each article meets the standards of either quantitative or qualitative research (as discussed in class and in the small group research on-line activity);
- a description of the hands-on part of your work based on the plans for, the implementation of, and the results of your hands-on experience and what it led you to think about the article it was derived from;
- a conclusion about the relations between the two articles and the value they do (or do not) have for research-based instructional practices in early childhood education.

Resources: Two articles from professional journals that report on studies of instructional research on the language or literacy growth of young children related to a topic of special interest to the student. The articles are to be chosen from a structured list provided by the instructor. The class quizzes and discussions of required readings can provide practice with the issues important for reading and writing for this assignment.

Associated online Blackboard activities: At least Activity 2: the search for research activity.

Form: Use GMU email to negotiate the articles you will use with the instructor. Identify the articles with the complete APA reference for it. (Do not send an attached copy of the article.) For the completed paper, submit in electronic form using the Blackboard assignment tool or GMU email. Good written products generally have about 12-17 APA style pages. Students will use the complete APA style expected for papers submitted for publication, including page conventions, an abstract, references and in-text citations. (See also "Written Assignments" section above.)

Due: By April 3, the choice of articles should be successfully negotiated with the instructor. On April 17, the final complete paper is due.

Assisting Students with Special Needs during Language or Literacy Learning (group project) (20 points)

Goal: Learn about the special language and literacy needs that challenge some children in school during early childhood. Explore the assistance available for teachers to use— from no technology, to low-, mid- and high-technology. Collaborate within a team to contribute to peer professional development.

Audience: Early childhood education practitioner colleagues.

Content: Students work in small teams to study the special needs related to language or literacy growth that some children encounter in early childhood education and on the assistance teachers

can use to ameliorate the difficulties encountered by children experiencing those needs. The choice of focus will be negotiated with the instructor to avoid too much duplication and to encourage diversity of topics for the class. The team will explore provided materials ranging from manuals to research to the state standards of language and literacy learning. They will prepare a brochure designed to help teachers understand the needs and the assistance available. Their written brochure work will be available to their classmates and the team will present their results to peers in a face-to-face session.

The team will gather information to explain the following topics about their chosen focus:

- identifying children with needs for extra assistance in some area of language or literacy learning
- finding various ways teachers can assist identified children with language and/or literacy learning and specifying how teachers work with various assists to meet specific curricular goals in language and/or literacy;
- establishing which theories and empirical evidence support use of various kinds of assistance for the needs identified;
- examples of the various assistance, including information about use in practice.

Resources & Associated online Blackboard activity: The resources and detailed directions for this project are provided within Activity 4: Needs and Assists. Parts of Activities 2 (Search for research) and 3 (Beyond Class Plus) may also help.

Forms: Submit the written product as a team in electronic form using the Blackboard assignment tool or GMU email. The style and format should be appropriate to the teacher audience for the brochure. While a six-panel tri-fold is a common format for this project, different pamphlet shapes and sizes may be used. Appendices can be used as well. Sources consulted must be indicated in order to inform peers about how they can check on and pursue the information provided. Complete adherence to the APA style for articles submitted for publication is not required in the brochure, but good academic writing standards should be observed. (See also “Written Assignments” section above.) In addition, the team will have 15 minutes in a face to face session to introduce their product to the class.

Due: By April 21, the choice of needs and assists that the team will focus on should have been negotiated successfully with the instructor.

On May 1, the final complete written project is due.

On May 8, the project will be presented to the class.

Draft Course Schedule and Topics

Date	Topic	Readings & Other Assignments
Class 1 1/23	Introduction to course: Discuss syllabus, Blackboard, on-line activities & assignments Preview Paradis et al. Overview acts & aspects of language Language acts: expressive, receptive, meta-linguistic.	By class: study syllabus & be ready to ask about clarifications or concerns. During week: Begin on-line activity (1) child talk (random); Paradis et al.: Chap. 1, 2, 3.

Date	Topic	Readings & Other Assignments
Class 2 1/30	Language Aspects 1: Functions 1 Pragmatics & 2 Rhetoric/discourse genres. Stanton-Chapman & Snell: Quiz & discussion	By class: Stanton-Chapman & Snell, 2011; review Paradis et al., Chap. 1, 2, 3. During week: Begin on-line activity group (2) search for research (self-select).
Class 3 2/6	Language Aspects 2: Vocabulary: breadth, depth, speed Diverse language/culture: translation equivalents & cognates. Diverse ability: Autistic Spectrum Disorders	By class: Paradis et al., Chap. 4, 5, 6.
Class 4 2/13	Paradis et al, 1-6: discussion Collins 2010: quiz & discussion Leung 2008: quiz & discussion	By class: Collins, 2010; Leung, 2008.
Class 5 2/20	Language Aspects 3: Structure 1: Phonology. Diverse abilities: Hearing; Speech.	
Class 6 2/27	Language Aspects 3: Structure 2: Morphology. Diverse language/culture: dialect Gutiérrez-Clellen, et al.: quiz & discussion	By class: Gutiérrez-Clellen, et al., 2009.
Class 7 3/6	Language Aspects 3: Structures 3 & 4: Syntax & Semantics. Diverse abilities: Specific Language Impairment	By class: Paradis et al., Chap. 9 Posts to child-talk activity end.
<i>Spring Break 3/11 to 3/17</i>		
Class 8 3/20	Fundamentals: identify, interpret, evaluate & apply valid research about oral language, reading & writing; Literacy frameworks	By class: Family Project Part 1: Language: due During week: Posts to search for research activity end; Begin on-line activities: (3) beyond class plus (random) (4) needs & assist (select).
Class 9 3/27	Literacy: Reading foundation & comprehending Paley: Discussion Marinak & Gambrell: quiz & discussion	By class: Paley, all; Marinak & Gambrell, 2008.
Class 10 4/3	Literacy: Reading word identification (phonemic awareness, sound-symbol relations, decoding skills – phonics, word attack, syllable & morphology patterns – sight vocabulary. Ukrainetz, et al.: quiz & discussion	By class: <i>Choice settled for Instructional Research Articles Analysis Project.</i> Ukrainetz, et al., 2000.

Date	Topic	Readings & Other Assignments
Class 11 4/10	Literacy: Reading fluency Diverse ability: Intellectual Disability (ID). Diverse ability: Reading Impairment Paradis et al., 10: discussion Jones et al.: quiz & discussion Language diversity:	By class: Paradis et al., Chap. 10 Jones et al. 2010.
Class 12 4/17	Burns et al., Discussion Literacy: Writing spelling: purpose & limits of estimated (invented) spelling, orthographic patterns & strategies for spelling study	By class: Instructional Research Articles Analysis Project due Burns et al., all By April 21: <i>Choice settled for Assisting Students with Special Needs during Language or Literacy Learning (group project)</i>
Class 13 4/24	Literacy: Writing for memory, planning, communication and creative expression. Developmental, social, cultural, affective, cognitive, & educational factors in oral language, reading, & writing development Paradis et al., 7 & 8: discussion	By class: Paradis et al., Chap. 7 & 8
Class 14 5/1	Interdependence & collaboration of families, caregivers & school professionals. Implications of literacy foundations for assessment and instruction	By class: Assisting Students with Special Needs during Language or Literacy Learning (group project) due. Posts to last 2 on-line activities end.
Exam substitute 5/8	(7:30-10:15) By class: Family Project Part 2: Literacy due In class: Presentations of results from Assisting Students with Special Needs during Language or Literacy Learning (group project)	

Schedule subject to change based on needs of class and discretion of the instructor.