

Universidad de Costa Rica  
Posgrado en la Enseñanza del Inglés como Lengua Extranjera  
PF-0308 Skills II: Reading and Writing I-2017  
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## **Course Syllabus**

### **Description**

Integration of Skills II: Reading and Writing is a required course for the Master's degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language. In this course students will examine the ways in which reading and writing skills are acquired, developed, integrated and evaluated in EFL instruction. A variety of approaches are addressed, and students are expected to take command of their professional enrichment, as well as to fully apply theory and techniques to Task-Based Language Teaching.

### **General Objectives**

By the end of the course, students will be able to interrelate cognitive, cultural, social, and affective factors involved in the development of reading and writing skills in a foreign language. They will also build criteria to make informed decisions in order to choose, adapt, and develop suitable and effective materials and activities that will promote both skills in FL learning processes. In addition, they will show understanding of research into the nature of reading and writing as both cognitive and metacognitive processes.

### **Specific objectives**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. analyze the principles behind each approach to teaching and learning reading and writing in EFL.
2. identify the evolution and changes in the fields of EFL reading and writing instruction.
3. apply techniques and strategies to teach and assess reading and writing skills in a communicative environment.
4. identify and apply appropriate methodological stages that facilitate successful in-class instruction.
5. evaluate reading and writing instruction materials in order to determine their appropriateness, usefulness, and applicability.
6. reflect on their own learning and teaching practices regarding reading and writing.
7. propose relevant objectives for the development of reading and writing skills in the EFL classroom.
8. develop lesson plans with appropriate reading and writing instruction activities for a given level of language proficiency and for specific needs.
9. analyze literature on teaching/learning reading and writing skills to FL learners.
10. research the reading and writing needs of a given population.

## Contents

1. Theoretical approaches to the processes of reading and writing
2. Processes involved in the development of reading and writing skills
3. Reading comprehension and processing skills and strategies
4. Purpose and scope of reading tasks and text types
5. Lesson planning and criteria for selecting material for reading and writing
6. The writing process; skills and stages
7. Text structure and genre analysis
8. Feedback and correction of students' writing
9. Assessment in reading and writing

## Methodology

- Students will engage in activities and discussion of the material covered in and out of class.
- Activities will include out-of-class readings, class lectures, assignments, and presentations.
- Students will reflect on their beliefs and experiences while relating theory to everyday FL teaching practices in the two skills.
- Students will contribute with their individual reading and writing tasks, with discussion and peer evaluation.
- Active student participation in class sessions is expected to enhance professional growth.

## Evaluation

Participation	.....	5%
Quizzes (2)	.....	20%
Strategies demonstration	.....	10%
Written lesson plans, materials and presentation		
Reading	.....	20%
Writing	.....	20%
Research project	.....	25%

### Special notes:

- The quizzes will be based on readings and theory discussed in class.
- Criteria for the participation grade will be discussed in class during the first lesson.
- Assignments are due on the dates specified in the accompanying timetable.
- Students must carefully proofread and edit all written work, including lesson plans and materials used in presentations.
- Your work must be your own. Plagiarism will be considered a serious offense. See the notes on plagiarism below.
- Students are responsible for assigned readings.
- Attendance is crucial; please justify any absences and be on time.
- Language use will be evaluated in student presentations, written reports and activities.  
(20% of the grade according to a pre-established rubric)

## **Notes on plagiarism**

### **Reglamento de Orden y Disciplina de los Estudiantes de la Universidad de Costa Rica**

#### **ARTICULO 4.** Son faltas ***muy graves***:

- g) Utilizar, con conocimiento de causa, documentos falsificados, para cualquier gestión universitaria administrativa, académica o de cualquier otra índole.
- j) Plagiar, en todo o en parte, obras intelectuales de cualquier tipo.
- k) Presentar como propia una obra intelectual elaborada por otra u otras personas, para cumplir con los requisitos de cursos, trabajos finales de graduación o actividades académicas similares.

#### **ARTICULO 9.** Las faltas serán sancionadas según la magnitud del hecho con las siguientes medidas:

- a) Las faltas muy graves, con suspensión de su condición de estudiante regular no menor de seis meses calendario, hasta por seis años calendario.
- b) Las graves con suspensión de quince días lectivos a seis meses calendario.

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