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Education 202: Education Practicum (3 Credits)

Course Description

This three-credit course provides an introduction in field experiences in various educational institutions. Observation hours are flexible, but seminar attendance is required.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course students will be able to do the following:

Intended Course Outcome	Desired Student Ability
identify the professional roles, skills, and values required of teachers,	Disciplinary learning, Literacy, Critical Thinking, Social & Personal responsibility
accurately record classroom observations,	Critical Thinking, Disciplinary learning
recognize and analyze methods of instruction, elements of the classroom environment, components of lesson plans, classroom management techniques, and discipline methods,	Literacy, Using Resources, Critical Thinking
compare and contrast instruction at a variety of grade levels, and assess their own strengths and deficiencies as future teachers.	Disciplinary learning, Social & Personal responsibility, Critical Thinking

Text

Webb, L. D., Metha, A., & Jordan, K. F. (2003) *Foundations of American Education (4th ed.)*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. **(OPTIONAL)**

Course Content

The course is organized around scheduled observations of classrooms in a variety of school settings. Students will be required to conduct the following formal observations:

- Preschool.....2 hours,
- Grades K - 32 hours,
- Grades 4 – 62 hours,
- Junior high/middle school2 hours,
- High school2 hours, and
- TBD by student20 hours.

Behavior while Conducting Observations

- Identify yourself at the principal’s office **each** day you will be observing.
- Ask if there are any special rules or restrictions.
- Dress appropriately! Be as well dressed as the teachers.
- Be polite and considerate.

- Be helpful to the teacher if the opportunity arises (see **do not references below**).
- Take good notes (this will help when you write up your observation report).
- Remember that your notes are confidential.
- Be sure to thank the teacher and, *if possible/practical*, the principal at the end of the day.
- Send the teacher(s) **AND** principal thank-you notes when your observations are completed.
- **Do not** allow yourself to be placed in a position of authority if the teacher is not present.
- **Do not** discuss your observation of a teacher's performance in an unprofessional manner.

Evaluation

1. *Attendance: 30 points.* Attendance and participation at three practicum seminars will account for 30 points. Seminars will be in room _____ from 2 – 3:00 p.m. on ____, ____, ____. There will be **NO** make-up work for missed seminars.
2. *Observation reports: 150 points.* Fifteen formal observation reports are required. Each report should document a two-hour observation. Refer to the sample memo and examples. The observation reports are worth 10 points each. At least seven observation reports are due at the first seminar with the balance due at the third seminar. However, it would be a good idea to review at least one report with the instructor prior to the first seminar.