

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – Spring 2026

HS1217 (EC): Language and Literacy – 2 (2.5-0-0) 30 Hours for 12 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: Kirsten Clark

OFFICE: H212/off campus

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

PHONE: 780-539-2041

E-MAIL: kiclark@nwpolytech.ca

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course explores children's expressive and receptive language development as well as their construction of knowledge about the reading and writing process. Students will examine ways in which preschool environments can support children in their attempts to understand and use the language system of their society. This course provides students with a solid foundation for facilitating preschool children's development in speaking, listening, reading and writing.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: Successful completion of all first year courses or by consent of department.

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Weitzman, Elaine and Greenberg, Janice. Learning Language and Loving It: A Guide to Promoting Children's Social, Language, and Literacy Development in Early Childhood Settings. 2002. The Hanen Centre. 2nd ed.

DELIVERY MODE(S): Online through MyClass

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand oral language acquisition theories.
- Recognize milestones and stages in language acquisition processes.
- Assess a child's language development.

- Feel capable of supporting and promoting communication strategies that best assist children in developing expressive and receptive language skills.
- Facilitate and promote peer interactions.
- Understand the emergent writing process
- Feel capable of supporting and promoting children's writing development.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>.

** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions.

Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.

EVALUATIONS: Your final grade for this course will be based on:

- Learning Activities – 40% of the final grade.
- Assignments – 60% of the final grade.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**. You must receive a final mark of a C- or above to pass this course.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Unit & Dates	Learning Activities Due Date	Assignment Due Date
Unit 1 Weeks 1-3	May 17	May 24

May 4-24		
Unit 2 Weeks 4-6 May 25-June 14	June 7	June 14
Unit 3 Weeks 7-9 June 15-July 5	June 28	July 5
Unit 4 Weeks 10-12 July 6-July 24	July 17	July 24 <i>*late assignments not accepted</i>

*all work is due by 11:59 p.m. on the dates indicated above

Late assignments will be penalized by a deduction of 2% per day up to a maximum of seven days upon which they will receive a “0.”

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Northwestern Polytechnic expects students’ conduct to be in accordance with basic rights and responsibilities. Please refer to the NWP calendar regarding rights and responsibilities.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>.

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- **Statement on the Use of AI in this Course:** Completing learning activities and assignments is a critical part of learning and essential to the development of your professional practice as an educator. Therefore, in this course, all learners will pledge to use AI tools in ethical and appropriate ways.

For example, it *would not be* ethical or appropriate to use Generative Artificial Intelligence applications such as ChatGPT to write a draft of a learning activity or assignment and submit it as your own work. The use of Generative Artificial Applications such as ChatGPT without proper citation will be considered plagiarism and treated as such using Northwestern Polytechnic’s Academic Misconduct Procedures.

In comparison, it *would be* ethical and appropriate for you to use AI tools such as Spell Check or Grammarly to identify spelling and grammar errors in your own work so you can correct them before submission.

If you require additional clarity on the use of AI in this course, please reach out to your instructor.

Additional Information:

USING PROCTORU:

This course uses ProctorU Live for online exams. To utilize this service, you are required to complete the following steps:

- Create a ProctorU account by clicking the ProctorU link in the course.
- Download and install the Guardian Web Browser, Google Chrome, and the ProctorU extension.
- Schedule each exam at least 3 days (72 hours) in advance. If you miss this deadline, you cannot take the exam.
- Pay for the proctoring service. The fees are exclusively your responsibility and in no event shall be the responsibility of Northwestern Polytechnic.

For more detailed instructions [click here](#), and for video instructions [click here](#).

Before each exam, you must complete a room scan with your web camera, during which you will show your surroundings to a live proctor.

The invigilator will ask to view (but not collect or store) your student identification to verify your identity and will remotely access your computer to unlock the exam. When monitoring your actions via video streaming, the invigilator may possibly record your actions if they suspect academic integrity behavioural issues. You will be verbally notified if/when recording begins.

The collection of and access to the personal information listed above is permitted under subsection 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, RSA 2000, c F-25, which states, “No personal information may be collected by or for a public body unless that information relates directly to and is necessary for an operating program or activity of the public body.” In addition, subsection 39(4) states, “A public body may use personal information only to the extent necessary to enable the public body to carry out its purpose in a reasonable manner.”

Records Retention: Any video records of you created by ProctorU will be kept by ProctorU for a maximum of 7 days in order to make a decision about any possible academic integrity infraction, after which time it shall be permanently deleted. All other personal information collected and stored by ProctorU within your profile account will be permanently deleted if the account has not been used after one year.

Consent to Store Personal Information Outside Canada

ProctorU is an American company. An agreement is in place between ProctorU and Northwestern Polytechnic by which ProctorU will take reasonable steps to protect your personal information from unauthorized access and disclosure. Information about how ProctorU protects your privacy can be found in their [Privacy Policy](#).

By using the ProctorU service via Northwestern Polytechnic, you consent to the storage of and access to your personal information outside of Canada.

This consent is in effect from the day you register with ProctorU and expires one year after completion of your exam.

Additional privacy and liability information regarding the use of ProctorU is available on the NWP website.