ECH 433
Issues in Developmental Literacy
S2 External 2017

Department of Educational Studies

Contents

General Information .................................................. 2
Learning Outcomes .................................................. 3
Assessment Tasks .................................................... 3
Delivery and Resources ............................................. 5
Unit Schedule .......................................................... 7
Policies and Procedures ............................................. 7
Graduate Capabilities ................................................ 8

Disclaimer
Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/72257/unit_guide/print
General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit convenor
Dr Ruth French
ruth.french@mq.edu.au
Contact via iLearn dialogue is often best
Office: X5B 282
Consultation appointments can be arranged by email (pref.) or phone 9850 8048

Lecturer (casual)
Jo Fitzgibbon
jo.fitzgibbon@mq.edu.au
Contact via Email. Note: Jo is lecturing only. Tutorial questions should go to your tutor.

Tutor (casual)
Rosemary Dunn
Contact via iLearn dialogue

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
((39cp at 100 level or above) including (ECH231 or ECH214)) or admission to GDipAdvStEc

Co-badged status
Offered with ECH433 internal offerings (shared recorded lectures)

Unit description
This unit furthers students' knowledge of children's language and literacy development and
the role of English across the curriculum in prior-to-school and primary school (K-6) settings.
Taking a multiliteracies research-informed perspective, students have opportunities to analyse
children's reading and writing processes; explore, design, implement and evaluate strategies
for assessing and promoting children's literacy development through a range of literary and
factual (multimodal) texts; and examine literacy programming options in both prior-to-school
and school-based settings. The unit emphasises the role of literacy education in promoting
social justice for children experiencing difficulties in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D
(English as an additional language or dialect) learners.
Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

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

- Critical individual and collaborative engagement with research on multiliteracies, including new literacies and visual, multimodal and critical literacy
- Critical understanding of the roles adults play in children’s literacy development, of oral language as foundational for literacy success, and of the development of reading, writing, and multimodal and critical literacy
- Understanding of the role and value of language and literacy across the curriculum in prior-to-school and school (K–6) contexts
- Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities
- Ability to examine and evaluate literacy programming options in both prior-to-school and school-based settings
- Strong understanding of the role of literacy education in promoting social justice for children experiencing in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Position Paper</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Pt A 27/8/17; Pt B 8/10/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy profile</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Position Paper
Due: Pt A 27/8/17; Pt B 8/10/17
Weighting: 60%

Students explore current issues in early childhood literacy education and develop an annotated bibliography and a position paper.

Part A online discussions are in Week 4 at a time to be advised during Week 2.
On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critical individual and collaborative engagement with research on multiliteracies, including new literacies and visual, multimodal and critical literacy
- Critical understanding of the roles adults play in children’s literacy development, of oral language as foundational for literacy success, and of the development of reading, writing, and multimodal and critical literacy
- Understanding of the role and value of language and literacy across the curriculum in prior-to-school and school (K–6) contexts
- Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities
- Ability to examine and evaluate literacy programming options in both prior-to-school and school-based settings
- Strong understanding of the role of literacy education in promoting social justice for children experiencing in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners

**Literacy profile**

**Due:** **Week 13**  
Weighting: **40%**

Students will construct a literacy profile of one learner, identify a focus area for literacy support, plan and implement a literacy program. Strategies, formative and summative evaluations will be presented to peers and submitted for assessment.

Presentations of 'work-in-progress' to be made in class at the on-campus day on Tuesday, September 19; Turnitin submission due Nov 12, 8pm.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critical individual and collaborative engagement with research on multiliteracies, including new literacies and visual, multimodal and critical literacy
- Critical understanding of the roles adults play in children’s literacy development, of oral language as foundational for literacy success, and of the development of reading, writing, and multimodal and critical literacy
- Understanding of the role and value of language and literacy across the curriculum in prior-to-school and school (K–6) contexts
- Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and
promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities

- Ability to examine and evaluate literacy programming options in both prior-to-school and school-based settings
- Strong understanding of the role of literacy education in promoting social justice for children experiencing in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners

**Delivery and Resources**

**Delivery:**
The unit is taught through lectures and large group tutorials. Scenario based planning, assessment tasks and workshop sessions are included in tutorials. Assignments enable the development of the ability to position oneself in current research-informed literacy debates as well as to teach effectively within diverse contexts. Research-literature searches are required to meet assignment criteria as is the contribution to a writing portfolio which is shared in tutorial writing circles. External students must listen to recorded lectures and contribute to on-line discussions as well as participating in the mandatory on-campus sessions.

