

Official Course Description: MCCCCD Approval: 05/24/05

EDU221 20056-99999

LEC 3 Credit(s) 3 Period(s)

Introduction to Education

Overview of the historical, political, economic, social, and philosophical factors that influence education and make it so complex. Opportunity for students to assess their interest and suitability for teaching. Prerequisites: None.

Course Note: Requires minimum of 30 hours of field experience in elementary or secondary classroom environment.

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MCCCCD Official Course Competencies:

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1. Evaluate current statistics and trends in the field, and personal motives when considering education as a career. (I, II)
2. Analyze the political and economic influences on education at the federal and state levels. (III)
3. Identify and explain the current issues confronting public education, including legal and ethical concerns. (IV)
4. Analyze historic events in education and their importance and impact on education today. (V)
5. Evaluate the major philosophies of education and describe your personal philosophy of education. (VI)
6. Explain how national and state standards influence curriculum development, assessment, accountability, and classroom practices. (VII)
7. Synthesize the factors that influence education and make it so complex. (IX)
8. Participate in a K-12 classroom field experience for a minimum of 30 hours. (VIII)
9. Analyze instruction, relationships, and classroom management strategies observed in your 30-hour field experience. (VIII)
10. Develop a portfolio to demonstrate your abilities, teaching philosophy, experience, growth and potential as an educator. (VIII)

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MCCCD Official Course Outline:

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I. Statistics and Trends Influencing Education

- A. Student/teacher ratios
- B. Analysis of and national polls
- C. Enrollment
- D. Geographic areas
- E. Attitudes toward the public schools

II. Education as a Career Choice

- A. Necessary preparation and certification
- B. Status of educators in American society
- C. Personal rewards
- D. Related careers
- E. Self-assessment

III. Political and Economic Influences on Education

- A. Public opinion
- B. World events
- C. Media
- D. State and federal legislation
- E. School funding
- F. State and national economic factors
- G. School governance

IV. Issues Affecting Education

- A. Academic standards and student performance
- B. Social Issues (drugs, violence, vandalism)
- C. Multiculturalism
- D. Professional ethics
- E. Legal rights and responsibilities

V. Impact of History on Education

- A. Influence of religion
- B. Development of common schools
- C. Equalization of educational opportunities (civil rights, women, disabilities)
- D. Response to global competition/historical events

VI. Major Philosophies of Education

- A. Essentialism
- B. Perennialism
- C. Existentialism
- D. Social reconstructionism
- E. Progressivism
- F. Other

VII. Influence of National and State Standards

- A. Curriculum development
- B. Assessment
- C. Accountability
- D. Classroom practices

E. Teacher preparation

VIII. Portfolio Development

A. Field experience documentation

B. Philosophy of education

C. Classroom management strategies

D. Teaching strategies

E. Personal accomplishments

F. Field experience reflection

IX. Teaching as a Complex Endeavor

A. Myriad of outside influences and educational responses

B. Variety of stakeholders

C. Unpredictability of outcomes

D. Continuing professional development

E. Public trust and accountability

F. Academic, social, and emotional differences in students

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