The Effective Urban Educator: Reflective, Innovative and Committed to Diversity

Course: ELE 3600 Teaching Social Studies PreK-8
Division: Teacher Education
Course Credit: 3 hours
Time and Place: Wednesday 4:30-7:15
University Center Room
Instructor: Brenda Baker
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Skype: brendabaker2013
Office Hours: after class

Course Description: Objectives, curriculum content, and organization, teaching strategies, instructional materials, evaluation of learning, utilization of community resources, focusing on primary sources in education and how to use outside information to enhance your teaching strategies.

Course Learning Objectives: To have students . . .

- Recognize & examine the disciplines that make up the social studies as well as foundational documents of social studies education.
- Experience and demonstrate innovative teaching practices and collaboration, including effective classroom/group management skills.
✓ Understand and demonstrate respect and appreciation for human diversity in the content taught and the ability to work with others within and outside the classroom to recognize the needs of diverse populations.

✓ Demonstrate the personal use of technology as well as incorporate it into planning and instruction.

✓ Develop a personal conceptual framework or philosophy based on research, best practice, and reflection while speaking to current educational issues.

Course Objectives (Outcomes): To have students:

• Know why we teach social studies

• Be familiar with the nine NCSS social studies disciplines we will use this semester
  ❖ Culture
  ❖ Time, Continuity, and Change
  ❖ People, Places, and Environment
  ❖ Individual Development and Identity
  ❖ Individuals, Groups, and Institutions
  ❖ Power, Authority, and Governance
  ❖ Production, Distribution, and Consumption
  ❖ Global Connections
  ❖ Civic Ideals and Practices

• Experience teaching examples of the social studies disciplines

• Understand how and why our country is composed of many cultures, Western and Non-Western

• Use the Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE’s) and Common Core State Standards (CCSS) to design instruction

• Become familiar with the Core Democratic Values

• Work together as a total class, understand why we work in teams, and practice working in small groups

• Use technology whenever appropriate

• Appreciate diversity in others

• See methods used in this class as a model for constructivist teaching

• Discover the many faces of teaching social studies and how NOT to rely on a textbook for all the information
Required texts: (CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY BEFORE BUYING! IF YOU WANT TO PURCHASE THEM, I SUGGEST THE KINDLE RENTAL VERSION. IT IS MUCH CHEAPER!)

1. *Lies My Teacher Told Me* by James Loewen

   **Publisher:** Touchstone (October 16, 2007)

   **ISBN-10:** 0743296281


   **Publisher:** Puffin

   **ISBN-10:** 0142414123

3. *An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming* by Al Gore (**PLEASE make sure you get the version for kids. It will say Adapted for a New Generation**)

   **Publisher:** Viking Juvenile

   **ISBN-10:** 0670062723
Assignments:

All written work must be typed

- Attendance 140 points (14 classes X 10 points each)
- Tweets 25 points
- 3 book reviews 45 points (15 points each)
- Core Democratic Values presentation 25 points
- Core Democratic Values lesson plan 20 points
- Economics presentations 25 points
- Economics lesson plan 20 points
- Bill of Rights Lesson Plan 25 points
- Create a Culture project and presentation 100 points
- Chapter presentations 25 points
- Heidelberg Project Field Trip 25 points
- Your Choice Field Trip 25 points
- Unit Plan 200 points
  - Total points 700 points

See attached calendar of due dates

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. THIS IS A TENTATIVE CALENDAR. SOME ASSIGNMENTS MAY BE SHIFTED AROUND TO SUIT OUR SCHEDULE.

