Foreign Languages Online Methods Course Syllabus

Course Syllabus (N.B. This is provided as a sample from a Fall semester. Requirements, grading policy, etc. are the same but the dates would be changed to align with a specific term).

Course Description:

This course is designed to address the needs and concerns of students preparing to teach foreign languages in the K-12 schools and Inservice teachers who need a methods course for endorsement or licensure. It will also serve Inservice teachers who are seeking to update their knowledge of second language acquisition and instruction for personal growth or for academic credit toward state re-licensing or for national board certification.

This methods course is organized around the Standards for Foreign Language Learning, commonly referred to as the Five Cs: Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities. Students will learn about current theoretical bases for second language acquisition and how theory informs classroom practice. The course does not promote a particular methodology but rather presents principles of learning from which teachers can draw as they make decisions about instruction. In today's classrooms with diverse learners and curricular options, teachers must possess a repertoire of teaching practices based on an evolving research and knowledge base.

Prerequisites:

The FL 6500 course is intended for graduate students who have advanced level language proficiency and are pursuing masters work or will do so in the near future and wish to transfer graduate credit.

Students are encouraged to have taken an Oral Proficiency Interview prior to the course; if that has not been done, students should consider being interviewed to assess their proficiency level as soon as possible. (Information on the OPI can be obtained on the ACTFL website https://www.actfl.org/) Students planning to student teach should ideally take this course prior to that experience. Many states today require that as part of the preparation or hiring process.

Course Objectives:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of current theories of second language acquisition research.
2. Design unit and daily lesson plans in alignment with the standards for language learning.
3. Create lesson segments that reflect theory and practice.
4. Design performance-based

   Provide evidence of ability to conduct research through a paper, a case study, Class Action Research project.

Schedule of Classes:

The intensive nature of the course requires that you adhere strictly to start/end dates. Most modules are one week; exceptions noted with *. The assignment will remain open for one week after the end date, but subsequently, it closed, you will not be able to submit assignments. It is easy to fall behind if you are not disciplined. Always begin the reading and assignments for each module toward the beginning of the week. Most modules end with a larger project or paper, so you want to leave time to build up for that. CANVAS Tutorials as needed (Jan. 12 - 17)

Module 1: Reflection and Goal Seting (Jan. 12 - 17)

Module 2: Our Evolving Profession (Jan. 18 - 24)

Module 3: Standards for Foreign Language Learning (Jan 25 - 31)

*Module 4: The Foreign Language Learner & the Acquisition Process (Feb. 1 - 14)

Module 5: Designing Curricula and Planning Lessons (Feb. 15 - 21)

Module 6: Meeting the Needs of the Learner (Feb. 22 – 28)

*Module 7: Teaching for Interpretive Communication (Mar. 1 - 14)

Module 8: Teaching for Interpersonal Communication (Mar. 15 - 21)

Module 9: Teaching for Presentational Communication (Mar. 22 - 28)

*Module 10: Assessing Performance in Language Classrooms (Mar. 29 – Apr. 11)

[WORK ON YOUR FINAL PROJECT AS YOU DO THESE LAST MODULES. They have fewer assignments to allow time.]

**Module 11: Understanding Cultural Perspectives (Apr. 12 - 18)

**Module 12: Comparisons and Connecting with Other Disciplines and the Target Language Community (Apr. 19 - 25). N.B. This is an absolute deadline, no extension.

Assemble and turn in your Culminating Final project DUE on or before APRIL 30. Is an absolute deadline.

* 2-week modules
** Modules with no extension

For a summary of the readings and assignments for each module, go to the Reading List on the home page.

Course Requirements:

There are 12 modules that students will need to complete. Within each module reading