FR704

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Methods in French Language Instruction

This course provides an overview of current and historical approaches to foreign language teaching in general, with special reference to the instruction of French in a university setting. Past and current trends and methodologies of language instruction are examined in order to acquaint students with various classroom approaches. Research findings in second language acquisition (SLA) are explored and their implications discussed, so as to show how these findings lead to more effective classroom practices.

Course objectives are the following:

1) to become acquainted with different approaches to foreign language teaching;
2) to explore how research findings may inform classroom practice;
3) to work on instructional materials development;
4) to develop skills in evaluating teaching performance and instructional materials;
5) to reflect on your professional development and prepare for continued growth.

Class meetings will be devoted to discussion, short presentations, and demonstrations by students and the instructor. Example assignments: presentation of a teaching method, classroom observations and write-ups, materials development, a textbook review, article summaries, development of a teaching philosophy and portfolio.

READINGS FROM THE FOLLOWING BOOKS/SITE will be supplemented by articles:

Brandl, K. (2008). *Communicative Language Teaching in Action: Putting Principles to Work.* New Jersey: Pearson/Prentice Hall.
Cohen, A. D., & Macaro, E. (Eds.) (2007). *Language Learner Strategies.* Oxford: Oxford University Press.
Larsen-Freeman (2000). *Techniques and Principles in Language Teaching*. Oxford University Press.
Lee, J. F. and VanPatten, W. (2003). *Making Communicative Language Teaching Happen*. Boston: McGraw-Hill.
Lightbown, P. & Spada, N. (2006). *How languages are learned.* Oxford: Oxford University Press.
Mitchell Scott, V. (1996). *Rethinking foreign language writing.* Boston: Heinle & Heinle.
Omaggio-Hadley, A. (2001). Teaching Language in Context, (3rd Ed.). Boston, MA: Heinle & Heinle.
Richards, J. & Rodgers, T. (2001). *Approaches and Methods in Language Teaching,* (2nd Ed.) Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Shrum, L., and Glisan, E. W. (2010) *Teacher's Handbook*, 4th ed. Boston, MA: Heinle/Cengage Learning.
Winkler, E. G. (2007). *Understanding Language: A Basic Course in Linguistics.* New York: Continuum.

FLTM: *Foreign Language Teaching Methods*, the University of Texas at Austin / Texas Language Technology Center, **free** online course: http://coerll.utexas.edu/methods/