

EDUC 350: Foundations of Teaching as a Profession
Monday/Wednesday 7:30-11:40 a.m.: UH 444
California State University San Marcos Summer 2009

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Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description:

This course serves as an orientation to careers in elementary, middle and high school education. Upon completion of this course, teacher candidates should understand the nature of formalized education in the United States and be able to assess his or her interest in teaching as a career. Major topics include:

- Understanding the roles of schools in society`
- Exploring philosophies and contemporary issues in education.
- Assessing the roles of teachers in schools.
- Understanding the qualifications and credentialing process for California teachers.
- Understanding and appreciating the student as an individual.
- Understanding factors affecting student achievement.
- Understanding critical issues in curriculum and instruction.
- Understanding infusion of special education in general education practices.
- Understanding the laws that influence teaching responsibilities.

This course is required for all credential candidates. All students must complete forty-five (45) hours of supervised fieldwork in K-12 classrooms.

Mission of the College of Education at Cal State San Marcos:

The mission of the College of Education Community is to collaboratively transform public education by preparing thoughtful educators and advancing professional practices. We are committed to diversity, educational equity, and social justice, exemplified through reflective teaching, life-long learning, innovative research, and on-going service. Our practices demonstrate a commitment to student-centered education, diversity, collaboration, professionalism and shared governance.

(adopted by COE Governance Community, October 1997)

Authorization to Teach English Learners:

The Cal State San Marcos credential programs have been specifically designed to prepare teachers for the diversity of languages often encountered in California public school classrooms. The authorization to teach English learners is met through the infusion of content and experiences within the credential program, as well as additional coursework. Students successfully completing this program receive a credential with authorization to teach English learners.

(approved by CCTC in SB 2042 Program Standards, August 2002)

Special Education Inclusion:

Consistent with the intent to offer a seamless teaching credential in the College of Education, this course will introduce the collaborative infusion of special education competencies that reflect inclusive educational practices. Students will demonstrate a knowledge of laws and dispositions that relate to special education

through a variety of activities such as the viewing and analysis of the video F.A.T. City, reading and analysis of special education law, and *Creating an Inclusive School*.

Students with Disabilities Requiring Reasonable Accommodations:

Students are approved for services through the Disabled Student Services Office (DSS). This office can be contacted by phone at (760) 750-4905, or TTY (760) 750-4909. Students authorized by DSS to receive reasonable accommodations should meet with their instructor during office hours or, in order to ensure confidentiality, in a more private setting.

All University Writing Requirement:

In keeping with the All-University Writing Requirement, all 3 unit courses must have a writing component of at least 2,500 words (approximately). This will be met through written assignments.

CSUSM Academic Honesty Policy:

Students will be expected to adhere to standards of academic honesty and integrity, as outlined in the Student Academic Honesty Policy. All written work and oral presentation assignments must be original work. All ideas/materials that are borrowed from other sources must have appropriate references to the original sources. Any quoted material should give credit to the source and be punctuated with quotation marks.

Students are responsible for honest completion of their work including examinations. There will be no tolerance for infractions. If you believe there has been an infraction by someone in the class, please bring it to the instructor's attention. The instructor reserves the right to discipline any student for academic dishonesty in accordance with the general rules and regulations of the university. Disciplinary action may include the lowering of grades and/or the assignment of a failing grade for an exam, assignment, or the class as a whole."

Incidents of Academic Dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students. Sanctions at the University level may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

As an educator, it is expected that each student will do his/her own work, and contribute equally to group projects and processes. Plagiarism or cheating is unacceptable under any circumstances. If you are in doubt about whether your work is paraphrased or plagiarized see the Plagiarism Prevention for Students website <http://library.csusm.edu/plagiarism/index.html>. If there are questions about academic honesty, please consult the University catalog.

College of Education Attendance Policy:

Due to the dynamic and interactive nature of courses in the College of Education, all students are expected to attend all classes and participate actively. Absences and late arrivals/early departures will affect the final grade. A minimum grade of C+ is required in EDUC 350 to qualify as prerequisite for admission to the Cal State San Marcos teacher credential program. COE attendance policy states, "At a minimum, students must attend 80% of class time, or s/he may not receive a passing grade for the course at the discretion of the instructor. Individual instructors may adopt more stringent attendance requirements." Should students have extenuating circumstances, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. In this section of EDUC 350,

the instructor has adopted this additional policy: If you miss two class sessions, you cannot receive a grade of A or A -; if you miss three class sessions, you cannot receive a grade of B+ or B.

Credential Program Recommendations:

As one of several evaluation methods, EDUC 350 course instructors are asked for feedback concerning credential candidates who are applying for programs at Cal State San Marcos. Keep in mind that your professionalism and hard work in this class not only affect your course grade, but also indicate your readiness for a credential program.

