



# ECHX823

## Language and Literacy in Early Childhood

S2 OUA 2016

*Institute of Early Childhood*

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#### **Disclaimer**

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

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X5B276

Prerequisites

ECHX600 or ECEX600

Corequisites

Co-badged status

ECEX823

Unit description

This unit will explore what language is and how it develops in early childhood from birth to eight years of age. The relationship between language, learning and culture will be investigated. Students will consider different definitions of literacy and examine how oral language in the early years of life relates to subsequent knowledge of written, visual and aural texts. Issues to be addressed include how to create a language and literacy rich environment and the central role of adults in supporting children's language and literacy development in a range of contexts. All enrolment queries should be directed to Open Universities Australia (OUA): see [www.open.edu.au](http://www.open.edu.au)

## Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.open.edu.au/student-admin-and-support/key-dates/>

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Use appropriate metalanguage when analysing language structure and function.

Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between oral language, adult-child interaction and literacy development.

Evaluate EC settings in terms of language and literacy development.

Pedagogical strategies for promoting language and literacy development.

Use peer reviewed research to justify decision making.

Use academic language appropriately to express ideas and arguments.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>Shared Reading</u>	35%	week 6
<u>Observation of infants</u>	35%	Week 9
<u>Special Interest Topic</u>	30%	Exam Week 1

### Shared Reading

Due: **week 6**

Weighting: **35%**

Students analyse an interaction between an adult and a child during shared reading of a picture book.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Use appropriate metalanguage when analysing language structure and function.
- Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between oral language, adult-child interaction and literacy development.
- Use academic language appropriately to express ideas and arguments.

### Observation of infants

Due: **Week 9**

Weighting: **35%**

Students observe the nursery in a Long Day Care centre and evaluate the language and literacy potential.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between oral language, adult-child interaction and literacy development.
- Evaluate EC settings in terms of language and literacy development.
- Use peer reviewed research to justify decision making.
- Use academic language appropriately to express ideas and arguments.

### Special Interest Topic

Due: **Exam Week 1**

Weighting: **30%**

Students choose an area of special interest in early childhood language and literacy

development from a list of topics.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Use appropriate metalanguage when analysing language structure and function.
- Pedagogical strategies for promoting language and literacy development.
- Use peer reviewed research to justify decision making.
- Use academic language appropriately to express ideas and arguments.

## Delivery and Resources

There is a set text book, additional readings, weekly recorded lectures and weekly study tasks and associated discussion forums.

## Policies and Procedures

### Late Submission - applies unless otherwise stated elsewhere in the unit guide

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

### Extension Request

**Special Consideration Policy and Procedure**  
(<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/special-consideration>)

The University recognises that students may experience events or conditions that adversely affect their academic performance. If you experience serious and unavoidable difficulties at exam time or when assessment tasks are due, you can consider applying for Special Consideration.

You need to show that the circumstances:

1. were serious, unexpected and unavoidable
2. were beyond your control
3. caused substantial disruption to your academic work
4. substantially interfered with your otherwise satisfactory fulfilment of the unit requirements
5. lasted at least three consecutive days or a total of 5 days within the teaching

period and prevented completion of an assessment task scheduled for a specific date.

If you feel that your studies have been impacted submit an application as follows:

1. Visit [Ask MQ](#) and use your OneID to log in
2. Fill in your relevant details
3. Attach supporting documents by clicking 'Add a reply', click 'Browse' and navigating to the files you want to attach, then click 'Submit Form' to send your notification and supporting documents
4. Please keep copies of your original documents, as they may be requested in the future as part of the assessment process

### Outcome

Once your submission is assessed, an appropriate outcome will be organised.

## OUA Specific Policies and Procedures

### Withdrawal from a unit after the census date

You can withdraw from your subjects prior to [the census date](#) (last day to withdraw). If you successfully withdraw before the census date, you won't need to apply for Special Circumstances. If you find yourself unable to withdraw from your subjects before the census date - you might be able to [apply for Special Circumstances](#). If you're eligible, we can refund your fees and overturn your fail grade.

If you're studying Single Subjects using FEE-HELP or paying up front, you can [apply online](#).

If you're studying a degree using HECS-HELP, you'll need to [apply directly to Macquarie University](#).

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic\\_honesty/policy.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html)

**New Assessment Policy in effect from Session 2 2016** [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy\\_2016.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html). For more information visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new\\_assessment\\_policy\\_in\\_place\\_from\\_session\\_2/](http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new_assessment_policy_in_place_from_session_2/)

Assessment Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public <http://www.mq.edu.a>

[u/policy/docs/complaint\\_management/procedure.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html)

Disruption to Studies Policy [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption\\_studies/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html) *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

## Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student\\_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)

## Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au).

## Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

## Learning Skills

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

## Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

## Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about\\_us/offices\\_and\\_units/information\\_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

## Graduate Capabilities

### PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

#### Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between oral language, adult-child interaction and literacy development.
- Evaluate EC settings in terms of language and literacy development.
- Pedagogical strategies for promoting language and literacy development.
- Use peer reviewed research to justify decision making.

#### Assessment task

- Observation of infants

### PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

#### Learning outcomes

- Use appropriate metalanguage when analysing language structure and function.
- Evaluate EC settings in terms of language and literacy development.
- Pedagogical strategies for promoting language and literacy development.
- Use academic language appropriately to express ideas and arguments.

#### Assessment tasks

- Shared Reading
- Special Interest Topic

### PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based

critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### **Learning outcomes**

- Use appropriate metalanguage when analysing language structure and function.
- Use peer reviewed research to justify decision making.
- Use academic language appropriately to express ideas and arguments.

### **Assessment tasks**

- Shared Reading
- Special Interest Topic

## **PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability**

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### **Learning outcomes**

- Pedagogical strategies for promoting language and literacy development.
- Use peer reviewed research to justify decision making.

### **Assessment task**

- Special Interest Topic

## **PG - Effective Communication**

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### **Learning outcomes**

- Use appropriate metalanguage when analysing language structure and function.
- Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between oral language, adult-child interaction and literacy development.
- Evaluate EC settings in terms of language and literacy development.
- Use academic language appropriately to express ideas and arguments.



## **Assessment task**

- Observation of infants

## **PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens**

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

## **Learning outcome**

- Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between oral language, adult-child interaction and literacy development.

## **Assessment task**

- Observation of infants