English Language Teaching Approaches and Methods

EDUC 3324

1st Semester 2012

Contact information

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Course Description

This course is an introduction to English Language Teaching methods. It develops the students’ pedagogical knowledge and the basic skills needed to teach English efficiently. The course is divided into 3 main areas:

1. Basic teaching and learning beliefs and terminology in relation to the Palestinian context
2. Critical survey of the main ELT Methods
3. A variety of teaching techniques related to teaching the four language skills and the four language components.

Aims

1. To increase students’ awareness of basic concepts and principles related learning and teaching English in Palestine.
2. To provide students with a brief, critical survey of the main ELT approaches.
3. To expose students to different English language teaching techniques appropriate to the Palestinian context and English for Palestine.
4. To develop participants' skills in critically reflecting on their own, and others', language education experiences, in the light of relevant research, theory and current areas of debate in the methodology of teaching languages.
Intended learning outcomes

On completion of this course, successful participants will be able to demonstrate:

- a clear understanding of basic ELT terminology.
- an understanding of the basic theoretical background behind teaching and learning languages.
- a critical understanding of basic practical approaches and techniques involved in teaching EFL.
- the ability and skill to plan and deliver a lesson to a class of EFL students.
- the ability to use different ways of teaching language skills, grammar, vocabulary, etc.
- the ability to cope with challenging learning and teaching Palestinian situations.
- the ability to reflect critically on learning experiences on the course and relate them to educational contexts they are familiar with

Content (topics)

a) Introduction to TEFL
   Week 1-2
   1. ELT Terminology
   2. Basic Beliefs
   3. Palestinian ELT context

b) Main ELT methods and approaches
   week 3 – 5
   1. Grammar Translation Method
   2. Direct Method
   3. Audio-lingual approach
   5. Humanistic Approaches (CLL, Silent Way, Suggestopedia and TPR)
   6. The Communicative Approach

c) Teaching Techniques
   week 6 - 15
   1. How to teach reading
   2. How to teach writing
   3. How to teach listening
   4. How to teach speaking
   5. How to teach vocabulary
   6. How to teach grammar & functions
   7. How to teach pronunciation
   8. How to teach spelling / dictation
   9. How to teach literature
   10. How to prepare lesson plans
Textbook
- Introduction to EFL Methods: Handouts prepared and compiled by Dr Nazmi Al-Masri. All the material units will be available on my homepage: http://site.iugaza.edu.ps/nmasri

Teaching Methodology
- Active participation in class
- Whole class discussion
- Pair and group work
- Giving presentations

Tentative Assessment

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Assignment 1
An *analysis* and *evaluation* of a book of choice, focusing on its approach to the teaching of the four language skills. Length required: 1000 words

Assignment 2
Preparing a plan for a 45 minute lesson, focusing on the teaching of a specific language skill taken from *English for Palestine* for a group of Palestinian learners from Grade 1-12. The lesson plan should be accompanied by a rationale drawing on concepts and principles explored during the course unit. Length required: 1000 words

Useful references
Some Useful Links

- A to Z Teacher Stuff: http://atozteacherstuff.com/
- English Club: http://www.englishclub.com/
- English Teaching Forum: http://exchanges.state.gov/forum/
- Internet TESL Journal: http://iteslj.org/
- Introduction to TESOL (Handouts) http://w99.middlebury.edu/ID013A/index.html
- TEF.Net for teachers: http://www.tefl.net/