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EDUC 4- "Looking in Classrooms: Science-Mathematics Emphasis"

Dates: Fall 2009 - Thursday, 5:10-7:00

Location: SPR 2343; 5:10-7:00 p.m.

Fieldwork: Classroom Observations/Participation

Course Summary:

Course Description: 3 Units: Lecture, 2 hours; field, 3 hours per week. Students will look at researched based strategies for teaching in the secondary mathematics and science classroom. All students will be placed in classrooms in local middle and high schools identified as having exemplary programs to both observe and participate in the teaching of those courses. Students record and interpret their observations and compare them to published studies of classrooms.

Objectives:

- to observe and participate in public school classrooms in order to gain insight into students' conceptual learning
- to focus on the interactions between teachers and students
- to develop a deeper understanding of the effective strategies needed to increase student achievement
- to view education/teaching from a teacher's perspective

General Content of Class Sessions: (Lecture, discussion, group work, reflective writing) This class is organized to further your understanding of teaching strategies, give you a deeper insights into student learning, and to gain broader knowledge of teaching as a profession. By exploring and experiencing key concepts related to the profession, you will be able to better assess your feelings about the career of teaching.

Text: Various papers/readings assigned in class

Grading Summary

Assignments:

Assignment	Description	Grade Weight
Fieldwork	30 hours, signatures (required to pass)	25%
Online Recording of hours and Journal Writing	Prompts on ilearn	15%
Writing Assignments	TBA (Possibilities: Interview, survey, Web searches, Lesson plan)	25%
Class participation	In class discussions + "quick writes"	10%
Final Exam	Essay - Lesson Study	25%

Grading Policy:

A+	97-100%	C+	77-79%
A	92-96%	C	72-76%
A-	90-91%	C-	70-71%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	82-86%	D	62-66%
B-	80-81%	D-	60-61%
F	59% and below <u>OR</u> failure to complete fieldwork hours, submit verification letter, and/or fieldwork log		

Late Work: Barring special circumstances, all work must be turned in the date it is due.

Class Sessions and Tentative Topics*

Class	Date	Topic	Due
1	Sept. 24	OVERVIEW, SYLLABUS, SURVEY: Fieldwork requirements and Logistics Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey (in class)
2	Oct. 1	PRESENT CLIMATE IN EDUCATION: NCLB TIMSS Studies Governing/Financing Laws/Ethics	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal writing on web
3	Oct. 8	CONTENT STANDARDS: Overarching standards- Logic and Communication Interrelatedness of curriculum Textbook adoption and comparison	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal writing on web <input type="checkbox"/> Field paperwork
4	Oct. 15	CURRENT RESEARCH ON EFFECTIVE TEACHING Schlechty Marzano, Bloom, Antonetti Personality vs. learning style Teenage brain/adolescent development Implications for classroom management	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal writing on web <input type="checkbox"/> Web survey (paper #1)
5	Oct. 22	LESSON DESIGN: Variety and clarity Creativity in Lesson Planning: GEMS, TOPS, AIMS, EQUALS, Impact Vocabulary development	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal writing on web <input type="checkbox"/> Paper #2
6	Oct. 29	TECHNOLOGY: As tool for learning/engagement Internet as valuable resource	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal writing on web <input type="checkbox"/> Paper #3
7	Nov. 5	ASSESSMENTS: Level of questioning and weight of various standards in CST Formative vs. Summative Analysis of results Analysis of student misconceptions	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal writing on web <input type="checkbox"/> Paper #4: Lesson plan (to be used as part of your final lesson study)
8	Nov. 12	ITEM ANALYSIS: Shared observations Multiple choice format Problematic topics	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal writing on web
9	Nov. 19	CAREER: INTERVIEW PREP Opportunities FINAL PRESENTATIONS: Lesson Study (for those ready)	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal writing on web, <input type="checkbox"/> Draft of Lesson Study
	Nov. 26	HOLIDAY: THANKSGIVING- no class	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal writing on web
10	Dec. 3	CAREER PATH: RESUME Tools in your toolbox FINAL PRESENTATIONS: Lesson Studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal writing on web, <input type="checkbox"/> Lesson Study

Final Exam - **Due during last class session:** Written Lesson Study Unit

*Note: Topics in the syllabus may be shifted to accommodate guest speakers or other changes

Course Requirements

1.) FIELDWORK, LOG, AND JOURNAL: (all hours/assignments must be finished to receive credit):

30 hours of observations must be done in a public school regular education classroom (this must be separate from any hours required in other classes). Your recorded field hours will be verified against records maintained by your mentor teacher. You will use ilearn **and** the SMI Portal for recording hours and writing short reflections about your fieldwork observations. Failure to complete fieldwork hours and/or internet journals will result in a failing grade for the course.

PLEASE NOTE- The following are requirements of the SMI Program:

- Failure to complete and submit any forms, needing signatures, fieldwork hours, and/or internet journal will result in a failing grade for the course.
- If applicable, your stipend and any other expenses will only be awarded if you receive a passing grade for the course of a "C" or better.
- You will be required to teach at least one lesson in your fieldwork class and participate in other lessons as an assistant or tutor.

You will need to visit schools during classroom instruction. Please consider the following when planning your observation calendar: a.) Testing can be extensive toward the end of a school's trimester/semester. b.) Various activities/holidays may interfere with the normal class schedule. c.) Year-round schools (mostly Corona) will have tracks that are on break for four weeks at a time. d.) Try to visit during different times of the day and/or different subjects. e.) Check the teacher's calendar for conference dates, assemblies, etc. **(25% of your grade)**

2.) WEEKLY JOURNAL WRITINGS: As you complete your hours in a classroom, you will become aware of different issues. Journal Topics (based on topics discussed in class) will direct your thinking and will be posted on ilearn for you to submit to both ilearn and the SMI Portal. Each reflection should be a few paragraphs in length but they may vary according to the questions asked. Please use a short answer or 'bullet' format and make them mostly error-free. **(total 15% of your grade)**

3.) FOUR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: (generic font, 10-12 point, \leq 1 inch margin, double spaced): Each of these papers will vary in length from a short paragraph to a short essay and will serve as the midterms for the course. They will possibly include an interview, survey, web searches, opinion paper, and/or lesson plan and will be defined and refined during class discussions. **(25% of your grade)**

4.) CLASS SESSION PARTICIPATION: Participation is essential to the learning process. During class, you will be asked to discuss topics in groups and with the entire class. "Quick-Writes" will allow you to express your thinking on the issues and allow me to check for understanding; they will be turned in at the end of each session. **(10% of your grade)**

5.) FINAL EXAM: A Lesson Study Unit will be presented to class at the end of the quarter and turned in (portfolio format) as the written final for the course. Further directions will be given in class. **(25% of your grade)**