

Best Practices for Curriculum and Instruction
COURSE SYLLABUS
EDUC 5316.060
Spring 2022

Semester: Spring 2022 – 7-week Session 1

Course Meeting/Room: Online *There will be a scheduled zoom conference at the beginning of the semester.

Credit: 3 hours

Instructor Information: Staci Zolkoski, Ph.D.

Office: BEP 241

Office Hours: Monday 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Tuesday 10:00 – 12:30 p.m., and other days by appointment

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Catalog Description

This course addresses instructional methods and best practices across core content areas. The course will explore research-based teaching methods and equip students with skills needed to implement research-based teaching methods in the classroom. Students will be provided with exemplar examples of teaching methods in core content areas.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will...

1. demonstrate an understanding of best practices to design developmentally appropriate, standards-driven lesson. – Texas Teacher Standard 1.B
2. identify objectives based on course content and expected student outcomes to develop lessons that build coherently toward mastery of the learning objectives. – Texas Teacher Standard 1.A(i)
3. explore ways to create a learning environment where students are highly engaged in learning that is student-centered – Texas Teacher Standard 1D(i)
4. demonstrate understanding of a range of instructional strategies, appropriate to different content areas. – Texas Teacher Standard 1.B(ii)
5. explore curriculum and organize it to facilitate student mastery of the content areas. – Texas Teacher Standard 3.B(i)

Overview of Topics

Module 1: Foundations of Curriculum & Instruction

Gradual Release of Responsibility

Indicators of Best Practice

Best Practices for Content Areas

Module 2: Instructional Practices for English Learners
Module 3: Instructional Practices for Gifted and Talented Learners
Module 4: Instructional Practices for Special Education
Module 5: Technology in the Classroom

Evaluation and Grading

Grading is based on the total number of points accumulated by each student at the end of the semester for all evaluations including class activities, assignments, and exams.

Assignments

Maximum Points

Assignments will be posted at the beginning of the semester in the syllabus on Canvas.

Assignments and point values subject to change – Canvas will have all assignment details.

Grading

A = 90-100% of total points

B = 80-89% of total points

C = 70-79% of total points

D = 60-69% of total points

F = 59% or below of total points

The last day to withdraw from courses is Thursday, February 17th, 2022

Required Text, Materials/Supplies, and Related Readings

Zemelman, S., Daniels, H., and Hyde, A. (2012). *Best practice: Bringing Standards to Life in America's Classrooms*. Fourth Edition. Portsmouth: Heinemann.

A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook May also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Communication

To contact me via email, you may use the Canvas email. You may also email me at szolkoski@uttyler.edu. Please note this is **not** a Patriots email address. I will respond to your emails as quickly as possible; my priority is to be supportive of your work to ensure your success. I work to reply to emails within 24 hours. While I will try to respond to emails over the weekend as promptly as possible, emails sent over the weekend might not be read until Monday morning. My preferred method of communication is **email**.

Teaching Strategies

Strategies utilized in the delivery of the course will include various readings, lecture, discussion, group collaboration, Zoom conferences, and application activities/assignments.

Course Policies and Guidelines

1) Assignment Submission:

For written assignments a “page” is defined as:

- 8½” x 11” paper
- Times New Roman or Arial 12-point font
- Double-spaced (unless otherwise directed)
- 1-inch margin on all sides.
- Put page numbers on the top right-hand side.
- Put the title of the assignment, centered at the top of your paper.
- **For all assignments submitted in Canvas, your name, date, class number, or any other information should NOT be included.**
- Upload written assignments on the Canvas website in the marked area in each module.

a) Written assignments, quizzes, & exams

Some of the assignments in this course require collaboration with other students; your participation as documented on Canvas will count towards the participation grade.

All other written assignments as well as all quizzes and exams are **individual assignments**. Students may not collaborate on the individual assignments.

Unauthorized collaboration is considered cheating and will be handled according to University Policies and the Students Standards of Academic Conduct.

b) Late work: It is expected that assignments and projects be submitted on time. **An assignment will be considered late if it is not turned in the day it is due.** You may turn in your assignment early. Late assignments are not accepted unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. Assignments and due dates are posted in Canvas.

c) Plagiarism. Students need to use their own words when completing all assignments. A zero will be given for any assignment that is detected as being plagiarized. Students are subjected to a disposition or a failing grade in the course.

Unicheck is a tool that will be used to check a document for plagiarism. The tool provides feedback as to whether or not the text in a document is a close match with other documents on the Internet, in journal databases, and submitted to Canvas. If a student is caught plagiarizing, a grade of zero will be given as well as a disposition for cheating. Once you submit an assignment, you will get a report where you can see plagiarism detection and grammatical errors.

- 2) **Participation** and your commitment to your learning is critical to your success in any course. Your timely participation in the class discussion and presentations are a substantial part of your grade in this course. Please plan accordingly!
- 3) **Zoom etiquette:** During any zoom sessions, you will need to be on time and have your video on. You will need to be an active participant in the class by listening (focused on class content and not on other things) and answering questions. Please make sure you are in a quiet area. You will need to make sure you are in an area where you have a stable internet connection. Class participation points can be deducted for not following zoom etiquette.
- 4) **Dispositions** - All students in the UT Tyler Teacher Preparation Program must adhere to the professional behaviors outlined in the U.T. Tyler School of Education Dispositions. These dispositions are listed at the following website:
<http://www.uttyler.edu/education/documents/Dispositions.pdf>

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

For a full list of university policies including information related to the topics listed below.

<https://www.uttyler.edu/links/>

- Students Rights and Responsibilities
- Campus Carry
- Tobacco-Free University
- Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies
- State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
- Disability Services
- Student Absence due to Religious Observance
- Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
- Social Security and FERPA Statement
- Emergency Exits and Evacuation
- Student Standards of Academic Conduct

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
<http://www.uttyler.edu/writingcenter/>
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
<https://www.uttyler.edu/tutoring/>

- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, This is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254) <https://www.uttyler.edu/counseling/>

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY (CEP) VISION AND MISSION

Vision: The College of Education and Psychology is nationally recognized and respected for its academic programs and opportunities. It is a center of academic excellence, scholarly inquiry, and public service. The College prepares leaders to meet the critical challenges of the 21st Century through productive contributions to local and global communities and toward individual and cultural equity.

Mission: The mission of the College of Education and Psychology is to provide a positive environment that fosters the acquisition of knowledge and skills. The mission is individually and collectively realized through a community of scholars that contributes to knowledge through scholarly inquiry; organizes knowledge for application, understanding and communication; and provides leadership and service. We affirm and promote global perspectives that value individual and cultural diversity to enhance learning, service, and scholarship.

UT TYLER'S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS

Texas Education Standards: The School of Education are committed to teaching and implementing the Texas Educator Standards at the highest level. The School of Education faculty use the Texas Education Standards, along with the Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (InTASC) standards used by educator preparation programs throughout the United States.

The list of [Texas Education Standards](#) can be accessed [here](#).

Access the [Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators](#).