Syllabus

Specialized Instruction
EDUC 431L-0001 Fall Semester, 2011 (8/22/11-12/15/11)
Meets Mondays (5 p.m. to 5:50 p.m.) in Old Admin. 331

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Office hours: MWF 9 a.m., TR 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.,
or by appointment (note: Thursdays in the Advising Center)

Description:
The laboratory and lecture course includes instruction, managerial, and curricular pedagogy unique to the endorsement subject area. Prerequisites: PPST, EDUC 131, EDUC 224, EDUC 300, PSYC 231, and SPED 230, 334.
Note that this course is to be taken concurrently with EDUC 435A.

Credit hours: 1 unit

Required Resources:

We will use the textbook assigned for your EDUC 435A:

Note that reading assignments will be those given by your EDUC 435A instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes

• Students will develop innovative lesson plans on various social studies topics.
• Students will implement those lesson plans.
• Students will analyze the strengths and weaknesses of lesson plans and their implementation.
• Students will develop a repertoire of new lesson plans and pedagogical practices.

Methods of Instruction

This is a learn-by-doing course. You will apply what you have learned from your Education and Social Science classes in developing lesson plans and implementing them before your fellow students and the
instructor. Critiques of the lesson plans and related instructional practices will be a group effort. In other words, all students are expected to be teachers in helping classmates improve as teachers.

**Using the Sakai Companion Course Site**

To access our Sakai companion course website, go to [http://csc.rsmart.com/xsl-portal](http://csc.rsmart.com/xsl-portal) and follow the instructions to log into the course. You are to post your lesson plans in the course site 24 hours in advance of giving the lesson in class. This course site will also be used to access the syllabus and for communications between students and between the instructor and students. You will be able to check your grade progress in the course site.

**Course Requirements**

**Lesson Plans**

2 at 100 points each

You will compose a lesson plan on a social studies topic of your choice. The lesson plan should include 1) learning outcome(s), 2) itemized activities, 3) a time schedule, 4) a list of resources to be used, 5) a classroom management plan, and 6) specification of the assessment instrument. You may use any lesson plan format that contains all these elements. The grade for this assignment will be based on alignment, thoroughness, creativity, and attention to detail.

**Lessons**

2 at 100 points each

You will teach a class session based on the lesson plan that you developed. The lesson should be 30 minutes in length. The grade for this assignment will be based on student success in achieving the learning outcome(s). In order to ensure student success, you will need to pace your lesson well so as to complete all the components of the lesson plan. Instructional techniques will also be important to student success, such as ones to create student interest, keep students on task, avoid distractions, highlighting key points, and utilizing active learning methods. You should also demonstrate in depth knowledge of the topic by taught.

**Participation**

13 at 20 points each

You will actively participate in class as a fellow teacher. In doing so, you will read your colleague’s lesson plan in advance of class, and you will provide constructive feedback for improvement following the lesson. Note that a grade will be assigned for every class period for which you are not the one giving the lesson. Your grade will be based on the thoughtfulness of the feedback, along with your success in providing useful suggestions in a congenial, non-threatening manner. In other words, be critical, but do so in a friendly and constructive manner. Suggestions for improvement should be given with the understanding that we all can become better teachers, and that we are here to help each other in our professional development.

**Course Schedule**

The schedule for this class is straightforward. Every class period, except the first one, will be a lesson given by a classmate or yourself along with feedback. The two dates for which you are responsible for giving the lesson will be decided on the first day of class and posted in the Calendar of our course site.
Grading Procedures

Grades will be qualitatively determined according to the criteria specified in the three graded components of the course detailed above.

Break-down of grading points by assessment type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lesson Plans</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lessons</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total possible points</strong></td>
<td><strong>660 points</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

- 90 to 100 percent A
- 80 to 89 percent B
- 70 to 79 percent C
- 60 to 69 percentage D
- 59 percent or less F

Standard rounding will be used to calculate grades (e.g., 89.4% = B; 89.5% = A)

Student Behavior:

**Academic Honesty** - Students are expected to conduct themselves in conformity with the highest standards with regard to academic honesty. Violation of college, state, or federal standards with regard to plagiarism, cheating, or falsification of official records will not be tolerated. Students violating such standards will be subject to discipline, as per campus policies articulated in the Student Handbook. Please request a copy of the student handbook from the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services (Crites, Rm. 336, 432-6231). *For this class, plagiarism or cheating will result in no credit for the assignment. Severe or repeated cases of academic dishonesty will be referred to the Dean’s Office for possible disciplinary action.*

**Attendance Policy** – The College assumes that students will seek to profit from the instructional program and will recognize the importance of attending every class meeting of courses for which credit is expected. Responsibility for notifying faculty of absences, and for arranging potential make-up, rests with the students.

** Civility** – Civil behavior enhances the academic setting, and is expected at all times. Courtesy and respect for others are essential elements of the academic culture. The academic environment welcomes a difference of opinion, discourse, and debate within a civil environment.
**Nondiscrimination Policy/Equal Educational Opportunity Policy:** Chadron State College is committed to an affirmative action program to encourage admission of minority and female students and to provide procedures which will assure equal treatment of all students. The College is committed to creating an environment for all students that is consistent with nondiscriminatory policy. To that end, it is the policy of Chadron State College to administer its academic employment programs and related supporting services in a manner which does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, national origin, age, religion, disability, or marital status. *Student requests for reasonable accommodation based upon documented disabilities should be presented within the first two weeks of the semester, or within two weeks of the diagnosis, to the Disabilities Counselor (432-6461; Crites, Rm. 108).*

**Disclaimer:** This syllabus and schedule is articulated as an expectation of class topics, learning activities, and expected student learning. However, the instructor reserves the right to make changes in this schedule that, within my professional judgment, would result in enhanced or more effective learning on the part of the students. These modifications will not substantially change the intent or objectives of this course and will be done within the policies and procedures of Chadron State College.

**Other Rules**

Make or save copies of all your work. I’m not responsible for any lost work. Late work will not be accepted unless otherwise noted, except due to documented illness or accident. You must submit documentation of an excusable absence with the late work. Discrepancies in your on-line grade reports must be brought to my attention immediately. It is your responsibility to carefully study all aspects of our course website in order to know the procedures and requirements of the course. You should also check daily for course announcements. No eating or inappropriate chatting in class. No cell phones or other electronic devices. If you wish to take notes using a notebook computer, you must obtain the instructor’s permission and discuss with him the restrictions on the use of a notebook computer in class.