

Spanish 420 Methods of Teaching Foreign Language

Dr. Norris

Fall, 2011

Office: McKee 131 B

Office hours: MWF 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

TTh 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

and by appointment

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This class will meet periodically as listed on the Calendar on Thursdays from 4:00 -4:50 pm in McKee 113.

PREREQUISITE: Admission to the professional education sequence; EDSE 322.

Textbooks and other required materials: Teaching Language in Context

Alice Omaggio Hadley

Robert M. Terry

Heinle and Heinle 2001 (Third Edition)

Course Topics or Outline: The following topics concerning effective methods of teaching modern foreign languages, especially Spanish, will be discussed:

- 1) On Knowing a Language: *Communicative Competence, Proficiency, and the Standards for Foreign Language Learning*
(based on Chapter 1 of the required text)
- 2) On Teaching a Language: *Principles and Priorities in Methodology*
(based on Chapter 3 of the required text)
- 3) *The Role of Context in Comprehension and Learning*
(based on Chapter 4 of the required text)
- 4) *Teaching for Cultural Understanding*
(based on Chapter 8 of the required text)
- 5) *Classroom Testing*
(based on Chapter 9 of the required text)
- 6) Lesson Planning: *Planning Instruction for the Proficiency-Oriented Classroom: Some Practical Guidelines*
(based on the Epilogue of the required text)

Course Objectives: The objectives of this course are to provide students with current theories of methods of teaching modern foreign languages, especially in Spanish, and offer the students an opportunity to discuss various methods of teaching modern foreign languages as well as applying these methods in classroom situations through lesson planning and presentation of these lesson plans to other students in the class.

Course Requirements: The requirements for this course are the following:

- 1) Students must read the assigned chapters in required class and be ready to discuss the topics in the related chapters related to their own personal experiences in learning and teaching (if applicable) a foreign language.
- 2) Students must write a short paper on a method of teaching a modern foreign language of their choice. In this paper, students should discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the method under discussion and explain how they would use the method in their own Spanish class.
- 3) There will be short quizzes on the assigned readings in the required text.
- 4) At the end of this course, as a final project, students are required to plan and present a lesson plan on the topic of their choice in a modern foreign language. This lesson plan should include specific objectives related to the Standards for Foreign Language Learning, class activities relevant to the objectives for the lesson, and a homework assignment. The use of technology in the presentation of the final course lesson, such as Power Point, is encouraged.

Conceptual Framework Statement: The professional education program at Western Carolina University fulfills its mission by creating and nourishing a community of learners guided by knowledge, values, and experiences. The guiding principles of this community include: (1) the belief that the best educational decisions are made after adequate reflection and with careful consideration of the interests, experiences, and welfare of the persons affected by the decisions; (2) appreciation and respect for diversity; (3) and the fostering of the responsible use of technology.

This course focuses on the study of the methods of teaching modern foreign language, especially those used in teaching Spanish. Students are encouraged to discuss and reflect upon the most effective teaching method for their individual potential as future foreign language teachers. They are also encouraged to use technology as part of their lesson plan and plan the lesson to reach diverse student learners of a modern foreign language.

Diversity Statement: This course addresses diversity in its encouragement of the students to consider different learning styles and backgrounds of the students as they make model lesson plans as future modern foreign language teachers.

DISABILITY STATEMENT:

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Western Carolina University is committed to providing equal educational opportunities for students with documented disabilities. Students who require disability services or reasonable accommodations must identify themselves as having a disability and provide current diagnostic documentation to Disability Services. All information is confidential. Please contact Disability Services for more information at (828) 227-2716 or 144 Killian Annex.

Technology Requirements: Technology is used as part of the class assignment designing a multi-media lesson plan, including the use of Power Point.

ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY: During adverse weather conditions, assume that class **will** be held unless the Chancellor announces a university closing or unless I e-mail you that I will not be holding class on that day. If you are not able to come to class because of adverse weather conditions such as snow or flooding, please leave a message at (828) 227-3906 or norris@email.wcu.edu. Do not call the department secretary.

CALENDAR

9-8-11	READING: Omaggio Hadley: (2001 edition) pp. 2-26	ACTIVITIES: Introduction to the class. Discussion of the text
9-29-11	READING: (2001 edition) Chapter 1: Omaggio, pp. 27-42	Discussion of the text

CALENDAR

10-6-11	READING: Chapter 3: Methodology pp. 86-129.	quiz on p. 41-53 of text "Methodology and Proficiency: (Chapters 1 and 3 and first reading)
10-20-11	READING: Chapter 4: pp. 139-169. (2001) "The Role of Context in Comprehension and Learning"	discussion of text
10-27-11	READING : Omaggio Chapter 8: "Teaching for Cultural Understanding" p. 345-384. (2001)	PAPER DUE on an existing teaching method: strengths and weaknesses of method presented
11-10-11	READING: Chapter 9: "Classroom Testing," p. 390-448. (2001)	Discussion of text
12-1-11	READING: Omaggio (2001) , pp. 462-464.	LESSON PLAN AND DEMONSTRATION LESSON