Teaching guide

IDENTIFICATION DETAILS

Degree: Child Education
Field of Knowledge: Social and Legal Science
Faculty/School: Education and Humanities
Course: PRACTICAL METHODOLOGY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Type: Optional
ECTS credits: 6
Year: 3
Code: 7346
Teaching period: Sixth semester
Area: Language learning and literacy
Module: Teaching and discipline
Teaching type: Classroom-based
Language: English
Total number of student study hours: 150

Teaching staff | E-mail
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SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

Practical Methodology in English Language Teaching is a course, which is optional and which carries 6 ECTS credits, implying 150 hours of dedication on the learner's part, taught in the sixth Semester of the Third Year of Early Childhood Education Degree studies (2010). This course is embodied within the Area of Language Teaching and Learning within the Module: Teaching and Discipline.

Practical Methodology in English Language Teaching forms part of a well-rounded, integral education focused on the learner in all of his or her harmoniously integrated dimensions (intelligence, will, emotional nature, sociability, abilities, skills...). In the area of Early Childhood education, our aim is that future teachers become true professionals with a true love and vocation for teaching, for awakening within their pupils an interest and passion for communicating in other languages, for raising questions about and exploring other cultures, simply because
getting to know other languages and other cultures makes the person more aware of his or her own language and culture, that is, of one's self. Above all, our aim is to train and educate teachers who are not so much concerned with the subject matter at hand as with the encounter with the learner in front of him or her at that moment, together with the full reality and lifetime project enclosed within that person.

This Subject is intended to equip learners with the knowledge and skills which will enable them to use the English language in their future work environment as true professionals in the field of education by improving their writing and communicative skills.

Students will become familiar and experiment with current teaching-learning methodologies and methods put into practice in early and primary childhood education today. Emphasis will be placed on the acquisition of the four skills in the foreign language classroom, as well as on the selection and creation of teaching-learning materials.

**GOAL**

To further develop competence in the acquisition and practical application of the four main language skills in the young learners' classroom. In particular, students will seek to better understand and apply different teaching-learning methodologies and to elaborate their own motivating and creative teaching materials with the purpose of making the experience of learning English a fun and captivating endeavor for young learners.

**PRIOR KNOWLEDGE**

The course is aimed at an overall B2 level as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

1. DIVERSITY AND INTERCULTURAL AWARENESS AND EMPATHY
2. CURRENT APPROACHES AND METHODS APPLIED TO FOREIGN/SECOND LANGUAGE TEACHING-LEARNING
3. LITERACY: LEARNING HOW TO READ AND WRITE IN A FOREIGN/SECOND LANGUAGE
4. PHONICS: A PRACTICAL APPROACH TO ORAL EXPRESSION IN A FOREIGN/SECOND LANGUAGE
5. FOREIGN/SECOND LANGUAGE TEACHING-LEARNING THROUGH GAMES
6. FOREIGN/SECOND LANGUAGE TEACHING-LEARNING THROUGH SONGS AND STORY-TELLING
7. COOPERATIVE PROJECT: THEATER

**EDUCATION ACTIVITIES**
In second-language teaching-learning methodology, the how is as important as the what or even the final result.

The methodology applied in this course is therefore communicative, eclectic and collaborative. ‘Communicative’ implies active participation and involvement. ‘Eclectic’ takes into account different teaching-learning styles, allowing the student to develop and activate his/her own learning. ‘Collaborative’ provides the learner with the opportunity, both individually and in collaboration with others, to acquire more autonomy as well as a greater sense of responsibility for self and others. The teacher is a guide in this learning process.

This communicative, eclectic, collaborative methodology implies,

**IN CLASS:**
- Interactive class lectures
- Student presentations and student-led discussions
- Group and pair activities: role-plays, simulations, interviews, research, project work, online forums, etc.
- Feedback mechanisms
- Midterm and final written and/or oral exams

**OUTSIDE OF CLASS:**
- Independent study and preparation of class/group/pair work
- Online task completion and participation
- Individual and group tutorials
- Self-assessment

The focus of this subject is on content, knowledge and skills relevant to the chosen degree area.

**DISTRIBUTION OF WORK TIME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASSROOM-BASED ACTIVITY</th>
<th>INDEPENDENT STUDY/OUT-OF-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>69 hours</td>
<td>81 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theoretical Classes / Lectures</td>
<td>Individual and group work 30h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminars / Workshops / Reading</td>
<td>Theoretical study 35h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual and/or group presentations</td>
<td>Completion of assignments on UFV Virtu@l and/or other multimedia platforms 4h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual and/or group tutorials</td>
<td>Practical Classes 12h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 4h</td>
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**SKILLS**

**Basic Skills**

Students must have demonstrated knowledge and understanding in an area of study that is founded on general secondary education. Moreover, the area of study is typically at a level that includes certain aspects implying knowledge at the forefront of its field of study, albeit supported by advanced textbooks.

Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and possess skills that can typically be demonstrated by coming up with and sustaining arguments and solving problems within their field of study.

Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually within their field of study) in order to make judgments that include reflections on pertinent social, scientific or ethical issues.

Students must be able to convey information, ideas, problems and solutions to both an expert and non-expert audience.

Students must have developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of
General Skills

To be familiar with the goals, syllabus content and assessment criteria of early childhood education.
To develop abilities for interpersonal and intercultural communication.
To promote and encourage learning in early childhood, from a comprehensive, inclusive perspective encompassing the various cognitive, emotional, psychomotor and volitional dimensions.

Specific skills

To be familiar with the syllabus for language and literacy at this stage as well as theories on learning acquisition and development.
To favour speaking and writing skills.
To be familiar with and master oral and written expression techniques.
To be aware how to make the transition from verbal to written text, learning the various registers and uses of language.
To be familiar with the learning and teaching process in reading and writing.
To acknowledge and value the appropriate use of verbal and non-verbal language.
To be able to promote and foster the first steps in learning a foreign language.

LEARNING RESULTS

Recognize and demonstrate understanding of areas of intercultural language related differences and potential areas of conflict.
Apply and demonstrate current language teaching-learning methods and approaches through simulated lessons.
Identify and describe current methodologies for teaching-learning foreign/second language literacy.
Analyze and experiment with current approaches to teaching phonics to young learners.
Design and propose language teaching/learning games.
Identify and prepare language teaching/learning exercises and activities from authentic songs and stories.
Create and perform an original piece of theater which reflects course content and focus as a team.

LEARNING APPRAISAL SYSTEM

CONTINUOUS EVALUATION:

BLOCK 1: WRITTEN EXAMS – 40%
-10% - Mid-term Exam. If a student does not sit the mid-term exam and does not present a formal excuse IN DUE TIME AND IN PROPER FORM, authorized by the PEC or the Director of the Degree, he/she loses this 10%.
-30% - Final Exam. To calculate an average with the Mid-term Exam, the student must obtain a minimum of 5/10 on the Final Exam. The average between the two marks will be taken into account only if it is to the student’s benefit. On the contrary, the Final Exam mark will carry the full weight of BLOCK 1, i.e., 40%.

NOTE: Students must obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 1, to calculate an overall grade average with
BLOCKS 2, 3 and 4.

BLOCK 2: ORAL ASSESSMENT- 25%  
-Evaluated ORAL tasks completed in class throughout the semester, individually, in pairs and/or in groups (presentations, debates, discussions, simulations, interviews, etc).  
-Minimum 2 evaluated tasks.

NOTE: Students must obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 2, to calculate an overall grade average with BLOCKS 1, 3 and 4.

BLOCK 3: INDEPENDENT STUDY-WORK ASSESSMENT - 25%  
-Completion of minimum 2-3 evaluated pieces of work, as stipulated by the teacher.  
-Completion of regular homework assignments  
-Completion of and participation in any online tasks.  
-Attendance to tutorials when required.

NOTE: All tasks and assignments must be handed in IN DUE TIME AND PROPER FORM, as stipulated in the course calendar uploaded to Aula Virtual. If tasks and assignments are not handed in IN DUE TIME AND PROPER FORM, the mark for aforementioned tasks and assignments will be ‘zero’ (0). They will NOT be marked within the ordinary exam period if handed in after the deadline.

BLOCK 4: ATTITUDE AND PARTICIPATION – 10%  
NOTE: Students who do not attend class on a regular basis and who do not have a formal “dispensa” authorized and communicated by the Degree automatically lose this 10%.

CONTINUOUS EVALUATION:  
ORDINARY EXAM PERIOD: Dec-Jan (1st SEMESTER) – May (2nd SEMESTER)

CONTINUOUS EVALUATION: EXTRAORDINARY EXAM PERIOD: June-July (1st and 2nd SEMESTERS)  
NOTE:  
1. Within one academic period, all passed marks from the different BLOCKS will be transferred from the ordinary to the extraordinary exam period.  
2. Within one academic period, only those BLOCKS which have been failed in the ordinary exam period may be repeated in the extraordinary exam period.  
3. No grades will be transferred from one academic calendar year to the following academic calendar year.

BLOCK 1: WRITTEN EXAM – 40%  
-If BLOCK 1 has been failed, the student will be required to sit one written exam based on the contents covered throughout the course.

NOTE: Students must obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 1 to calculate an overall grade average with BLOCKS 2, 3 and 4.

BLOCK 2: ORAL ASSESSMENT- 25%  
-If BLOCK 2 has been failed, the student will be required to carry out two ORAL tasks: Task One is a prepared piece of work based on the course topics. Task Two is an open question / interview related to the course content, to be announced at the time of the oral assessment.  
-The ORAL ASSESSMENT will take place on or before the officially published extraordinary exam date, unless indicated otherwise by the teacher.

NOTE: Students must obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 2 to calculate an overall grade average with BLOCKS 1, 3 and 4.

