

Studies on Current Issues in English Teaching and Learning (Spring 2023)

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Instructor: Wen-Hsing Luo, PhD

Class Time: Tuesday, 9:00-12:00

Office Hours: Tuesday, 13:00-15:00

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Course Description

This course is a venue where participants will explore current issues of English teaching and learning (ETL). The course focuses on three main areas including: (1) theories in ETL, (2) practice in ETL, and (3) current issues in ETL. Considerations will be given to issues and practice that are specific in the Taiwanese context vis-à-vis the development of ETL elsewhere in the world. Course participants will gain familiarity with current issues and practice in the field of teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) through leading and participating in discussions. They will learn to relate practice to theory through critical reflection on their own experiences of learning or teaching English and gain knowledge about TESOL by reviewing literature in the field.

The course participants are required to complete reading assignments and participate in discussions. Additionally, they will write a short version of a research proposal on a topic of their choice and present it to the class.

Medium of instruction of this course is English.

Instruction Modes:

Mini-lectures, discussions, and presentations

Course Requirements

| | |
|---|-----|
| Attending class | 10% |
| Participating in discussions | 15% |
| Leading discussion (in English)* | 25% |
| Research proposal (in English)** | 40% |
| Presentation of research proposal (in English)*** | 10% |

*Each student will lead a discussion on the reading (e.g., journal articles) of the topic s/he decides. S/he needs to interpret and show a full understanding of the reading and to engage the class in

discussion.

**Each student will write a short version of a proposal (including statement of research purposes, brief literature review and research methods) of research s/he wishes to conduct on an issue in ETL. The topic of the research proposal is decided by the student after s/he has discussed with the instructor. The length of the research proposal should be no less than 2000 words. The proposal should be written following APA style (7th ed.).

***Each student will give a presentation of the research proposal s/he has completed to the class and answer questions from the class.

Required readings

Readings required by the instructor will be uploaded and may be found on NTHU eLearn Platform.

Course Overview

| Week/Date | Topics | Assignments |
|-----------|--|---|
| 1 02/14 | Introduction/Course Overview | |
| 2 02/21 | EFL vs. ESL vs. ELF Practice: textbook analysis from an ELF perspective | |
| 3 02/28 | No class (228 Memorial Day) | |
| 4 03/07 | NESTs vs. non-NESTs | |
| 5 03/14 | Practice: evaluating collaborative teaching of English | |
| 6 03/21 | EMI vs. CLIL vs. CBLT | |
| 7 03/28 | Practice: evaluating CLIL lessons | |
| 8 04/04 | No class (Spring break) | |
| 9 04/11 | Discussion 1: Bilingual education/policy | Topics of discussions may be changed and decided by the students after they have discussed with the instructor. |
| 10 04/18 | Discussion 2: Teacher knowledge | |
| 11 04/25 | Discussion 3: Learning strategies | |
| 12 05/02 | Discussion 4: CALL/MALL | |
| 13 05/09 | Discussion 5: Language assessment | |
| 14 05/16 | Discussion 6: SLA | |
| 15 05/23 | Presentation of research proposal | |
| 16 05/30 | Presentation of research proposal (continued) | Research proposal due on 06/02 |