Course Overview:

*The value of the science, the history and philosophy of education acquired in the training school, resides in the enlightenment and guidance it supplies to observation and judgment of actual situations as they arise. – Dewey (1929)*

What constitutes good teaching practices within a classroom is open to debate and so, the purpose of this course is to strengthen your understanding of how educational psychology and child development are involved in teaching so that you are able to make thoughtful choices in your classroom. Together we will explore how to make meaning of educational theory so that you can make informed and intentional decisions to best support your teaching and, ultimately, your students’ learning.

This class is designed to help prepare you as a teacher and a professional. Specifically this course seeks: 1) to help you better understand how children develop in regard to their physical, cognitive, and social-emotional abilities, 2) to expose you with the theoretical roots and empirical research that support the many classroom practices you have previously experienced and will encounter throughout your development as a teacher, and 3) to provide you with the tools and background knowledge for you to pursue your own inquiries and decide on your own theoretical position about the learning and development process.

Class texts:
Stanford library call# BF723 .C5 P74 2007


Assigned articles/videos/resources on CANVAS course website
Class participation/attendance – 25%
You are required to attend every class meeting. Contact us prior to class if you cannot attend or will be late. If you are absent you are responsible for collecting hand-outs and in-class assignment materials for the day you missed. In addition, you will need contact the instructors for further directions on meeting course requirements for material missed. Missing assignments and/or excessive class-time will result in a lowering of your course grade.

Discussion Questions and in-class assignments: You are required to complete all readings for each class meeting. Each class period there will be discussion questions or in-class assignments. Completing the class reading is essential for meaningful learning in this class.

Professional Learning Community – 25%
- http://edglossary.org/professional-learning-community/

In groups of 4 or 5, you will work together as a mini Professional Learning Community (PLC) to facilitate an in-class learning experience that will engage your colleagues with resources related to the theory/research topic of the week. The goal of the experience is to provide your colleagues with an interactive and informative presentation that will directly engage them in practical applications (e.g., resources) of the week’s topic.

To prepare: Read the background readings on PLC (see links above). As a group, you will locate at least 3 artifacts/resources (e.g., books, websites, articles, activities, songs) that you find useful as a teacher to help support teaching through a particular theoretical lens. For example, if the topic of the week is “constructivism,” then you might consider finding activities for your K-6 students that demonstrate a constructivist approach to learning. We encourage you to use the resources assigned for the week to begin your exploration of the topic. You must identify resources other than those already provided by Nicole and Laura (i.e., already on the course Canvas page).

In class, your group will lead a 20 minute experience to “present” your resources to the class. Please plan accordingly. You will have no more than 20 minutes, including 3-4 minutes for questions at the end --- this may mean that you do not discuss all 3 artifacts/resources in class. In addition, the group will submit a short written description of the resources, where they can be located and their connection to theory (see Canvas Wiki).

Your presentation should require a level of participation other than listening and should demonstrate your understanding the topic. This assignment is an opportunity for you to demonstrate some “intentional teaching” of your own!

Requirements:
- Interactive and appropriate to topic
- Explicit connection to key ideas of research/theory and child development
- Application to current practice
Observation logs- 25% - (see handout on course website)
Throughout the course you will document and submit 3 formal (written) observations of a focal student from your placement. These observations will be used in class and turned in on an ongoing basis to the instructors for reflection and feedback. Your syllabus documents which weeks you should plan to do an observation. Our goal is to scaffold the observations throughout the course in order to help you examine and build a theory of development and learning through data to facilitate intentional teaching. Your observations will assist you in making decisions about instruction and learning, and inform your final assignment.

