

University of Memphis

Fall 2021

ENGL 7537/8537 M50--Issues in ESL Reading

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Patterson 401D
Office hours: T-TH 1-2:20 or
by appointment

English 7537. Issues in ESL Reading. (3) Emphasis on how non-native speakers of English learn to read in English, the effect of context and culture on L2 reading, and culturally related responses to reading and literacy traditions. Topics include schema theory, critical thinking, decoding versus comprehension, metacognition, text structure and varieties of reading activities.

Aims and Organization: This course explores the topic of reading in the ESL classroom, focusing on the following topics:

- how non-native speakers of English learn to read in English
- the effect of context and culture on L2 reading
- cognitive strategies in second language reading
- cultural related responses to reading and literacy traditions
- general language competence and adult second language reading
- reading across the curriculum

Students will look at representative research in these areas, evaluate texts, and develop strategies for working with multi-level ESL classes and with students of various levels of literacy.

Texts: Grabe, William & Fredericka Stoller. Teaching and Researching Reading 2nd ed. . Routledge, 2013. ISBN: 978-1-4082-0503-7

Additional readings online..

Assignments and Written Work:

1. Readings from the texts and selected articles.
2. For each assigned reading, there will be a discussion question posted on the Discussion board on WebCT.
3. Each module will have a short writing assignment to be submitted to the Dropbox
4. A "Web-text" a short text with supporting links. We will be looking at examples of web-texts already on the web. This can be created in most recent word processors, including Word, which is available free from the UOM computer support service in the Admin building.
5. A final exam.

Grading

Writing Tasks - 9 modules @100 points each = 900 points

WebText- 100 points

Final Exam 100 points

Discussion Board- 9 @ 10 points each = 90 points

Total 1,190 points

A+= 1118 points or more

A = 1070 -1118

A- = 1035-1069

B+ = 999-1034

B = 952-998

B- = 916-951

C= below 915

Discussion Board Postings are graded on the quality of the initial posting and the degree to which you engage in conversation with others in the class. If your postings are not of sufficient length or thoughtfulness, I will write to you about them.

Policy on Grade of Incomplete

A grade of "I" will be awarded only when all but a minor portion of the course work has been satisfactorily completed and only at the discretion of the instructor. An "I" will not be awarded to a student who has not submitted work according to the assigned due dates during the course of the semester. An "I" will convert to an "F" as per University policy.

Students with Disabilities

Any student who may need class or test accommodations based on the impact of a disability is encouraged to speak privately with the instructor to discuss your specific needs. Students with disabilities should also contact Student Disability Services (SDS) at 110 Wilder Tower, 678-2880. SDS coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Modules and Assignments

Module	Topic	Assignments
1	Reading Processes	Discussion Board Response Writing Task
2	Differences and Similarities between L1 Reading and L2 Reading	Discussion Board Response Writing Task
3	Vocabulary Acquisition	Discussion Board Response Writing Task
4	Whole Language and Phonics	Discussion Board Response Writing Task
5	Reading and Learning Styles	Discussion Board Response Writing Task
6	Extensive Reading	Discussion Board Response Writing Task
7	Developing Reading Fluency	Discussion Board Response Writing Task
8	Selecting Reading Materials	Discussion Board Response Writing Task
9	Assessing Reading	Discussion Board Response Writing Task
10	WebTexts	Webtest
Final Exam		