MLED 403.71E: Best Practices in Pedagogy and Assessment

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2012

Instructor: Carol Smith, Ed.D - Clinical Instructor
Office Location: Navarro Partnership/Corsicana
Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 2:00–5:00, or by appointment
Home Phone: 903-778-2207, Cell Phone: 903-880-3222
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COURSE INFORMATION

Required Text:


Online Resources:

www.middleweb.com; www.tea.state.tx.us; www.ed.gov; www.tcet.unt.edu

Course Description:

This is a field-based course concentrating on communication, methodology and management perspectives consistent with democratic classrooms and organizational structures that focus on student centered inclusive learning of young adolescents from culturally, economically, and educationally diverse student populations.

Course Objectives:

1. Know how to establish a classroom climate that fosters learning, equity, and excellence, and will use this knowledge to create a physical and emotional environment that is safe and productive.
2. Understand strategies for creating an organized and productive learning environment and for managing student behavior.
3. Understand and apply principles and strategies for communicating effectively in varied teaching and learning contexts.
4. Incorporate the effective use of technology to plan, organize, deliver, and evaluate instruction for all students.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Class Attendance/Participation: Class activities and resulting products require active participation in discussions and cooperative groups.
2. Case Study; Critique: A written case study of a student (with a fictitious name) whose conduct negatively impacts the teaching/learning process in the classroom, along with suggestions for improvement, will be presented to the class.

3. Classroom Rules and Procedures: Posters for rules and procedures will be created/developed.

Grading:

1. Class Attendance/Participation 20%
2. Case Study Presentation; Critique 40%
3. Classroom Rules and Procedures 40%

Professionalism:

You are preparing to enter a profession in which independent responsibility and professional behavior are expected at all times. Therefore, the same high standards of responsibility, behavior, and performance in this class are expected.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Access to the Internet
Access to an Email Account
Access to University Library Site
Word Processor (Microsoft Word)
Presentation Software (PowerPoint)
USB Flash Drive (For Use at Home and University)
Data Projector (Provided by University)

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:
In addition to the information listed on page 1 of this syllabus, I may be contacted using my home email: dcarolsmith@aol.com, my home phone: 903.778.2207, or my cell phone: 903.880.3222.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

University Specific Procedures:

Attendance

It is the prerogative of the instructor to drop students from courses in which they have accrued excessive absences (three or more). However, a student wishing to drop the course should do so. Failure to do so may result in a failing grade.
Academic Honesty Policy

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

Disciplinary action for these offenses may include any combination of the following:
1. Point deduction on an assignment.
2. Failure for an assignment.
3. A grade of zero for an assignment.
4. Failure for the course.
5. Referral to the Academic Integrity Committee or department head for further action.
6. Referral to the Dean of the College of Education and Human Services, Business and Technology, Arts and Sciences, or Graduate School as appropriate.
7. Referral to the University Discipline Committee.
8. Communication of student's behavior to the Teacher Certification Office and/or Dean of the College of Education as constituting a reason to bar student from entering into or continuing in a teacher certification program. Procedures, A 13.04, 13.12, 13.31, and 13.32

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

Disclaimer:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the schedule of the class. Any alterations will be announced by the instructor in class, on ecollege, or via email. Students who do not attend class, log into ecollege, or check their email assume full responsibility for missing changes to the course.
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<th>Date</th>
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| October 22  | Introductions; Syllabus  
Ch. 1: You Want to Be a What?  
Comparing and Contrasting Lesson Plan Formats from the  
Madeline Hunter Lesson Cycle and the 5E Instructional Model | Individual Assignments                    |
| October 29  | Ch. 2: Understanding Young Adolescents  
Ch. 3: Who Am I?; Ch. 4: Designing Appropriate Middle Schools | Individual Assignments                    |
| November 5  | Ch. 5: Creating a Safe Haven for Learning  
Internet Research | Individual Assignments; Internet Presentations Due |
| November 12 | Ch. 6: Student Designed Curriculum  
Presentations of Rules & Procedures | Individual Assignments; Rules & Procedures Due |
| November 19 | Ch. 7: Facilitating Meaningful Learning  
Ch. 8: Assessment that Promotes Active Learning | Individual Assignments                    |
| November 26 | Presentations of Case Studies | Case Study Due                             |
| December 3  | Ch. 9: Real Teachers; Ch. 10: Altering School Structures  
Being an Advocate for Young Adolescents | Individual Assignments; Wrap-up             |

Criteria for each assignment will be established when the assignment is introduced in class. All assignments are to be turned in by the end of class. Late assignments will not be accepted without prior approval. Documentation of excused absence is required. Written assignments are expected to exhibit professional quality. You should demonstrate mastery of organizing and editing as you are writing.