

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course Title**

Language and Education

2. **Course Code**

LANG 7570

3. **No. of Units**

3 units

4. **Offering Department**

MA in Language Studies Programme

5. **Prerequisite**

Nil

6. **Medium of Instruction**

English

7. **Aims & Objectives**

This course aims to examine the varied relationships between language and education. It helps to explore the role that education plays in learning language, particularly in learning a second language. It develops an understanding of the characteristics of language learning in natural and educational settings and discusses issues relating to education in language classrooms.

8. **Course content**

- (1) L2 learning in school education: age and time as factors in second language education, advantages and disadvantages of early start in learning an L2
- (2) Language and thought: ways of conceiving world knowledge, and the process of development of the knowledge base through education; influence of language on cognitive capability
- (3) Language in the classroom: studies of classroom language, the role of medium of instruction in acquiring knowledge, the influence of medium of

instruction on the students' academic achievements, functions and use of mixed code in classroom teaching, Chinese-English mixed code

- (4) Educational equity in language learning: peer learning, collaborative learning and cooperative learning
- (5) Home-School language gap: sociolectal and cultural differences, teacher attitudes toward the differences, students' different tongues, home language in Hong Kong, problems of tongues mismatch, nature of the mismatch, solutions
- (6) Language planning and education in Hong Kong: changes in policy over time, competing pressures-effectiveness for learning versus language proficiencies
- (7) Literacy and oracy: defining literacy vs. oracy, education as language development, mode shift from oracy to literacy through educational practice; home literacy practices

9. Course Intended Learning outcomes (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Explain the functions that language performs in education and which education performs in language learning
CILO 2	Analyze the differences between first language and second/foreign language acquisition
CILO 3	Evaluate the problems and solutions in studying different subjects (including learning a new language) through different mediums of instruction
CILO 4	Explain the rationale for choosing a particular language as a medium of instruction according to the subject and the learners' level and learning purposes

10. Teaching & Learning Activities (TLAs)

CILO No.	TLAs
CILO 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The instructor will explain basic concepts and theories on language learning and the role of language in education and highlight the differences between the East and West on these issues • Students will use these concepts and theories to examine

	their own experiences in learning language through education
CILO 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will reflect on and discuss the processes of learning the first language and second language to realize the differences
CILO 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will observe and analyze the effects of different mediums of instruction through video clips and discuss the problems and how to solve the problems
CILO 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will do case studies on the use of different mediums of instruction in teaching various subjects, and discuss their strengths, weaknesses and feasibility in the Hong Kong context

11. Assessment Methods (AMs)

Type of Assessment	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Presentation	20%	1, 2 and 3	It examines students' understanding of relevant concepts and theories about learning a new language, and/or about the role of language in education
Written summary	20%	1 and 2	It assess students' ability to connect their experiences of learning to relevant concepts and theories
In-class participation	10%	1-4	It assesses students' ability to understand academic analyses, respond to and share them with peers
Term paper	50%	2, 3 and 4	It examines students' ability to define and solve problems and think critically