

Methods of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
LING 3308 CRN: 25041
Course Syllabus, Spring 2023
Department of Languages and Linguistics, UTEP

COURSE INFORMATION

Days: TR

Time: 12:00-1:20 pm

Location: Quinn Hall 103 & other TBA

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Sabrina Mossman

Office: LART 214/online

Email: samossman@utep.edu

Phone: (915) 747-6320

Office Hours: T&R 1:30-2:30 (but subject to change) **primarily by appointment**

Course Description

This course presents an overview of theoretical and practical issues concerning the teaching of English to speakers of other languages. It focuses on both the *what* (language levels and skills) and *how* (activities and procedures) of language teaching, and it includes information on a variety of methods and materials to teach language components and skills to second language learners. In addition, techniques and strategies to promote linguistic accuracy and communicative fluency are demonstrated and discussed. Other important goals of the course are to explore the *why* of teaching, i.e., the underlying assumptions behind teachers' decisions and actions, as well as the contextual variables that influence second language teaching and learning.

Course Objectives

Participants will...

- a) ... become familiar with the basic concepts and principles of both first and second language acquisition as they relate to instructional design.
- b) ... view language learning from a pedagogical perspective and gain knowledge of current second language teaching practices.
- c) ... recognize the importance of basing instructional design on principles of language acquisition, learning, and teaching.
- d) ... get acquainted with various approaches and techniques commonly used in second language teaching and assess their effectiveness and appropriateness.
- e) ... experience various ways of presenting language and content information, and ways of teaching different language skills.
- f) ... recognize the importance of contextual factors in language teaching and understand how these factors may manifest themselves in instructional procedures and materials.
- g) ... reflect on the impact of language development and linguistic competence on the socio-cultural status of individuals.

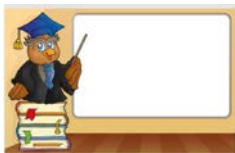
Instructional Approach



The course is divided into two general parts. The beginning of the course will deal primarily with the theoretical concepts and principles of language acquisition as well as principles of language learning and teaching. This means that at the beginning of the course, you will have a substantial amount of reading.



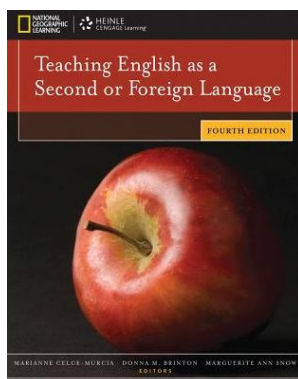
The next part of the course is more hands-on. It will deal with the application of the concepts covered at the beginning. You will still have readings and lectures, but they will be more practical and you will be engaged in practical activities to help you apply the concepts.



Because the world of language teaching is changing due to environmental circumstances and technological development, we may, on occasion, meet for class online. We may also, on occasion, have asynchronous online class days. These will allow you to experience these types of class formats from both a student's and teacher's perspective, with the hopes that this will broaden your perspective and enhance your own teaching capabilities.

Required Reading

1. Textbook: Celce-Murcia, M., Brinton, D., & Snow, M. A. (2014). *Teaching English as a second or foreign language*. Boston: National Geographic Learning
ISBN-13: 978-1111351694
ISBN-10: 1111351694



2. Supplementary readings (these will be available via Blackboard)

Grading and Evaluation



I believe in providing students with multiple ways of demonstrating their knowledge and understanding of the material. For this reason, in addition to quizzes (25%), you will have several other assignments where you will put into practice the principles and techniques covered in class. These include ESOL lab activities, peer teaching demonstrations, and a final project in which you design a lesson. These will account for 60% of your grade. Participation in weekly activities will count for 15% of your grade. See below for specifics.

Weekly Activities	15%
Quizzes (5)	25%
LAB Activities (2)	20%
Peer Teaching Demos (2)	20%
Final Project (1)	<u>20%</u>
	100%

Grading System

As stated in the UTEP catalog, grades for undergraduate courses are given according to the following system:

A	Excellent
B	Good
C	Average
D	Below average but passing
F	Failure

Grades are calculated as follows:

A= 90-100%
B= 80-89%
C= 70-79%
D= 60-69%
F= 0-59%

Course Assignments

Weekly Activities (15%)

This part of your grade corresponds to weekly activities carried out during our class meetings and any assignments you need to upload that are not included in any of the other categories. This is a global grade—if you do all the work you get the 15 points, if you do half the work, you get 7.5 points etc. This grade will be assigned at the end of the course.

