M.Ed Two Year Programme

S.L1.3(d): Language: Perspectives and Challenges

Maximum Marks:100

Rationale

The primary objective of the course is to develop an understanding of the language context in the present scenario . Traditionally, language classrooms focus only on formal aspects of language. This course takes a wider perspective to enable teachers to view the interrelationship of gender, identity, culture, media and language and understanding of the related approaches and perspectives . The sociological milieu in which language unfolds is an important contextual backdrop in which language issues have to be understood and located. This course aims to build perspectives on this and also aims at developing an insight in the future teachers, teacher educators and researchers for meeting the challenges of diversity in language classroom. Further it will familiarize them with recent research trends and existing gaps.

Unit I – Language and Identity

- Relationship between language and Identity, place of language in emergence of identity
- Theoretical issues in language and Identity
- Identity in sociolinguistic and psycholinguistic context
- Issues in Individual and Group identities
- Research trends and gaps

Unit II - Language and Culture

- Language, thought and culture
- Impact of culture on language
- Linguistic control, access and power
- Role of socio-economic, cultural environment in the acquisition of language
- Cultural Diversity and language classroom: Myths and realities
- Bridging the cultural gap in language teaching- learning, Research trends and gaps

Unit III- Language and Gender

- Conceptualizing gender
- Gender differences in language use: approaches and critiques- Traditional sociolinguistic approaches: language variation and sex, Ethnographic/Anthropological approaches, Discourse analysis
- Gender differences in talk and common parlance, Use of Sexist/ Non-sexist Language
- Current issues and new directions, research trends and gaps

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Unit IV - Language and Media

- Types of media –traditional and modern
- Social media and language dominance
- Forms of language found in media
- Mass media , language development and change
- Understanding critical media literacy
- Evaluating the virtual space, understanding the politics of representation
- Research trends and gaps

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