Field Work:

In addition to in-class work, assigned readings and projects, students will participate in fifteen (15) hours of supervised fieldwork assignments in a variety of public school settings. {note professor's modification summer 09}. Details on the fieldwork are found on the COE syllabus webpage, at the top of the list of syllabi for this semester. Documentation of these hours is required to receive a grade in EDUC 350. Cal State San Marcos students are expected to adhere to professional standards in their dress and behavior in the field. Required clearances (fingerprints, TB test) are the responsibility of the student. A recommendation (usually from the classroom teacher where most of the fieldwork is done, also known as a Field Experience Recommendation) is a requirement for admission to the Cal State San Marcos Teacher Credentialing programs.

Use of Technology:

Students are expected to demonstrate competency in the use of various forms of technology (i.e. word processing, electronic mail, WebCT6, use of the Internet, and/or multimedia presentations). Specific requirements for course assignments with regard to technology are at the discretion of the instructor. Keep a digital copy of all assignments for use in your teaching portfolio. All assignments will be submitted online, and some will be submitted in hard copy as well. Details will be given in class.

Electronic Communication Protocol

Electronic correspondence is a part of your professional interactions. If you need to contact the instructor, e-mail is often the easiest way to do so. It is my intention to respond to all received e-mails in a timely manner. Please be reminded that e-mail and on-line discussions are a very specific form of communication, with their own nuances and etiquette. For instance, electronic messages sent in all upper case (or lower case) letters, major typos, or slang, often communicate more than the sender originally intended. With that said, please be mindful of all e-mail and on-line discussion messages you send to your colleagues, to faculty members in the College of Education, or to persons within the greater educational community. All electronic messages should be crafted with professionalism and care.

Things to consider:

- Would I say in person what this electronic message specifically says?
- How could this message be misconstrued?
- Does this message represent my highest self?
- Am I sending this electronic message to avoid a face-to-face conversation?

In addition, if there is ever a concern with an electronic message sent to you, please talk with the author in person in order to correct any confusion.

Teaching Performance Expectation (TPE) for EDUC 350:

A primary goal of EDUC 350 is to begin the process of developing teacher candidates to become professional educators. The following TPE of the California Commission for Teacher Credentialing is expected to be met during this course:

TPE 12: Professional, Legal and Ethical Obligations

Candidates are aware of their own personal values and biases and recognize ways in which these values and biases affect the teaching and learning of students. They resist racism and acts of intolerance. Candidates appropriately manage their professional time spent in teaching responsibilities to ensure that academic goals are met.

Candidates for a Teaching Credential understand and honor legal and professional obligations to protect the privacy, health, and safety of students, families, and other school professionals. They are aware of and act in accordance with ethical considerations and they model ethical behaviors for students. Candidates understand and honor all laws relating to professional misconduct and moral fitness.

Teaching Performance Assessment for Developing as a Professional Educator

The successful completion of the personal philosophy assignment is a requirement for completion of this course and is a component of partially meeting the TPE described above. This statement will be used for assessment both in the course and at completion of the College of Education program.

Retain an electronic copy of your statement for submission for your portfolio at the completion of your teacher education program.

Class Discussions and Participation:

Students will engage in student-centered learning each class session, and will be expected to actively participate.

- Do you participate in class discussions productively, sharing your knowledge and understandings?
- Do you interact productively with your peers, taking on a variety of roles (leader, follower, etc.)?
- Do you contribute appropriately to group work—do you “do your share”?
- Are you able to accept others’ opinions?
- Are you supportive of others’ ideas?
- Do you support your peers during their presentations?
- Can you monitor and adjust your participation to allow for others’ ideas as well as your own to be heard?

Course Requirements:

Teacher education is a professional preparation program. It is expected that students will come to class prepared to discuss the readings, submit required assignments, and participate in class activities. Students are expected to adhere to academic honesty and integrity, standards of dependability, confidentiality and writing achievement. Because it is important for teachers to be able to effectively communicate their ideas to students, parents, colleagues, and administrators, writing that is original, clear and error-free is a priority for the College of Education. It is expected that work will be turned in on time. Please discuss individual issues with the instructor. Points will be deducted if assignments are submitted late (10% penalty per day late; no credit will be awarded if the assignment is one week late).