**Technology:**
Student learning in this unit is supported by the unit’s iLearn site.

**Texts: Required textbooks**

Flint, A. S., Kitson, L., Lowe, K., Shaw, K., Vicars, M., Feez, S. & Humphrey, S. (2017). *Literacy in Australia: Pedagogies for engagement* (2nd ed.). Milton, Queensland, Australia: John Wiley & Sons Australia, Ltd. [*NOTE: Flint et al. (2017) is an e-book. Students who have paid for it will be able to use hyperlinks within iLearn to access relevant readings, as well as having their own independent access.*]


**Texts: Required curriculum documents**

Highly Recommended Readings:


Unit Schedule

Module 1: Establishing the frame for literacy learning

- Theoretical frames for multiple literacies
- Oral language, emergent literacy and play-based learning

Module 2: Literacy Pedagogies

- Scaffolding developing readers
- Scaffolding developing writers
- Supporting the literacy development of children experiencing learning difficulties
- Teaching spelling, grammar, and genre
- Multimodal literacy, children’s literature and popular culture
- Record-keeping and assessment

Module 3: Socially just implementation

- Critical Literacy
- Literacy issues for Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners
- Issues in programming

Policies and Procedures

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


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.
Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/72257/unit_guide/print
Learning outcomes

• Critical individual and collaborative engagement with research on multiliteracies, including new literacies and visual, multimodal and critical literacy
• Understanding of the role and value of language and literacy across the curriculum in prior-to-school and school (K–6) contexts
• Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities
• Ability to examine and evaluate literacy programming options in both prior-to-school and school-based settings
• Strong understanding of the role of literacy education in promoting social justice for children experiencing in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners

Assessment tasks

• Position Paper
• Literacy profile

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Critical individual and collaborative engagement with research on multiliteracies, including new literacies and visual, multimodal and critical literacy
• Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities

Assessment tasks

• Position Paper
• Literacy profile
Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Critical individual and collaborative engagement with research on multiliteracies, including new literacies and visual, multimodal and critical literacy
- Critical understanding of the roles adults play in children’s literacy development, of oral language as foundational for literacy success, and of the development of reading, writing, and multimodal and critical literacy
- Understanding of the role and value of language and literacy across the curriculum in prior-to-school and school (K–6) contexts
- Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities
- Ability to examine and evaluate literacy programming options in both prior-to-school and school-based settings

**Assessment tasks**

- Position Paper
- Literacy profile

**Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills**

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Critical individual and collaborative engagement with research on multiliteracies,
including new literacies and visual, multimodal and critical literacy

- Critical understanding of the roles adults play in children’s literacy development, of oral language as foundational for literacy success, and of the development of reading, writing, and multimodal and critical literacy
- Understanding of the role and value of language and literacy across the curriculum in prior-to-school and school (K–6) contexts
- Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities
- Ability to examine and evaluate literacy programming options in both prior-to-school and school-based settings
- Strong understanding of the role of literacy education in promoting social justice for children experiencing in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners

Assessment tasks

- Position Paper
- Literacy profile

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Critical individual and collaborative engagement with research on multiliteracies, including new literacies and visual, multimodal and critical literacy
- Critical understanding of the roles adults play in children’s literacy development, of oral language as foundational for literacy success, and of the development of reading, writing, and multimodal and critical literacy
- Understanding of the role and value of language and literacy across the curriculum in prior-to-school and school (K–6) contexts
- Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual
(multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities

- Ability to examine and evaluate literacy programming options in both prior-to-school and school-based settings
- Strong understanding of the role of literacy education in promoting social justice for children experiencing in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners

Assessment tasks

- Position Paper
- Literacy profile

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities
- Strong understanding of the role of literacy education in promoting social justice for children experiencing in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners

Assessment task

- Literacy profile

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation’s historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcomes

• Critical individual and collaborative engagement with research on multiliteracies, including new literacies and visual, multimodal and critical literacy
• Critical understanding of the roles adults play in children’s literacy development, of oral language as foundational for literacy success, and of the development of reading, writing, and multimodal and critical literacy
• Understanding of the role and value of language and literacy across the curriculum in prior-to-school and school (K–6) contexts
• Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities
• Strong understanding of the role of literacy education in promoting social justice for children experiencing in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners

Assessment tasks

• Position Paper
• Literacy profile

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Critical individual and collaborative engagement with research on multiliteracies, including new literacies and visual, multimodal and critical literacy
• Critical understanding of the roles adults play in children’s literacy development, of oral language as foundational for literacy success, and of the development of reading, writing, and multimodal and critical literacy
• Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children’s literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities
• Ability to examine and evaluate literacy programming options in both prior-to-school and school-based settings
• Strong understanding of the role of literacy education in promoting social justice for children experiencing in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners

**Assessment tasks**

• Position Paper
• Literacy profile

**Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative**

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

• Critical understanding of the roles adults play in children's literacy development, of oral language as foundational for literacy success, and of the development of reading, writing, and multimodal and critical literacy
• Understanding of the role and value of language and literacy across the curriculum in prior-to-school and school (K–6) contexts
• Skills in exploring, designing, implementing and evaluating strategies for assessing and promoting children's literacy development through a range of literary and factual (multimodal) texts and for a range of children from different socio-cultural contexts and with different abilities
• Ability to examine and evaluate literacy programming options in both prior-to-school and school-based settings
• Strong understanding of the role of literacy education in promoting social justice for children experiencing in literacy learning, Indigenous and EAL-D (English as an additional language or dialect) learners

**Assessment tasks**

• Position Paper
• Literacy profile