PHYS 371 Science and Math Education Theory and Practice  
Cross-listed with MATH 371, CHEM 371, and BIO 371  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2019

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Mr. Clay Stanfield  
Office Location: STC 105A  
Office Hours: TBA  
Office Phone: TBA  
Office Fax: 903-886-5480  
University Email Address: clay.stanfield@tamuc.edu  
Preferred Form of Communication: Email  
Communication Response Time: 48 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: There is no required textbook. Readings will be provided throughout the course.

Course Description

University Catalogue Description
Learning theory and teaching practices for science learning assistants. Topics include questioning strategies, conceptual development, formative assessment, argumentation, metacognition, and nature of science.

Additional Course Description
This course is intended to provide you with support and community to improve your experience as a learning assistant. You will have the opportunity to reflect on your teaching experience, discuss with other learning assistants, and read relevant science education literature that will inform your teaching.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.
Student Learning Outcomes
1. Students will be able to reflect on their teaching practice.
2. Students will be able to explain findings from science education literature.
3. Students will be able to apply findings from science education literature to their teaching.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed
Students should be able to use myLeo Online and Microsoft Word.

Instructional Methods
Readings and brief lecture will be used to introduce topics. Students are encouraged to ask questions during lecture. However, the primary instructional method for this course will be discussion. Students will complete writing assignments.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course
Students are expected to read assigned articles, participate in all discussions, and complete all homework assignments. Students are to be aware of all deadlines and ask questions when directions are unclear.

GRADING
Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 59% or Below

Grades will be based on 3 components:
- Teaching reflections 40%
- Reading reflections 40%
- Discussion participation 20%

Assessments
Teaching reflections: 4 teaching reflections will be assigned throughout the semester.

Reading reflections: 4 reading reflections will be assigned throughout the semester.

Discussion participation: Group and/or whole class discussions will take place in class every week.

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Guidelines for the teaching reflections, reading reflections, and discussion participation grading will be provided in a separate document.

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

**Browser support**

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

**Desktop Support**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Browser</th>
<th>Supported Browser Version(s)</th>
<th>Maintenance Browser Version(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft® Edge</td>
<td>Latest</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft® Internet</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explorer®</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mozilla® Firefox®</td>
<td>Latest, ESR</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Google®</td>
<td>Latest</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device</th>
<th>Operating System</th>
<th>Browser</th>
<th>Supported Browser Version(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Android™</td>
<td>Android 4.4+</td>
<td>Chrome</td>
<td>Latest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple</td>
<td>iOS®</td>
<td>Safari, Chrome</td>
<td>The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows</td>
<td>Windows 10</td>
<td>Edge, Chrome, Firefox</td>
<td>Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones.
  - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning

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• Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.
  Pop-ups are allowed.
  JavaScript is enabled.
  Cookies are enabled.

• You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  o Adobe Reader  https://get.adobe.com/reader/
  o Adobe Flash Player  (version 17 or later)  https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
  o Adobe Shockwave Player  https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
  o Apple Quick Time  http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

• At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

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COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support
Need Help?
Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the Live Chat or click on the words “click here” to submit an issue via email.

System Maintenance

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

The best method to reach the instructor is through email. You can send an email to clay.stanfield@tamuc.edu with LA Class in the subject line. If you do not receive a response within 48 hours, send a reminder email.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

1. Cell phone use is only allowed if used for class activities.

2. Eating is not allowed. However, covered drinks are allowed.

3. Attendance will be taken by sign-in sheet.

4. The instructor must be notified by email (clay.stanfield@tamuc.edu) about any excused absences no later than 24 hours after the missed class. Even if you choose to notify the instructor in person, you must still follow up with email within 24 hours of the missed class. If you do not follow this policy, you will not be able to turn in late work except in extreme circumstances.

5. You are responsible for obtaining notes and class announcements from missed classes.

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6. Excessive absences may result in being dropped from the course.

7. When emailing the instructor, include the course number in the subject line.

9. You are expected to check your email at least once a day for class announcements. Emails will be sent to the email addresses you provided to MyLeo. Notify the instructor if you would prefer to receive emails at a different address.

11. Students should fully participate in class activities.

12. Students are expected to be professional and respectful and take responsibility for their learning. If you find yourself struggling, the instructors are available to provide extra help outside of class.

13. Assignments will be turned in through myLeo Online. Late work will not be accepted.

**Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

**University Specific Procedures**

**Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook. [http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx](http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx)

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

**TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01. http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx)


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Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03


Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a criminal activity. You must cite all sources of information. Unreferenced copying of material, whether parts of sentences, whole sentences, paragraphs, or entire articles can result in a score of zero for your assignment and may result in further disciplinary action.

ADA Statement

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 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu
Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or

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veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

**Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url: [http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf)

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

**Harassment Policy**

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here:

University Title IX Contact: Michele Vieira, 903-886-5025, mailto:TitleIX@tamuc.edu

University resource webpages:
[http://www.tamuc.edu/facultyStaffServices/humanResources/title-ix/resources.aspx](http://www.tamuc.edu/facultyStaffServices/humanResources/title-ix/resources.aspx)

[http://www.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/universityPoliceDepartment/crimePrevention/sexualAssault.aspx](http://www.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/universityPoliceDepartment/crimePrevention/sexualAssault.aspx)

University Counseling Center: 903-886-5145, [http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/counselingCenter/default.aspx](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/counselingCenter/default.aspx)

Campus police: mailto:upd@tamuc.edu, call 911 in emergency situations

External resources:

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Crisis center of NorthEast Texas: http://www.ccnetx.org
Know your IX: http://knowyourix.org
End rape on campus: http://endrapeoncampus.org
Clery Center for Security on Campus: http://clerycenter.org
Not Alone: https://www.notalone.gov

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR
*Dates are for Tues and Wed class sections respectively*

Teaching Reflection Homework Deadlines:
Homework 1  9/10, 9/11
Homework 2  10/1, 10/2
Homework 3  11/5, 11/6
Homework 4  12/3, 12/4

Reading Reflection Homework Deadlines:
Homework 1  9/17, 9/18
Homework 2  10/8, 10/9
Homework 3  10/22, 10/23
Homework 4  11/19, 11/20

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