EDCI 597.03W SCIENCE INSTRUCTION FOR 21ST CENTURY LEARNERS
COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer 2014

Instructor: Dr. Becky Sinclair
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:
Textbook(s) Required: None. Readings will be assigned from online sources and handouts provided by the instructor.

Course Description: This course will focus on effective elementary science classroom instructional practices supporting mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and the Next Generation science standards. The course content and activities address the inquiry process in instruction, resources for teaching science, strategies that support student-centered and constructivist-based pedagogical design and technology applications.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will learn effective teaching strategies for elementary science classrooms connected to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and the Next Generation Science Standards.

2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of 21st Century skills and their connection to effective science instruction.

3. Students will develop strategies and activities to effectively integrate 21st Century skills into their science classroom.

4. Students will create a plan of action for implementing ideas learned through the course into their classroom(s).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments
This course consists of varied readings with related reflective assignments, online activities, and E-College threaded discussions.

Grading
1. Unit Science Journal Assignments – 30%
   Each unit will require thoughtful written comment on unit assignments based on online readings, activities and websites.

2. E-College Threaded Discussions – 20%
   Each unit will have several embedded discussion questions with posting requirements described in the course shell.

3. Sharing of Strategies and Activities – 20%
   Each unit will require the finding and/or modifying of activities/strategies and sharing these with classmates.

4. Final Project - Learning Application into the Classroom – 30%
   A final project will demonstrate the ability to apply ideas learned from the course in your own classroom by developing an action plan describing how you will use strategies/ideas from each unit. Details for this assignment will be provided in the course shell.

Points students' receive from the previously described requirements will be totaled and the following course grades will be assigned:

A – 90 - 100 points
B – 80 - 89 points
C – 70 - 79 points
D – 60 - 69 points
F – below 60 points

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

This online course will be divided into 5 units of approximately one week each. Details provided in the course shell.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Computer with Internet Connection. High speed internet connection needed. Dial up connections are so slow that students tend to get timed out on a regular basis. This tends to be too frustrating for use in online courses.

Brower Testing. It is *strongly recommended* that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the 'My Courses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

Access and Navigation.
This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas

A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx. You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu. Technology support at 903-468-6000 is available 24 hours a day/ seven days a week.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:
The students will be able to communicate with instructor via email: becky.sinclair@tamuc.edu, which is checked frequently throughout the day during weekdays and occasionally on weekends.

UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

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. Suggested sites for reference regarding what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it: *http://www.plagiarism.org/ or*
http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html or
http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml

Plagiarism will result in a grade of "F" for the course and may result in your dismissal from the program.

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@tamu-commerce.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 both online and in face-to-face settings. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).*