

2013 Curriculum Grant Awardee

Dr. Geraldine Blattner

College: Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Department: Languages Linguistics and Comparative Literature

Project Description:

The proposed curricular enhancements to be implemented cover a breadth and depth of the research agendas in the field of Second Language acquisition and ESL, at the level of exposure for knowledge and skill building for plan of action and critical thinking. TSL 4251 is a requirement for the ESL certificate and serves as an elective for Linguistics majors or minors. In addition, many students from the College of Education typically complete the ESL certificate and consequently enroll in TSL 4251. The research based enrichments will include: 1. Readings of pedagogical and empirical research studies, 2. Active participation in classroom discussion, 3. Writing reports of studies extracting important information in these studies (i.e., theoretical framework, procedures, materials, participants, results, findings) 4. Classroom observations of teaching practices (in Pathway to Academic Readiness (PAR program), 5. Portfolio development of innovative activities, 6. Development of lesson plans for teaching, 7. Review of textbooks to better understand the SLA approaches currently in use, 8. Participation of actual teaching graduate assistants who are currently teaching an ESL course who will lead two classroom discussions about teaching ESL and actively applying theory and research to blend their knowledge with the development of undergraduate students' knowledge of research and theory. 9. Undergraduate students will take a mid-term and a final exam including essay questions addressing various theoretical, empirical and methodological questions relevant to studies in second language acquisition discussed in class. They will also be tested about their knowledge of important terms used in the field so that they can adequately interpret findings of research studies.

List of Courses scheduled for Enrichment:

Applied Linguistics and TSOL (TSL 4251)

- a) Proposed Undergraduate Research Level: Skill building
- b) Listed Student Learning Outcomes Targeted: Knowledge, Plan of Action, and Critical Thinking