**During the first night of class, you will be introduced to several social media sites. If you are familiar with them, great! If you are not, that’s ok. We will work together to sign you up for Twitter and Prezi.**
Classroom policies:

- Participation is important in a democracy and in a classroom.
- Every student is expected to be in every class, including the last day for review of the Unit Plan.
- Class time is important. Please use it effectively when working in groups and as individuals.
- Absences in this class are neither excused nor unexcused. For every class you are absent, you will lose 10 points. If you are more than 5 minutes late, you will lose 5 points. If you leave before the class is dismissed, you will lose 5 points. Class is officially over when I dismiss it. There are times when we will go the full time, and other times where we will finish early for you to work in your groups.
- Telephones are not to be heard in class. Please refrain from checking email, texts, etc. while in class. Not only is it rude, but it distracts others around you from learning.
- All work is due when class starts. When class starts, if you are found to be working on an assignment, I will NOT accept it – no matter what the excuse is. ALL written assignments MUST be emailed to me by the due date and time. I will NOT accept written assignments after 4:30 p.m.
- To contact me outside of class, please use email.
- You are expected to use your Wayne State email account. If you have an email account that you check regularly, I suggest setting up your WSU account to forward to your regular one. I send out announcements quite often, so this is important that you check your email often!
- You are expected to understand Academic Integrity and not commit plagiarism in this class.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism includes copying material (any more than 5 consecutive words) from outside texts or presenting outside information as if it were your own by not crediting authors through citations. It can be deliberate or unintended. If you’re in doubt about the use of a source, cite it. Students caught plagiarizing information from other sources will receive a failing grade in the course. University policy states that students can be subject to multiple sanctions, from reprimand to expulsion as a consequence of academic dishonesty. To enforce this policy, all outside references must be submitted with assignments.

Attention Students with Disabilities:

- If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services (SDS) for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Student Disability Services (SDS) office is located at 1600 David Adamany Undergraduate Library in the Student Academic Success Services department. SDS telephone number is 313-577-1851 or 313-577-3365 (TDD only). Once you have your accommodations in place, I will be glad to meet with you privately during my office hours to discuss your special needs. Student Disability Services' mission is to assist the university in creating an accessible community where students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to fully participate in their educational experience at Wayne State University.
- Please be aware that a delay in getting SDS accommodation letters for the current semester may hinder the availability or facilitation of those accommodations in a timely manner. Therefore, it is in your best interest to get your accommodation letters as early in the semester as possible.
Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC)

In order to provide public assurance that our graduates are competent, caring, and qualified; and that our faculty monitors and improves the program quality this course will meet the following 5 claims:

- The effective urban educator is a reflective practitioner
- The effective urban educator is an innovative practitioner
- The effective urban educator is committed to diversity
- Graduates are qualified to teach in urban settings
- The effective urban educator can meet the professional standards for the Michigan teachers, including content subject standards and WSU teacher standards

Evaluation and Grading:

- A= 94-100, A-=90-93, B+=87-89, B=83-86, B-=80-82, C+=77-79, C=73-76, C-=70-72, D+=67-69, D=63-66, D-=60-62
- All assignments are due on the due date. NO EXCEPTIONS! Late assignments, for ANY reason, are not accepted. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Once class starts, I will NOT accept assignments. If you are late to class, please turn them in as soon as you arrive.
- An INCOMPLETE (I) may be given only for good reason, after completing a contract with the instructor and may be for a grade NO higher than a B.
- Be aware of the WSU grade policies.

Withdrawal Policy:

Students who withdraw from a course after the end of the 4th week of class will receive a grade of WP, WF, or WN. WP will be awarded if the student is passing the course (based on work due to date) at the time the withdrawal is requested. WF will be awarded if the student is failing the course (based on work due to date) at the time the withdrawal is requested. WN will be awarded if no materials have been submitted, and there is no basis for a grade. Students must submit their withdrawal request on line through Pipeline. The faculty member must approve the withdrawal request before it becomes final, and students should continue to attend class until they receive notification via email that the withdrawal has been approved. Withdrawals can be requested at any point from the fifth week of class through the study day.

Religious Observance Policy:

Because of the extraordinary variety of religious affiliations represented in the University student body and staff, the Wayne State University calendar makes no provision for religious holidays. It is University policy, however, to respect the faith and religious obligations of the individual. Students who find that their classes or examinations involve conflicts with their religious observances are expected to notify their instructors well in advance so that alternative arrangements as suitable as possible may be worked out.