FL 497 ~ Methods in Foreign Language Teaching

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Course Description: FL 497 – Methods in Foreign Language Teaching is a comprehensive class that focuses on the theories, state standards, and applications of best practices in the teaching and learning of foreign languages at primary, middle, and secondary levels. Topics covered include foreign language curricula and standards-based instruction, preparation and presentation of lesson material, classroom management, professional organizations, discovery and use of resources and technology, and professional behaviors. Coursework includes on-site observations, practice exercises, lesson plan development, teaching demonstrations, informal assessments, and development of a teaching portfolio that includes a teaching philosophy.

Outline of Course Topics:
I. The profession
   • Expectations for language teachers
   • Language policy and education standards for K-12
II. Contextualized input, output, and interaction in language learning
   • Individual (cognitive) achievement and collaborative (social) achievement
   • Motivation for L2 learning
III. Standards for foreign language learning
   • Evolution of context in foreign language instruction
   • Standards for foreign language learning in the 21st century (SFLL)
   • Proficiency standards for Pre K-12 and the curriculum
   • Use and application of standards at the post-secondary level
IV. Integrated language instruction
   • Lesson planning and development of thinking skills
   • Teacher feedback and evaluation
   • Content-based instruction, State framework, and the curriculum
V. Language learning and the Elementary School curriculum
   • Language acquisition, from L1 to L2
   • History and evolution of Foreign Languages in Elementary Schools
   • Standard: making CONNECTIONS between language and the K-6 curriculum
VI. Language learning and the Middle School curriculum
   • Language instruction in the Middle School
   • Standard: integrating CULTURES and COMPARISONS in Middle School language instruction

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VII. Language learning and the High School curriculum
   - Implementing a content-based approach in the High School classroom
   - Standard: promoting COMMUNICATION as a tool to create global COMMUNITIES

VIII. Interactive approaches to develop interpretive communication
   - Listening, reading, and viewing in the interpretive mode
   - Comprehension and interpretation of authentic language
   - Integration of authentic texts across instructional levels

IX. Story-based approach to teach grammar
   - The deductive and inductive dichotomy
   - Principles of story-based language teaching
   - Analyzing and selecting authentic texts to teach grammar

X. Oral and written interpersonal communication
   - Proficiency perspective
   - Interpersonal communication through speaking and writing
   - Student-teacher and student-student interactions
   - Developing interpersonal speaking through literature and culture
   - Writing and feedback in interpersonal communication

XI. Oral and written presentational communication
   - Presentational communication: L1 vs L2
   - Presentational writing and speaking as a process
   - Presentational communication in the classroom
   - Feedback and evaluation of oral and multimedia presentations

XII. Diverse learners’ needs in the language classroom
   - Learners’ personality types and learning styles
   - Teachers’ personality types and teaching styles
   - Differentiated instruction for diverse learners’ needs

XIII. Assessment of standards-based language performance in context
   - Planning and purposes of tests
   - Alternative assessments: empowering students
   - Oral interviews and proficiency assessments

XIV. Technology: contextualization and integration in language instruction
   - Connecting technology with the standards
   - Exploring, selecting, and using multimedia technology to enhance communication
   - Empowering students through web-enhanced technologies

**Activities Required of Students**: students are required attend class and to actively participate in class discussions, they will complete 15 hours of foreign language classroom observations and write reports that focus on what they observed in relation to the textbook and discussion of the methods class (see grading rubric), they will create two lesson plans that follow the requirements of the Alabama Course of Study (see grading rubric), they will perform in-class teaching demonstrations, complete a midterm and a final exam, and create a teaching portfolio (see grading rubric) that includes a teaching philosophy in which they advocate for learning languages other than English and their cultures, as well as the creation and promotion of global communities.