Required Texts:

Grant, Carl. A. & Gillette, Maureen. (2005). *Learning to Teach Everyone's Children: Equity, Empowerment*

Villa, R. A. and Thousand, J. S. (2005). *Creating an Inclusive School* (2nd ed.). Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. , ISBN 0-87120-251-4

Nieto, Sonia. (2006). *Why We Teach*. NY: Teachers College Press. ISBN 0807745936

Optional Text:

Education that is Multicultural. Thomson & Wadsworth. ISBN 0-534-64467-8, Approximately \$ 45 - 65

Assignments and grading:

Grades will be determined by the total number of points earned (100 points possible):

A = 93-100, **A-** = 90-92, **B+** = 87-89, **B** = 83-86, **B-** = 80-82, **C+** = 77-79, **C** = 73-71, **C-** = 70-72, **D** = 60-69, **F** = 0-59

Reading Log	10 points
Current Events	08 points
Contemporary Issue in Education & Responses to Presentations	17 points
Special Education Inclusion (the Outsider)	15 points
Interview of a Teacher	15 points
Classroom Observation Reports	15 points
Personal philosophy of schooling, learning and teaching	20 points

Reading log

10 points

Due dates on course schedule

The reading log provides an opportunity to reflect on learning about teaching through the assigned readings for each week. In the reading log, do not summarize. Instead, respond to the readings: agree, disagree, note specific ideas, etc. Entries should be 1 paragraph in length. You can find the due date for each entry in the course schedule in the "assignments" column. Be sure to submit your entry via the course WebCT6 site. Also, *bring your reading log entries with you to the associated class session and be prepared to share them with a partner.*

Individual submissions are not graded; rather, their timely submission is noted and points are assigned on the basis of having completed all entries for the reading log. No credit will be given for late submissions. In extraordinary circumstances, if you do not have access to WebCT for a timely submission, you may email the log entry to me by Friday at noon at egarza@csusm.edu. Later, when you have WebCT access, you will resubmit.

Current events in education

8 points
Due June 8 or June 10

Sign up for a date when you will be responsible for presenting an item from the week's news in K-12 education (10 minutes maximum). The item may be from television, radio, internet (e.g., www.edweek.org/), newspaper, or magazine, and may pertain to local, national/, or international issues. You will summarize and present the importance of the news for your classmates. After you present your current event, go to the WebCT site and submit a one-sentence report as the "CE" ("Current Events") assignment, so that you can receive credit.

Special Education Inclusion (The Outsider)

15 points
Due June 22

Many students with special needs come to view themselves as *outsiders* because they are labeled as different from the typical student. Following the procedures written below you will write a reflective essay about inclusion. The essay should be submitted via the WebCT site.

Interview of a Teacher

15 points
Due June 24

Details are below. The written report should be submitted via the WebCT site.

Contemporary Issue in Education & Responses to Presentations

17 points
Due June 29 and July 1

Choose (1) an issue that interests you (from the topics given to you by the instructor) and (2) one or two partners with whom to work. Research the issue and prepare an oral report to share in class. The report should describe and analyze the issue. When you present your research orally, provide a one-page summary and a reference list for your classmates. Each group member must submit the one-page summary to the WebCT site to receive credit for this assignment. In addition, while listening to the presentations, each student is responsible to complete a "Response to Presentation" template, which the instructor will make available on the days of the presentations. The responses will be handed to the professor in hard copy at the end of the class sessions when they are due.

Classroom Observation Reports

15 points
Due on July 6

Using the classroom observation instrument provided in class, write up five 1 hour observations in your field sites. Submit your observations on WebCT.

Personal Philosophy of Schooling, Learning and Teaching

20 points
Due on July 6

You will write a 4-5 page paper describing your philosophy of schooling, learning and teaching. Details are below. The written report should be submitted via the WebCT site.

Detailed Assignment Description

Interview of a Teacher

In this assignment, you will interview a teacher and write a 3–4 page summary of what you learned from him or her. Your purpose is to render a sketch so that your reader may be able to envision the teacher as a person with a distinct philosophy and experience.

Gathering information:

Interview a current or retired teacher who has had at least 3 years of full–time experience in elementary, middle, or secondary school classrooms. Suggested questions are:

Why did the teacher choose to enter teaching? How attractive was the profession to prospective teachers at that time? What were the other career paths available; were any others seriously considered? Does the teacher have any regrets about becoming a teacher?

What professional education did the teacher have? How helpful was it in learning to teach? At what point did the teacher feel comfortable as a teacher?

What were/are the teacher's goals for the education of students? Have these goals changed over the years?

What career moves (school buildings, grade level, special students, subject matter, etc.) has the teacher made? To what extent were those moves voluntary? For current teachers, are further moves desired? If so, what are they, and why?

What have been the major joys and frustrations of teaching? What would help increase the joys and minimize the frustrations? On what issues does the teacher feel strongly about making changes in the way that schooling occurs now?

How did/does the teacher learn about his/her students' lives and needs? How similar are the backgrounds of the teacher and his/her students? What have been the teacher's experiences with "culture shock" in working with students from different backgrounds?

What are some favorite memories from the teacher's classroom? Does the teacher tend to remember individual students or activities, or are the memories more general?