Quizzes (25%)

There will be 5 quizzes throughout the course. The quizzes will cover the lectures and the readings. Each quiz will have 10 questions and is worth 5 points. There is one extra quiz at the end that can be used to replace a missing quiz or a quiz with a low score. There are no make-ups for missing quizzes.

LAB Activities (20%)

The UTEP ESOL program has a mandatory lab for ESOL students to go to for writing tutoring and/or conversation practice. You and some of your classmates will design and lead 2 conversation activities. More information about this assignment will be provided on Blackboard.

Peer Teaching Demonstrations (20%)

These are mini-lessons you will design and present in groups of 3-5 students. Each lesson will focus on two language skills (reading & writing and listening & speaking). Each team will select, design, demonstrate, and describe (in writing) one specific activity. These peer teaching demonstrations should be conducted as simulations of real teaching (additional guidelines to be given in class and on Blackboard).

Final Project (20%)

You will choose an authentic oral or written text (e.g., a song, a magazine article, a restaurant menu, a TV ad, a *YouTube* video) and develop a chapter around it. Your chapter should include multiple lessons that together address all four skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing). Grammar and vocabulary instruction should be included to complement the lesson. You will also create a lesson plan to accompany your lesson. Additional guidelines to be given in class and on Blackboard.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop, scanner, a webcam, and a microphone. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you do not have a word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP's Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about [Microsoft Office 365](#) and follow the instructions.

IMPORTANT: If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP [Help Desk](#) as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

ONLINE SESSIONS

On occasion this class may require that you participate in online class sessions at our regularly scheduled class time. The purpose of these sessions are for you to experience teaching and learning in an online format. Online sessions will be announced in advance and added to the calendar. Students are expected to participate in these sessions with a webcam and microphone. If you do not have a reliable webcam, microphone, or internet connection, you should go to the UTEP library where they can provide you with the necessary equipment.

CLASS RECORDINGS

The sessions will be recorded and provided so that they can be reviewed by classmates at a later time. That said, sometimes there are technical issues (or user error if I forget to re-start the recording), and therefore you should not rely on the recording as a substitute for attending and engaging in the synchronous class. Students should not record the sessions and post them to any sites outside of Blackboard. Our use of such technology is governed by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and UTEP's acceptable-use policy. A recording of class sessions will be kept and stored by UTEP, in accordance with FERPA and UTEP policies. Your instructor will not share the recordings of your class activities outside of course participants, which include your fellow students, teaching assistants, or graduate assistants, and any guest faculty or community-based learning partners with whom we may engage during a class session. You may not share recordings outside of this course. Doing so may result in disciplinary action.

ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF SUBMITTING WORK IN CASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES

I strongly suggest that you submit your work with plenty of time to spare in the event that you have a technical issue with the course website, network, and/or your computer. I also suggest you save all your work in a separate Word document as a back-up to provide evidence that you completed the work and will not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through the course website, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can email me your back-up document as a last resort so you can get it in before the deadline, but you will still need to upload it to Blackboard once the technical issues have been resolved.

Course Communication:

There are a number of ways we can keep the communication channels open:

- **Office Hours:** I will have office hours both online and in person.
 - **In person office hours:** I will be available for walk-in meetings from 1:30-2:30 pm (after class) Tuesdays and Thursdays as well as by appointment.
 - **Online office hours:** I will be available to meet online by appointment at a time that is convenient for both of us. If you wish to meet with me online, please send me an email to samossman@utep.edu.

- **Email:** UTEP e-mail is the best way to contact me. I will make every attempt to respond to your e-mail within 24-48 hours of receipt, Sunday night through Friday. When e-mailing me, be sure to email from your UTEP student account and please put the course number in the subject line. In the body of your e-mail, clearly state your question. At the end of your e-mail, be sure to put your first and last name, and your university identification number. NOTE: It is better to email me directly from your miner email account to samossman@utep.edu and **NOT through Blackboard course messages**. I generally don't see the course messages, but I check my email several times a day. Also, if you email me from a gmail or other non-UTEP email account, it may not come to my inbox because UTEP often filters those out.

