**Foreign Language Learning and Teaching**

## Prof. Silvia Gilardoni

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to illustrate the pillars of foreign-language teaching by guiding students in reflecting on the processes of learning and teaching a language.

The course will complement theoretical-methodological aspects of language education with the discussion of the practical-applicative dimension of language teaching, and focus on planning and teaching practice for various learning contexts.

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

– understand and define the theoretical and methodological pillars of language teaching.

– understand the language-learning process;

– identify and define didactic approaches, methods and techniques for language education;

– identify elements and characteristics of planning for language education.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will cover the following topics:

– defining language teaching and epistemological status of the discipline;

– the process of language learning;

– the neuro-psychological foundations of language education;

– communicative competence and language skills;

– approaches, methods and techniques for language educations;

– planning educational pathways for language teaching;

– The CLIL method (Content and Language Integrated Learning).

***READING LIST***

P.E. Balboni, *Le sfide di Babele. Insegnare le lingue nelle società complesse,* UTET Università, Turin, 2015 (certain parts).

M. Chini-C. Bosisio, *Fondamenti della glottodidattica. Apprendere e insegnare le lingue oggi,* Carocci, Rome, 2014 (certain parts).

M. Daloiso, *I fondamenti neuropsicologici dell’educazione linguistica,* Cafoscarina, Venezia 2009 (parti).

M. Danesi-P. Diadori-S. Semplici, *Tecniche didattiche per la seconda lingua. Strategie e strumenti,* *anche in contesti CLIL*, Carocci, Rome, 2018.

S. Gilardoni, *Plurilinguismo e comunicazione: studi teorici e prospettive educative,* EDUCatt, Milan, 2009 (certain parts).

S. Gilardoni, *Didattica delle lingue e curricolo verticale per la scuola,* EDUCatt, Milan, 2020.

Additional guidance will be provided during lectures and published on Blackboard.

International students will be allowed to tailor a specific syllabus with the lecturer.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures, practical guided activities on analysing educational materials.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed on the knowledge and skills acquired by means of an oral exam, designed to assess their understanding of course content and to discuss the practical applications of language learning in various learning contexts. The oral exam consists of two parts: in the first part, students will discuss the topics covered on the course, such as the definition of language teaching, the process of language learning, the neuro-psychological foundations of language education, the concept of communicative competence and language skills, the discussion of language-education approaches, methods and techniques, the characteristics of educational communication in the language classroom and the CLIL methodology (60% of the final mark); the second part will focus on reflecting on teaching practice through the discussion of educational paths related to a specific learning contexts (40% of the final mark).

A number of criteria will contribute to the final mark for the oral assessment: relevance of answers; te ability to structure well-supported argumentation; appropriate use of terminology; in-depth understanding of content on the reading list; ability to reflect on the objectives of education activities in real contexts.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students are required to regularly consult the course Blackboard platform, where notifications and course material will be posted.

There are no prerequisites for this course in terms of content. Students are nevertheless expected to be interested in the process of language learning and language teaching.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.