The focus of each observation will be:
- Observation 1: Cognitive Development
- Observation 2: Motivation and Intelligence
- Observation 3: Social Development

Observations will include:
- “What?” - Description of observed phenomena (data)
- “So What?” - Connection to theory and research (analysis)
- “Now What?” - Reflection (currently thinking)

Annotated lesson plan and summative reflection- 25% - (see handout on course website)
As your summative assignment you will annotate a lesson plan for your current classroom. The goal of this assignment is to allow you to show intentional decisions made when planning for your students. Using your formal observations and feedback (as well as any informal observations), readings, and in-class discussions and activities, you will provide a rationale for decisions present in your lesson plan. Your rationale should be theory and research based. In addition you will include a written reflection that answers the following questions: How is my lesson plan developmentally appropriate? How is my lesson plan theoretically grounded?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Content and Assignments Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class 1</td>
<td>Intentional teaching</td>
<td>SWBAT articulate their beginning understandings of what counts as “intentional teaching” as well as articulate their own questions about such a perspective.</td>
<td>READ (REQUIRED): Dewey, J., &amp; McLellan, J. (1964). What psychology can do for the teacher. John Dewey on education: selected writings, 195-211.</td>
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<td>Aug. 23</td>
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<td>Aug. 30</td>
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Schema/assimilation/accommodation: [https://youtu.be/Xj0CUeyucJw](https://youtu.be/Xj0CUeyucJw)  
READ (REQUIRED):  
Course Text: Presley and McCormick.  
Chapter 3 (pp. 61-74)  
Chapter 6 (pages: 153-168)  
Think: *How are schemata useful for learning? Do you have any examples of a schema being used from your placements?*  
OPTIONAL  
Funny extra:  
Schema song: [https://youtu.be/lyBCnzcb0J0](https://youtu.be/lyBCnzcb0J0) |
| Class 4  | Intelligence  | SWABT compare and contrast orienting theories on “what is intelligence?” | READING (REQUIRED):  
WATCH (REQUIRED):  
Controversy of Intelligence: Crash Course Psychology #23 Intelligence:  
https://youtu.be/9xTz3Qjcol  
Howard Gardner Discusses Multiple Intelligences - Blackboard BbWorld 2016 HD:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8N2pnYne0ZA (**watch first 23 min)  
(**recommended: 32:00-end)  
**suggestion: increase speed to at least 1.25. Click on settings button when video plays.  
OPTIONAL:  
Sternberg: Successful Intelligence:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ow05B4bjGWQ  
Myths and Realities of MI:  
http://davidlazeargroup.com/Multi-Intell/articles/MI-Myths.htm  
Due: Observation 1 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Class 5  | Motivation and Feedback  | SWBAT analyze various motivational approaches and forms of feedback for intended (as well as unintended) outcomes. | READ (REQUIRED):  
Stipek (2002) chapter 7 (p. 97-110)  
Course Text: Pressley & McCormick, Chapter 9 (pp. 261-272)  
CHOOSE ONE  
OR |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Instructional Techniques</th>
<th>Read (Required)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sept. 27</td>
<td>Memory and Thinking</td>
<td>SWBAT identify various instructional techniques of supporting and hindering memory and thinking processes</td>
<td>Course text: Schwartz, D. et al. The ABC’s of How We Learn. F is Feedback (p. 64-75)</td>
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<td>Course text: Schwartz, D. et al. The ABC’s of How We Learn. E is for Elaboration (pp. 52-63)</td>
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<td>Course text: Schwartz, D. et al. The ABC’s of How We Learn. G is for Generation (pp. 78-85).</td>
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<td>OPTIONAL: Course Text: Pressley &amp; McCormick, Chapter 4</td>
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<td>Due: Observation 2</td>
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| Class 8 | Neuroscience and Education | SWBAT relate the concept of executive functioning to classroom practice. | WATCH AND READ (REQUIRED):  
Executive Functioning:  
[https://youtu.be/efCq_vHUMgs](https://youtu.be/efCq_vHUMgs)  
Associated paper:  
WATCH (REQUIRED):  
Marshmallow Test:  
PBS Newshour:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BLtQaRrDsC4&t=1s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BLtQaRrDsC4&t=1s)  
OPTIONAL READING:  
Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience and Education Practice Handbook of Child Development & Early Education (pp. 61-74). The Guilford Press.  
Due: Observation 3 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Direct vs. Indirect instruction & Wrap-up | SWBAT evaluate models of instruction and determine an approach for best practices in a given context. | READ (REQUIRED):  
Dell'Olio, J. & Donk, T. (2007). Models of teaching, Connecting Student learning with Standards. Chapters 4 and 6 (Direct and indirect instruction)  
Due: Lesson plan final 10/23 |