- **Announcements:** Check the Blackboard announcements frequently for any updates, deadlines, or other important messages. I generally send the announcements to your email too, but if I forget to check the "email" box, it will only appear on Blackboard.

Course Policies and Requirements

- This class is very hands-on, especially after the first month, and therefore class attendance is imperative. In-class activities cannot be made up.
- Participants are expected to learn not only from readings and projects but also from class interaction, formal and informal discussions, and class presentations.
- Participants should read all assigned readings carefully before each class (unless otherwise indicated on the calendar) and be prepared to participate in class discussions.
- Students should be prepared to accommodate the necessary study time in their schedule to read, review, write, and study the material, as well as to work on assignments and course projects.
- All assignments and projects should be completed by the deadline.
- Students should make sure they have access to the course's Blackboard shell in order to receive class announcements, access class materials, post papers and reports, etc.

Course Drop Policy

According to UTEP Curriculum and Classroom Policies, "When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor may drop the student from the class with a grade of "W" before the course drop deadline and with a grade of "F" after the course drop deadline." See academic regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog for a list of excuse absences.

That said, **I will NOT drop you from the course** without talking to you first. If I find that, due to non-performance in the course, you are at risk of failing, I will contact you by email to recommend that YOU drop the course. You should touch base with me immediately if I send you a drop recommendation email.

Also, if you feel that you are unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know and then contact the Registrar's Office to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F" for the course.

COVID-19 PRECAUTION STATEMENT

Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

COVID-19 Accommodations

Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. If you are not permitted on campus, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations.

Housekeeping Rules

- Many of the instructional activities of this course will be conducted on Blackboard, which you have now accessed. You will find all the information and materials for the course on Blackboard, as well as course announcements, which are constantly updated. Students should check Blackboard daily.
- In addition, students may receive e-mail messages (reminders, queries, etc.) at their address of record and are responsible for monitoring and responding to these.
- Stable internet connectivity is required for taking online exams. In the event you do not have access to a stable connection, you may take the exam at the UTEP library.

Communicating effectively with your professors:

I am including a link to some excellent guidelines on how to be professional when you send an email to any of your professors.

<https://www.math.uh.edu/~tomforde/Email-Etiquette.html>

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

Incomplete grades may be requested only in exceptional circumstances. Talk to me immediately if you believe an incomplete is warranted. If granted, we will establish a contract of work to be completed with deadlines.

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing
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unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as one's own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline.

TEST PROCTORING SOFTWARE

It is possible that in some cases for the quizzes we will make use of Respondus Lock Down Browser and Respondus Monitor inside of Blackboard to promote academic integrity. You are encouraged to learn more about how to use these programs prior to the first test.

Please review the following guidelines:

- A reliable Internet connection is essential to completing the exam. If you must go to a location to take the exam (such as the library), be sure to follow their health and safety requirements.
- Respondus Lockdown Browser will require that all internet tabs are closed prior to the start of the test.
- Respondus Monitor requires a webcam and microphone.
- You will be required to show the webcam your student ID prior to the start of the test.
- Your face should be completely visible during the test. Blocking the camera will disable the test.
- No notes or textbook materials are permitted during the test. Respondus Monitor requires you to take a video of your surrounding area (desk, chair, walls, etc.)
- You should not have conversations with other people and/or leave and return to the area during the test

Plagiarism Detecting Software

Some of your course work and assessments may be submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism detecting software. SafeAssign is used to review assignment submissions for originality and will help you learn how to properly attribute sources rather than paraphrase.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT FOR COURSE MATERIALS

All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.

Course Resources: Where you can go for assistance

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

Technology Resources

- Help Desk: Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.

Academic Resources

- UTEP Library: Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- University Writing Center (UWC): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- Math Tutoring Center (MaRCS): Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- History Tutoring Center (HTC): Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- RefWorks: A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.

Individual Resources

- Military Student Success Center: Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- Center for Accommodations and Support Services: Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.
- Counseling and Psychological Services: Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.

Course Evaluation

Student evaluations provide important feedback to the instructor and they are essential for measuring teaching effectiveness in the profession. Chairs and Deans see course evaluations every year in reviewing faculty performance, and committees at all levels of the university rely on evaluations in making decisions. Before the last class session, you will be asked to complete University Course Evaluation Forms.

Important Note: The syllabus provides a general plan for the course; modifications are often necessary and may be implemented as a result of students' needs, course development, and classroom life in general.