



TEACHING LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

As more importance is placed on the teaching and learning of South African and international languages in South Africa, language teachers and trainers are finding themselves under increasing pressure to provide effective learning environments and language teaching. There are limited short courses available for language teachers and trainers in South Africa which specialise in the pedagogy of South African and international languages, and provide support and professional development opportunities for practising teachers. The Teaching Languages other than English course aims to provide teachers and trainers with the knowledge and skills to be effective in the language classroom and to develop the learning and teaching of languages in South Africa.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Individuals interested in a career in language teaching who have no teaching experience
- Teachers and trainers who are interested in developing themselves professionally in the area of language teaching

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be registered as a trainee on the course you need to fulfil all the requirements below:

- Minimum of 18 years of age
- First language proficiency in a South African or international language
- Proficiency in English
- Minimum of a National Senior Certificate (Grade 12)
 - A degree is highly recommended

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The aim of the course is to develop the knowledge and skills required to teach South African and international languages. On completion of the course, candidates will:

- Have an understanding of the approaches to language learning and teaching
- Be familiar with language teaching contexts, the function and purposes of language teaching and associated concepts
- Understand, identify and respond to the characteristics and needs of language learners
- Have developed an awareness of lexical and grammatical features of certain South African and international languages
- Have developed an awareness of language teaching principles and practice, and be able to apply these in their professional practice
- Select, employ and evaluate skills, techniques and strategies required to effectively teach language in lesson planning
- Have applied techniques and skills in teaching language
- Be able to assess and evaluate language learners
- Be familiar with appropriate language learning and teaching resources and materials
- Be able to critically reflect on their teaching practice
- Be familiar with the cultural and socio-linguistic role of South African and international languages locally and worldwide
- Be aware of professional development opportunities

COURSE CONTENT

1. **Introduction to South African and international languages**
 - Investigating South African and international languages
 - The cultural and socio-linguistic role of South African and international languages

LANGUAGE TEACHER EDUCATION

Launch your language teaching career
Develop yourself as a language teaching professional

2. Language learning and teaching methods and approaches

3. Language learners and their needs

- Language acquisition and development
- Learner levels and ages
- Learner motivation
- Learning styles

4. Language teaching contexts

5. Curriculum and course planning

- Language learning curriculum
- Planning a course
- Lesson planning
- Lesson frameworks

6. Teaching vocabulary and lexis

- Teaching vocabulary and lexis
- Vocabulary and lexis practice activities
- Applying principles in teaching practice

7. Teaching grammar

- Teaching specific aspects of language
- Explaining meaning
- Language practice activities
- Errors and correction
- Applying principles in teaching practice

8. Teaching productive language skills

- Speaking
- Writing
- Applying principles in teaching practice

9. Teaching receptive language skills

- Listening
- Reading
- Applying principles in teaching practice

10. Assessing language learners

- Reasons for assessing learners
- Types of assessments
- Designing assessments
- Marking assessments

11. Teaching aids

- Language games and activities
- Using technology
- Practising teaching with teaching aids

12. Learning and teaching materials

- Using course books
- Adding, adapting and replacing
- Designing materials

13. Being a reflective practitioner

14. Professional development

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course includes theoretical and practical components. In the input sessions, our trained and experienced language teacher trainers will cover theoretical aspects of the course, such as: language awareness, teaching methodology and the basic principles of the teaching and learning of South African and international languages. The teaching practice component provides trainees with opportunities to plan and present lessons in their language of specialisation and other presentation opportunities.

These teaching practice sessions are observed by experienced language teacher trainers who provide constructive feedback and help the trainees to develop their language teaching skills.

In addition to the input sessions and teaching practice, trainees attending courses held at Wits Language School are provided with the opportunity to observe language classes.

COURSE DURATION

The course is a 120 notional hour and 100 contact hour course. Full-time and part-time courses are available. The full-time course is an intensive three-week course and it is advisable that you have no outside commitments during this period. The part-time course is offered over a period of twelve weeks and classes are held in the evenings and on Saturday mornings.

TEACHING APPROACH

The course aims to develop basic practical awareness and skills to equip trainees with the confidence, resources and knowledge that they will need in order to teach, as well as to continue their development as teachers. The approach involves participatory learning, where trainees are very much involved in the learning and teaching process. Most input sessions will focus on trainees discovering new concepts and information relating to language teaching through discussions, research, activities and presentations. Trainees are required to contribute to their groups by sharing and completing tasks. Trainees will be provided with a course file.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment is continuous and there is no final exam. Trainees are assessed on their practical teaching as well as a portfolio of written assignments. In addition to the teaching practice and portfolio, marks are awarded for attendance and participation.

CERTIFICATION

On successful completion of the course, trainees will receive a Wits Language School Certificate of Competence in Teaching South African and International Languages. The University of the Witwatersrand regards this as an NQF level 5 qualification.

2016 COURSE DATES

FULL-TIME

26 September - 7 October

COURSE FEE

R11 000

UNIT CONTACT DETAILS

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