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Texas A&M University-Commerce
Department of Agricultural Sciences
Spring 2015

Course: AFE 597 Field Experience in Teaching

Time: Seminars—Meet at 6:00 PM on first Wednesday of each month

Field-Based Activities—Ongoing through teaching and service at the cooperating campus.

Text: Nath, Janice, & Cohen, Mryna. Eds. (2005) Becoming a middle school or high school teacher in Texas: A course of study for the Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR) TExES. (Reference only for exam study)

References: Ag In Texas Web Site www.agintexas.org
National FFA Organization website wwwffa.org
Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America www.fcclaimc.org
Family & Consumer Sciences Teachers Assn. of Texas www.fcstat.org
Vocational Agriculture Teachers Assn. of Texas www.vatat.org
Texas Education Agency website www.tea.state.tx.us

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course the student will be able to—
1. Identify major areas of conflict within school environments.
2. Recognize differences in student learning styles.
3. Develop effective instructional activities.
4. Demonstrate appropriate teaching techniques.
5. Manage classroom discipline.
6. Manage teaching resources.
7. Collaborate with colleagues.
8. Recognize inappropriate teaching methods.
9. Identify resources for improving instruction.
10. Utilize instructional technology in the classroom.

Grade Determination:
Grades will be determined using the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field Experience (Performance during observations/portfolio)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Participation (25 points maximum for each seminar)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Presentation (Teaching tip/project idea/motivational)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflective Essay</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final Grade = Your total points earned = _________

Final decision and authority regarding students’ grades is the sole responsibility of the professor.

Assignment Descriptions:
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Field Experience

Each student will be employed or volunteer as a secondary or postsecondary teacher in Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, or another related subject (such as Exploring Careers, Professional Communications, or Career Preparation). In some cases, portfolios of extensive work as a substitute teacher (or educational paraprofessional) or university graduate teaching assistant may be evaluated to determine applicability to the secondary-level field experience requirement. Each student is expected to submit a portfolio (notebook format) that includes:

- Class schedule
- Sample correspondence with ______
- Sample handouts and exams
- Certificates (copies) for training
- Course outlines/syllabi/TEKS
- 2-3 samples of lesson plans
- Description or 2-3 lab activities
- Resume

The course instructor will conduct two on-campus observations of the student’s teaching performance. Certified teachers who are enrolled in this course as part of a master’s degree program will also have two observation, but one observation may be conducted at an FFA or FCCLA activity, which is representative of the teacher’s professional growth and added responsibility. The observations will be similar to those used in teacher appraisal (PDAS).

Seminar Participation

Each student is expected to attend and participate in all four seminars. Each seminar is worth a maximum of 25 points toward Total Points Earned.

Individual Presentation

Each student will give a 5-8 minute presentation over a teaching tip, innovative instructional resource, project idea that could be used by other class members, or professional motivation. The student is expected to provide a one page (minimum) handout summarizing key points of information presented.

Reflective Essay

In lieu of a final exam, the student will compose a reflective essay using prompts provided by the professor as a guide for determining appropriate essay content.
**Professionalism**

Students are expected to attend class and/or laboratory as scheduled. Their participation in class discussion and instructional activities should follow the basic principles of common courtesy, decency, and cooperation with peers and instructional personnel. Rude and disruptive behavior, as well as cheating, in any form, will not be tolerated. The use of tobacco products in the classroom, laboratory, or field trip sites is prohibited. Inappropriate conduct will not be tolerated. Failure to comply with instructor’s guidelines may result in suspension from class for the remainder of the day’s instruction. Repeat offenses may result in additional consequences.

**Reasonable Accommodations**

Requests from students with disabilities for reasonable accommodations must go through the Academic Support Committee. For more information, contact Director of Disability Services at 903/886-5835.

**Teaching Assistants/Guest Instructors**

The need will arise occasionally for either a teaching assistant or guest instructor to teach/present a lecture or lab. It is expected that students will support and participate in class activities with the same level of courtesy as that demonstrated when the professor is present. Discourteous behavior during the lecture/demonstration by a teaching assistant or guest instructor is not acceptable.

**Office Hours**

If the door is open, come on in. If you need to schedule something, see me; Email - anytime.

**Students with Disabilities:**

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
Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

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