The University of Texas at San Antonio  
Department of Bicultural Bilingual Studies

BBL 7003  Proseminar in Culture, Literacy and Language

Note: This Syllabus is provided for informational purposes regarding the anticipated course content and schedule of this course. It is based upon the most recent information available on the date of its issuance and is as accurate and complete as possible. We reserve the right to make any changes deemed necessary and/or appropriate. We will make our best efforts to communicate any changes in the syllabus in a timely manner. Students are responsible for being aware of these changes.

Course Description:

This course is intended to provide first-year doctoral students with an opportunity to explore the main theories and areas of research in culture, literacy and language (CLL) with emphasis on language “minority” communities. Readings include foundational and recent work in interdisciplinary study of CLL, with emphasis on implications for human development, social organization and education. Students will also become familiar with areas of research of doctoral program faculty.

Course Methodology:

Course follows a seminar format organized around selected readings, group discussion, student presentations, and guest presentations.

Course Objectives:

• Gain an overview of interdisciplinary nature of CLL
• Develop oral and written ability for understanding, analyzing and critically evaluating key theories in CLL
• Become familiar with key studies and research approaches in CLL
• Develop expertise in gathering bibliographic information in CLL

Required Textbooks:


**Required Articles:** See list following class schedule of topics and assignments

**Reasonable Accommodation:**
Any student eligible for and needing academic adjustments or accommodations because of documented disability should consult with the professor immediately upon enrollment

**Course Format:**

The course has been designed to provide some flexibility in structure. Although three major units provide a general framework for the course (study of systems of oppression and liberation in literacy development, sociocultural theories of learning, and language socialization in bilingual contexts), you will be encouraged to raise and pursue any of the many issues in each of these units that are most relevant to your interests. While occasional lectures will be given, you will have many opportunities to share your own views and ideas in oral presentations, small and whole group discussions, and other methods of dialogue. Much of the discussion and analysis in class will often be controversial in nature. A culture of respect for difference is vital for a successful proseminar experience.