LING3280 - Language in Education

Course Outline

Course Coordinator: Anita Berghout-Vanderwal
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Semester: Semester 2 - 2007

Unit Weighting: 10

Teaching Methods: Lecture

Brief Course Description
Explores the role of language in the education setting, focusing on areas of knowledge about language structure and language use which are of direct relevance to the classroom teacher. It will include discussion of the following topics: the nature of spoken language and its inherent difference from written text; the use of "grammar" in the classroom, both as a basis for discussing authors' techniques and as a means of analysing children's language output; the concept of "literacy"; the implications of different theories of learning on the teaching of reading, writing and spelling; social factors influencing language in the classroom, including teacher-pupil interactions and variation in children's language.

Contact Hours
Lecture for 2 Hours per Week for 13 Weeks (or equivalent by distance mode)

Learning Materials/Texts
TBA

Course Content
* Introduction: the scope and content of "educational linguistics"
* Spoken and Written Language: some differences, and their implications; phonetic and graphemic conventions; cohesion in spoken and written text; conversational structure
* Linguistic approaches to "literacy": What is "literacy"; the development of reading, the development of writing, the development of spelling;
* Grammar in the classroom: using grammar vs teaching grammar; using grammar to study texts; using grammar to analyse children's language
* Sociolinguistic aspects of language in the classroom: teacher-pupil interaction; social, gender and age-based variation in children's language

Assessment Items
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essays / Written Assignments</th>
<th>Assignment 1 (35%) (approx. equivalent 1500 words)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Assignment 2 (10%) (approx. equivalent 500 words)</td>
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<td>Assignment 3 (20%) (approx. equivalent 1000 words)</td>
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<td>Essay (1500 words) 35%</td>
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Assumed Knowledge
LING1110