

The University of Findlay  
College of Liberal Arts  
Masters of Arts in TESOL/Bilingual Education  
Spring 2009

**Course Number/Title:** BLMC510: Linguistics for Teachers  
**Meeting Time:** Tuesdays 5:00pm-7:30  
**Instructor:** Dr. J. Fennema-Bloom  
**Office Hours:** TBA  
**Office Location:** 1120 North Cory, Office A  
**Phone:** x4826  
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**Prerequisite:** N/A

**Mission Statement:** The mission of The University of Findlay is to equip our students for meaningful lives and productive careers.

**Catalogue Description:** This course introduces teachers to linguistic terminology and the study of linguistics including: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, language acquisition in children and language variation. Practical applications of linguistic knowledge in an ESL/Bilingual classroom situation (i.e. phonics, comparative linguistics, error analysis, corrective pronunciation, etc.) are presented for all age groups and levels.

**Course Rationale:** Teachers must understand the nature of language to effectively teach language and literacy. This course will present the theoretical understandings of the fields of linguistics, including the review of the sound systems of language, the meaning and information structures of language, the structure and grammar of language, and the role of the social cognitive and psychological in language development. Students will further develop an understanding of the field of applied linguistics and its application in the diverse classroom.

**Learning Objectives:** The teacher leader in SLED/TESOL/Bilingual Education will:

1. Apply knowledge of phonology (the sound system) to help students develop oral, reading, and writing (including spelling) skills in the target language.
2. Apply knowledge of morphology (the structures of words) to assist students' development of oral and literacy skills in the target language.
3. Apply knowledge of syntax (phrase and sentence structure) to assist students in developing written and spoken skills in the target language.
4. Apply knowledge of semantics (word/sentence meaning) to assist students in acquiring and productively using a wide range of vocabulary in the target language.
5. Apply knowledge of pragmatics (the effects of context on language) to help students communicate effectively and appropriately for a variety of purposes and in a variety of settings.

6. Demonstrate an understanding of the nature and value of languages (standard, dominant, lingua francas, dialects, crawls).
7. Apply the basic elements of comparative linguistics between the first language and the target language.
8. Demonstrate techniques of linguistic analysis to classroom based assessment and applications of linguistic knowledge acquired/covered in the course through miscue analysis.

**Instructional Strategies:** lecture, group work, classroom discussions, problem solving, worksheet/exercises, research project.

**Attendance Policy:** All students are required to attend and participate in all classes. Absences will affect your grade at the following rate: one absence equals a 10% grade deduction, two absences equals a 20% grade deduction, three absences the student must withdraw from the class or face a failing grade. Excused absences with no grade deduction may be considered on a case by case basis. If absences are unavoidable the student is responsible for all material that s/he may have missed due to the absence (e.g. class discussion, reading, assignments, etc.)

**Assignments:** All students are required to submit work when due. No late papers will be accepted unless there is a medical excuse. A grade of incomplete for this course is not automatically granted. If you are not able to complete course requirements, you must either withdraw or petition the professor for an incomplete and completion contract.

**Assignments Due:**

1. Homework (20%)
2. Midterm (40%)
3. Miscue Analysis Case Study (40%) – Parameters TBA

**Course Value Points:**

A=94-100, A-=93-90, B+=87-89, B=86-83, B-=82-80, C+=77-79, C=76-73, C-=72-70, F=69

**Syllabus:** Is subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

**Disabilities:** If you are a student with a disability, it is your responsibility to notify your professor and register with the Office of Disability Services at least one week prior to the needed service so that reasonable accommodations can be made.

**Honor Code:** I (the student) will not knowingly engage in any dishonorable behavior, cheat, steal, lie or commit any act of plagiarism during my academic work, course or endeavor. If I observe and act which I believe violates the University of Findlay's Honor Code, I may, in my discretion, report it to the appropriate personnel.

**Textbook:** Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., & Hyams, N. (2007). *An introduction to language*. (8th ed.) New York: Thomson & Heinle.