

EDU 614 Trends and Issues in Education
Spring

Instructor:

Office:

Phone:

e-mail:

Class meeting: TBA

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description

Survey of recent trends in the area of education, especially in the field of curriculum and instruction. Each participant will choose one area of concentration research of influences in that area and show how research can be used in the classroom.

Purpose of the Course

This candidate will examine contemporary issues of education and the social, historical and political foundations, which undergird and/or influence their development and to explore current trends that influence current educational practices. The structure of this course will be conducted as an independent study in which the different sides of candidate chosen issue related to certification area will be explored.

Required Textbooks: Candidate chooses text and resources to best aid his/her professional development.

Candidate Learning Outcomes:

The candidate will demonstrate knowledge of the covered educational issues through classroom participation and independent assignments:

Learning Outcome	InTASC Standards	Assignment/Criterion
1. Develop an understanding of the current professional and public issues in American education.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9	Curriculum and Instruction Major Questions Report, meet a minimum of 80% scoring criteria
2. Utilize critical and creative thinking skills to explore all sides of an issue.	4, 9, 10	Annotated Bibliography, meet a minimum of 80% scoring criteria
3. Examine the trends and issues that affect teaching and learning at the school level and content area chosen.	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9	Annotated Bibliography, meet a minimum of 80% scoring criteria

4. Research skills in developing one's understanding of current trend and issue to support candidate's certification field	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10	Curriculum and Instruction Major Questions Report, meet a minimum of 80% scoring criteria
5. Create instructional material(s) to aid cooperating teacher in a curriculum/instruction area of need.	1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10	Curriculum/Instruction Area of Need Project, meet 80% scoring criteria. Appraisal of Field Experience, meet 80% of scoring criteria.

Assignments/Projects:

1.) *Curriculum and Instruction Major Questions Report* Given candidate's certification field:

1. How do current trends and issues affect students in terms of
 - a. Their school experiences?
 - b. The classroom learning experiences?
 - c. Relationship with teachers and other school personnel?
 - d. Social development?
 - e. Academic achievement as measured by various means?
2. How do trends and issues affect educators day to day in our classrooms?
 - a. Resources available to teachers to keep informed/up-to-date?
3. What personal questions do we have about each of these trends and issues?
4. What positions do various groups (including educators, parents and the general public) take on the issues that emerge from current trends?
5. What do researchers have to say in response to our questions as well as how these trends and issues affect students?
6. What predictions might we make about the future of students' learning in our schools in light of what has been learned about current trends and issues?

2.) *Curriculum/Instruction Area of Need Project*

Assisting cooperating teacher in one curricular aspect relevant to certification area. This could be development of a performance-based learning tasks, instructional tasks for a unit of instruction, development of technology-based instructional resources, etc.. Candidate and cooperating teacher create an Assistance Contract defining what candidate will be responsible for creating and define a timeline for completion.

3.) *Annotated Bibliography*

Choose one area to explore what the current research literature states regarding improving curriculum and/or instruction. Minimum of 10 resources (APA format). Further directions and rubric provided on Viking Web.

4.) *Appraisal of Field Experience*

Candidate and cooperating teacher will complete Field Experience Appraisal to evaluate candidate's contribution to addressing a trend or issue in the classroom. To be done at the end of the term.

Method of Instruction:

Independent research and discussion with cooperating teacher. Regular discussion sessions with instructor.

Accommodation Statement:

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodation in this course are encourage to contact the Academic Support Center in Memorial Library (ex.) as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Academic Integrity:

The Berry College community affirms its support of academic integrity as reflecting founder Martha Berry's commitment to educating the head, heart and hands, and as the foundation of college life and experience. We believe that mutual trust among Berry's students, faculty and staff is essential to the operation of the college and that all members of the Berry College community are responsible for working together to establish and uphold an environment conducive to honorable academic endeavor. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, unauthorized collaboration, plagiarism, fabrication, multiple submissions, and aiding and abetting.

Attendance Policy:

Candidate will meet independently with professor on an every week basis throughout the course of the semester. If candidate cannot make the scheduled meeting time, please inform instructor in advance.

Evaluation Components and Grading Scale:

- 1.) Curriculum and Instruction Major Questions Report
- 2.) Curriculum/Instruction Area of Need Project
- 3.) Annotated Bibliography
- 4.) Appraisal of Field Experience

Tentative Schedule:

Week 1 – Meet to go over details of syllabi

Week 2 – Finalize field placement

Week 3 – Meeting with Cooperating teacher to define assignments and collaborative projects

Week 4 – Timeframe for assignments submitted to professor; assignment contract finalized

Week 5-12 - Weekly meetings on progress of assignments

Week 13-14 – Submission of assignments

Week 14 – Final meeting to process out semester with cooperating teacher and candidate