Instructor: Cheri Davis, M.S.
Office Location: Science #148
Office Phone: 903 468 8650
Office Fax: 903 468 8651
Email Address: Cheri.Davis@TAMUC.edu
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday 9-10 AM
Anytime my office is open you are welcome.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

No textbook is required for this course. We will be accessing and posting to MyLEO (eCollege); full student participation is required. This is a web-enhanced course.

Course Description:

Science is an interesting and diverse topic that influences the quality of life. It is the instructor’s intent to demonstrate the possibility that learning and ultimately teaching can be enjoyable as well as educational. By the end of the course, each student should have an understanding of his/her own philosophy of teaching.

This class will use the history of science as a timeline, which we will explore in detail. Some of the concepts studied will include the great leaders in science and their contributions, including but not limited to: biology, models of the solar system, star formation, energy, force and motion, the periodic table, spectroscopy, thermodynamics, continental drift, and plate tectonics.

The instructor reserves the right to make topic changes, eliminate or add to the above list at discretion.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will gain a better pedagogical understanding.

2. Preservice middle school and secondary school teachers will be better prepared to achieve success completing the TExES exam.

3. Students will learn scientific principles to provide interesting and practical science knowledge and skills for taking instruction into the classroom and everyday life.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments
This course will be different than most science classes as students will have an opportunity to select and develop content for the topics studied. The students will be encouraged to contribute individual reflection, knowledge, research, and content.

The instructional methods for this course will vary with the topic being explored. Students will be attentive through any lecture, providing the instructor/presenter their full attention. Questions will be welcomed and are encouraged during lecture, however students will not engage in personal discussions thus disrupting class.

Assignments will build as the course progresses therefore students are encouraged to organize and keep the developed content. All assignments will have a due date specified at the time the assignment is made. All due dates are given in advance; take them seriously as late work is not accepted.

Grading
The following scale will be used for determining final course grades:
Class participation-25%, exams-25%, projects-25%, presentation-25%.

90% < A < 100%
80% < B < 89%
70% < C < 79%
60% < D < 69%
F < 60%

Plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated for any reason and violation will provide the individual(s) involved with a failing grade and a referral to the dean’s office for further disciplinary action.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

This course is taught as a face-to-face class but is web-enhanced. Students need access to a computer (there are computer labs all over campus) in order to check e-mails, post assignments, and to share approved information. Students will be using eCollege through myLeo and will be submitting assignments through Doc Sharing.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:
I will be working with a large number of students in several classes this semester. Students are welcome to visit during office hours or at any other time I am in my office and available. For a specific time outside of the scheduled office hours please feel welcome to call my office or email to schedule an appointment.

All written communication needs to be through email at this address: Cheri.Davis@tamuc.edu

Students will be expected to regularly check their email provided by the University through eCollege as this address is provided to the instructor. In ALL email, students are required to include the following information in the subject line: the course name, student’s name, and a (very) brief statement/inquiry.
This will allow all inquiries to be answered as soon as possible. If a response is not received within 2-weekdays then assume there was a problem with the email and please follow-up with other means of communication.

**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

**Course Specific Procedures:**

1. Students will be responsible for their learning and participate in all class activities with a positive attitude.

2. Students will have all homework completed upon entering class. Again, late work is not accepted so do not be late to class. Students will not attempt to work on any material for another class.

3. Students will participate and contribute equally in group activities. Failure to comply will be reflected in the non-compliant student's grade and will not be a detriment to the remaining group members. All collaborative assignments will have an individual grade for each student dependent upon their contribution, collaboration, content, and professionalism.

**Course Specific Policies:**

Violation of any class policies will be reflected on the student's final grade for the course.

1. Be professional. You are completing your degree and preparing for the classroom as the facilitator of instruction. Your attitude should reflect your professionalism which should include the remaining class policies.

2. Be here. Absences will result in lowering your overall grade. If you know in advance that you are going to miss class, please inform me in writing—email is preferred. This class meets twice a week therefore missing even one class results in missing a large amount of material.

3. Be on time. Tardiness is a direct reflection of your professional attitude. This class meets on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30-10:45 in STC #146. This is a very short amount of time and must be utilized effectively. It is important that you arrive to class on time. Excessive tardiness will result in a low participation grade for this course and will be reflected in student's final grade.

   As a teacher, you will be expected to turn in grades on time as well as meeting other deadlines; again be professional. All due dates are given in advance; take them seriously as late work is not accepted. Absences will not be considered a “good reason” for turning in late assignments.

4. Be courteous. Cell phones will be turned off; failure to comply will result in the student being excused from class. I will give you my undivided attention and I expect the same of each student. No electronic devices (this includes use of a computer) will be permitted during class unless arrangements are made in advance with the instructor.
University Specific Procedures:

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@tamuc.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).

COURSE OUTLINE

Domain IV-Science
Competency 25 (scientific inquiry)
Competency 27 (unifying concepts and processes in science)
Competency 28 (theory and practice of science teaching)
Competency 29 (assessments in science learning)
Competency 30-34 (physical science)
Competency 35-37 (life science)
Competency 38-41 (Earth and space science)