BLOCK 3: INDEPENDENT STUDY-WORK ASSESSMENT - 25%  
-If BLOCK 3 has been failed, the student will have the opportunity to repeat and/or submit one or more major pieces of course-related work BY OR BEFORE the official final exam date in the extraordinary period.

BLOCK 4: ATTITUDE AND PARTICIPATION – 10%  
-The mark for this BLOCK will be transferred from the ordinary period to the extraordinary period.

ALTERNATIVE EVALUATION:  
NOTE: This system only applies for those students who are: repeating the course; have an official ‘dispensa’ signed by the dean of the corresponding faculty; or are on an international exchange program, therefore automatically having a ‘dispensa’. It is the student’s responsibility to be informed regarding course requirements, deadlines and exam dates, as well as to contact his/her teacher.
BLOCK 1: WRITTEN EXAM – 40%
- The student will be required to sit one written exam based on the contents covered throughout the course.

NOTE: Students must obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 1 to calculate an overall grade average with BLOCKS 2 and 3.

BLOCK 2: ORAL ASSESSMENT- 25%
- The student will be required to carry out two ORAL tasks: Task One is a prepared piece of work based on the course topics. Task Two is an open question / interview related to the course content, to be announced at the time of the oral assessment.
- The ORAL ASSESSMENT will take place on or before the officially published ordinary exam date, unless indicated otherwise by the teacher.

NOTE: Students must obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 2 to calculate an overall grade average with BLOCKS 1 and 3.

BLOCK 3: INDEPENDENT STUDY-WORK ASSESSMENT - 35%
- Completion of minimum 2-3 evaluated pieces of work, as stipulated by the teacher.
- Completion of regular homework assignments (to be handed in through the Aula Virtual or by email).
- Completion of and participation in any online tasks.
- Attendance to tutorials when required.

NOTE: All tasks and assignments must be handed in BY OR BEFORE THE LAST CLASS DAY ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL COURSE CALENDAR. If tasks and assignments are not handed in by or before this date, the mark for aforementioned tasks and assignments will be ‘zero’ (0). They will NOT be marked within the ordinary exam period if handed in after this deadline.

ALTERNATIVE EVALUATION:
ORDINARY EXAM PERIOD: Dec-Jan (1st SEMESTER) – May (2nd SEMESTER)

ALTERNATIVE EVALUATION:
EXTRAORDINARY EXAM PERIOD: June-July (1st and 2nd SEMESTERS)

NOTE:
1. Within one academic period, all passed marks from the different BLOCKS will be transferred from the ordinary to the extraordinary exam period.
2. Within one academic period, only those BLOCKS which have been failed in the ordinary exam period may be repeated in the extraordinary exam period.
3. No grades will be transferred from one academic calendar year to the following academic calendar year.

BLOCK 1: WRITTEN EXAM – 40%
- The student will be required to sit one written exam based on the contents covered throughout the course.

NOTE: Students must obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 1 to calculate an overall grade average with BLOCKS 2 and 3.

BLOCK 2: ORAL ASSESSMENT- 25%
- The student will be required to carry out two ORAL tasks: Task One is a prepared piece of work based on the course content. Task Two is an open question / interview related to the course content, to be announced at the time of the oral assessment.
- The ORAL ASSESSMENT will take place on or before the officially published extraordinary exam date, unless indicated otherwise by the teacher.

NOTE: Students must obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 2 to calculate an overall grade average with BLOCKS 1 and 3.

BLOCK 3: INDEPENDENT STUDY-WORK ASSESSMENT – 35%
- The student will have the opportunity to repeat and/or submit one or more major pieces of course-related work BY OR BEFORE the official final exam date in the extraordinary period.

FURTHER NOTES:
1. Coursework deadlines are established at the beginning of the course. No work will be accepted after the due date.
2. Plagiarism is penalized with a FAIL grade, taking the student directly to the extraordinary exam period.
3. Students are responsible for contacting their subject teacher within the first week after receiving notification of having obtained a ‘dispensa’. Students are also responsible for being informed regarding and complying with the course requirements.
4. Honorable Mention: An honorable mention is recognition of excellence. It is awarded exclusively to students who stand out from their peers academically, as well as in attitude, dedication and teamwork. This decision lies exclusively with the subject teacher.
5. All degree students are subject to the rules of coexistence (la normativa de convivencia) of the university, with special attention to any infraction attributed to plagiarism and/or cheating on an exam which will be considered as serious faults in agreement with Article 7 in the aforementioned rules.
## Bibliography and Other Resources

### Basic

**Practical Methodology in English Language Teaching Coursepack - Early Childhood Education Degree (2010)**
Material created and developed specifically for this course.

### Additional

- Film Review. [en línea] Dirección URL: <http://www.xtec.es/~vfeliu/writing/filmreview.doc>
- *Five-Minute Activities for Young Learners*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007(54,56,58,64,66,70, 77, 80,82-92)