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### Course Objectives and Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conceptual Framework Ref.</th>
<th>Alabama Standard</th>
<th>Assignments or Tasks</th>
<th>Methods of Assessment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professionalism Diversity</td>
<td>(2)(b)2.(iii)</td>
<td>Ability to ask questions and compare answers to interpret literary and cultural texts from both native and target cultures for the purpose of interpreting and reflecting on the perspectives of both cultures.</td>
<td>Students will read a selection of texts in the target language and determine which is best for teaching grammar. Students will analyze and discuss the text to ensure reading and cultural comprehension. Students will create a story-based grammar lesson or activity to demonstrate in the class.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Diversity</td>
<td>(2)(c)1.(i)</td>
<td>Knowledge of the nature of language acquisition at various developmental levels and the meaning of target language input and output including their effect on the developing language system.</td>
<td>Students will observe children interacting with their L1 and students learning an L2 at different proficiency levels. Students will write a report of their observations in both language acquisition settings and they will compare and contrast their impressions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Diversity</td>
<td>(2)(c)1.(ii)</td>
<td>Knowledge of strategies for creating meaningful and communicative activities for diverse learning styles that include negotiation of meaning and meaningful interaction.</td>
<td>Students will observe foreign language classes in K-12 and specifically identify the learning styles addressed in each class. Students will write a report of their observations and create at least three</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Collaboration Diversity</td>
<td>(2)(c)2.(i)</td>
<td>Ability to develop a variety of instructional practices that include target language input and output with opportunities for all students to have meaningful and communicative interaction that reflects student language learning outcomes.</td>
<td>Students will create a lesson plan that will address all four language skills for different proficiency levels. Students’ lesson plan must focus on oral communication and cultural interaction.</td>
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<td>Professionalism Collaboration Diversity</td>
<td>(2)(c)2.(ii)</td>
<td>Ability to develop articulated program models that address student developmental levels as well as diverse learning styles.</td>
<td>Students will reflect on their own learning and teaching styles and create a lesson plan that will address different learning styles and developmental levels.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Assessment</td>
<td>(2)(d)1.(i)</td>
<td>Knowledge of National and State standards for the learning</td>
<td>Students will analyze traditional tests for Students’ knowledge and analysis of the</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Diversity</td>
<td>(2)(d)1.(ii)</td>
<td>Knowledge of strategies to integrate national and state standards into instruction.</td>
<td>Students will create a lesson plan that clearly states and incorporates national and state standards. Students will demonstrate the specific activities that fulfill the standards in the class.</td>
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<td>Professionalism Assessment</td>
<td>(2)(d)1.(iii)</td>
<td>Knowledge of instructional resources such as textbooks, authentic materials, and technology.</td>
<td>Students will evaluate materials such as textbooks, magazine and/or newspapers in the target language, and online resources for teaching foreign language in K-12 and compare and contrast their application the in the classroom.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism</td>
<td>(2)(d)2.(i)</td>
<td>Ability to integrate national and State standards into curricular planning.</td>
<td>Students will create a lesson plan that clearly states and incorporates national and state standards. Students will demonstrate the specific activities that</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Diversity</td>
<td>(2)(d)2.(ii)</td>
<td>Ability to use strategies to incorporate the content indicated in national and State standards into instructional activities.</td>
<td>Students will create a lesson plan that clearly states and incorporates national and state standards. Students will demonstrate the specific activities that fulfill the standards in the class.</td>
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<td>Professionalism Assessment</td>
<td>(2)(d)2.(iii)</td>
<td>Ability to use standards and curricular goals to evaluate, select, design, and adapt instructional resources.</td>
<td>Students will create activities that address the curricular standards for foreign language in K-12 and that incorporate a variety to materials and/or resources. Activities will be demonstrated in the class.</td>
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<td>Professionalism Assessment</td>
<td>(2)(e)1.(i)</td>
<td>Knowledge of multiple ways to evaluate student progress using age- and level-appropriate assessments for a diverse student population.</td>
<td>Students will create different assessment tools for all language skills that can be modified to address different learning styles and different proficiency levels. Activities will be presented in class.</td>
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<td>Professionalism Assessment</td>
<td>(2)(e)1.(ii)</td>
<td>Knowledge of procedures for analyzing results of assessments to determine the direction of future instruction.</td>
<td>Students will be given data sets with results from various assessments and they will work in groups to develop a presentation in which they provide an overview of the data, their implications, and suggestions for future instruction.</td>
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<td>Professionalism Assessment</td>
<td>(2)(e)1.(iii)</td>
<td>Knowledge of procedures for interpreting and conveying results of student assessments to all stakeholders.</td>
<td>Students will be given data sets with results from various assessments and they will work in groups to develop a conference-like presentation in which they will convey the results from their analysis to stakeholders. Students will be encouraged to write letters to stakeholders in which they address their findings and provide their input.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Assessment Diversity</td>
<td>(2)(e)2.(i)</td>
<td>Ability to create age- and level-appropriate assessments for evaluating listening, reading, speaking, writing, and cultural</td>
<td>Students will create different assessment tools for all language skills that can be</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Assessment</td>
<td>(2)(e)2.(ii)</td>
<td>Ability to analyze and reflect on results of assessments to determine the direction of future instruction.</td>
<td>Students will be given data sets with results from various assessments and they will work in groups to develop a presentation in which they provide an overview of the data, their implications, and suggestions for future instruction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Assessment</td>
<td>(2)(e)2.(iii)</td>
<td>Ability to interpret and report results of student assessments to all stakeholders and create opportunities for productive discussions of these results.</td>
<td>Students will be required write letters to stakeholders and include their concerns and opinions regarding assessment. They will also be encouraged to participate in professional conferences in their field.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism</td>
<td>(2)(f)1.(i)</td>
<td>Knowledge of professional organizations at local, state, and national levels.</td>
<td>Students will become familiar with the profession and find at least three professional organizations relevant to their field that they can join.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Professionalism Reflection</th>
<th>(2)(f)1.(ii)</th>
<th>Knowledge of the value of advocacy for learning languages other than English.</th>
<th>Students will advocate for learning languages other than English by discussing the benefits of being bilingual and by creating scenarios in which knowing a second language becomes a necessity.</th>
<th>Students will discuss the benefits of being bilingual and they will present their scenarios in class. All scenarios will be evaluated and critiqued by other students, as well as the instructor, through classroom demonstrations, discussions, and informal assessment as encompassed in the participation grade.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Reflection</td>
<td>(2)(f)2.(i)</td>
<td>Ability to select appropriate professional development opportunities to strengthen linguistic and cultural competence.</td>
<td>Students will become familiar with the profession and find at least three professional organizations relevant to their field that they can join.</td>
<td>Students will discuss the benefits of joining professional organizations and to participate in professional conferences in foreign language teaching. Students will be required to attend at least one professional conference during the semester.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Collaboration Reflection</td>
<td>(2)(f)2.(ii)</td>
<td>Ability to promote learning of languages other than English to help students succeed as responsible members of a multicultural society.</td>
<td>Students will promote and encourage cultural understanding and respect by presenting and discussing different scenarios that address the everyday issues of our multicultural society.</td>
<td>All scenarios will be evaluated and critiqued by other students, as well as the instructor, through classroom demonstrations, discussions, and informal assessment encompassed in the participation grade.</td>
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**Evaluation Procedures:** the final grade for this class will be based on the following components:

- Observation reports (15) 15%

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Lesson plans (2) 10%
Midterm exam 15%
Teaching demonstrations 10%
Teaching portfolio & Teaching philosophy 20%
Final exam 20%
Class discussions, attendance, and participation 10%

Professional behavior
You are expected to come to class prepared and to be respectful toward the instructor and other students. In addition, students are expected to adhere to a dress code similar to that of teaching professionals (jeans are permitted but clothing must be modest in coverage). While in the field, as a representative of UNA, you are expected to behave in a professional manner toward teachers, students, and administrative personnel, as well as to respect their policies regarding dress code and cellphone use. Interactions with students outside of the classroom (other than professional customary greetings) is prohibited (no Facebook or other exchange of personal information is allowed).

Accommodation Statement
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University offers reasonable accommodations to students with eligible documented learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities as compared to an average person in the population. It is the responsibility of the student to contact Developmental Services prior to the beginning of the semester to initiate the accommodation process and to notify instructors within the first three class meetings to develop an accommodation plan. Appropriate, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow each student to meet course requirements, but no fundamental or substantial alteration of academic standards will be made. Students needing assistance should contact Developmental Services.

Academic Integrity
You are expected to comply with the university’s policy on academic integrity and honesty at all times. For more information, visit http://www.una.edu/student-conduct/policies-and-procedures/academic-honesty.html. NOTE: During the quizzes and/or exams, your eyes should look ONLY down at your paper. ‘Wandering eyes’ and/or any other indication of possible cheating will be referred to appropriate University officials for disciplinary action. Please refer to the section “Student Expectations, Grievance and Disciplinary Processes” in the UNA Undergraduate Catalog, and to the section “Code of Conduct Infractions” in the UNA Student Directory and Handbook. ***Any form of cheating or plagiarism will result in an immediate zero for the assignment in the first offense and an automatic F for the class in the second offense***

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The Conceptual Framework establishes a shared vision in preparing educators to work effectively in P–12 schools and provides direction for programs, courses, teaching, candidate performance, scholarship, service and accountability. The Conceptual Framework is continuously evaluated in an outcome based system, and is knowledge-based, articulated, shared and consistent with the University of North Alabama’s institutional mission – “Changing lives. Creating futures.”

The Conceptual Framework is designed to reflect current research-based knowledge and effective practices through professionalism, assessment, collaboration, technology, diversity and reflection. The UNA College of Education prepares “Knowledgeable Practicing Professionals” who:

1. Have content and pedagogical knowledge to demonstrate professionalism through a set of beliefs, actions, dispositions and ethical standards that form the core of their practice;

2. Have the knowledge and ability to use assessment strategies to guide teaching and learning, especially impact on student learning, and to strengthen instruction and increase professional growth

3. Form communities of learners with other teachers, parents, and members of the community, through collaboration, teamwork, and research-based approaches;

4. Use technology to support assessment, planning and instruction for promoting student learning;

5. Value and plan for diversity in curriculum development, instructional strategies and in the promotion of social consciousness;
6. Know and use self-awareness and reflection as decision-making tools for assuring student learning, professional performance and personal growth.

Graduates of the University of North Alabama’s College of Education are knowledgeable practicing professionals who are prepared as outstanding educators and leaders through achievement of the highest standards of knowledge and practice to assist all students to learn.