What does the teacher think of current "hot issues" in education such as the California High School Exit Exam and the No Child Left Behind Act? How does the teacher take action to address new reforms that impact his/her classroom?

What is the teacher's metaphor for "teaching" or "teacher"? What are the main features of the teacher's approach toward teaching? What has the teacher learned from being a teacher?

Analysis:

After collecting your information, think about what you have learned about this teacher. Focus on a few themes that best characterize what you have heard. Do not try to be all-inclusive. *Protect your teacher's confidentiality by using a pseudonym and masking identifying details.*

In your analysis, incorporate what you have been learning about becoming and being a teacher. How does your teacher fit within the material addressed in your readings and in class? What issues are raised through your interview? What are the implications of your interview as you think about becoming a teacher? Be sure you include at least one reference to the readings/discussions we have in class.

Criteria for evaluation:

Exemplary papers are characterized by:

- Completeness of description of the teacher's experiences and views
- Explanation of how the teacher interview relates to your thinking about teaching
- Integration of coursework (readings + discussions) into the analysis
- Correct grammar, syntax, and spelling

Detailed Assignment Description

Special Education Inclusion (The Outsider)

Many students with special needs come to view themselves as *outsiders* because they are labeled as different from the typical student. But most of us experienced some sense of being an outsider during our K-12 years. After reading chapters 1-3 in *Creating an Inclusive School* and at least two of the *Voices of Inclusion*, (from the chapter in the Villa & Thousand text) write a reflective essay (2 to 3 pages, double spaced) wherein you comment on your own (or a friend's) school experience that caused you to feel like an outsider. Reasons could include differences due to gender, religion, looks, beliefs/interests, family situation, academic ability, etc. Make at least 1 specific connection to the VT text. Consider the following questions:

- What personal characteristics fostered your or your friend's feeling of being different?
- How did you react and cope with the situation?
- Did you share your experience with any teachers? Did any teachers assist you?
- What could school staff, parents or friends have done to help?
- In what ways did this experience change you? What did you "learn" from this experience?
- How might this experience make you a more sensitive teacher?

Detailed Assignment Description

Philosophy of education paper

Write a 4-5-page paper (double-spaced) that explains your personal philosophy of schooling, learning and teaching. Follow the template below, and self-assess before you turn in the paper.

Paper Introduction

Name your philosophy (or combination of philosophies) as described by Grant & Gillette Ch 8.

Explain why you are attracted to this philosophical stance. Is it due to your own schooling and/or background, what you've seen in schools since your own school days, the influence of particular persons, texts, other experiences with children/youth, etc.?

Describe the level of schooling and subject field(s) you hope to teach.

Nature of schooling

Describe what you believe is the purpose of schooling in a democracy.

How will you as a teacher help achieve these purposes?

Give 1-2 examples of how this will look in your classroom/career.

Nature of the learner

Describe what you believe is the nature of the learner.
What are your thoughts about the students you will teach? What do they need from a teacher?
Give 1-2 examples of how this will look in your classroom.

Nature of the teaching/learning process

Describe what you believe is the nature of the teaching/learning process?
What do you believe counts as knowledge and how should it be presented?
How will you as a teacher use subject matter and other experiences to guide students toward meaningful learning activities?
Give 1-2 examples of how this will look in your classroom.

Teacher dispositions and actions

Describe what behavior (disposition/attitude & actions) you will exhibit in order to carry out your philosophical position.
Give 1-2 examples of how this will look in your career.

Conclusion

Recap your philosophy.
What are your outstanding questions/concerns/thoughts about becoming a teacher?

Criteria for Self- Assessment of Philosophy Paper

Be sure to self-assess using the following criteria. Submit the self-assessment with your final draft of your philosophy paper (at least one “beefy” paragraph). These are the criteria that will be used to evaluate your philosophy paper.

Exemplary papers have the following characteristics:

Ideas: The paper is clear and focused. It holds the reader’s attention. Relevant information and details enrich the central theme. Ideas are supported by research, practical knowledge and experience. Conclusions show insight.

Organization: The organizational structure enhances and showcases the central idea or theme of the paper. An inviting introduction draws the reader in; a satisfying conclusion leaves the reader with a sense of closure and resolution. Sequencing is logical and effective. Thoughtful transitions tie parts together. The paper flows so smoothly, the reader hardly thinks about it.

Connections: The paper includes multiple references to EDUC 350 class experiences (specific text selections, class discussions, fieldwork observations, assignments, current events, etc.).

Voice: The writer of this paper speaks directly to the reader in a manner that is individual, compelling, engaging, and has personality.

Sentence Fluency: The writing has an easy flow. Sentences enhance the meaning. Sentences vary in length and structure. The piece has purposeful and varied sentence beginnings.

Conventions: The writer demonstrates a good grasp of standard writing conventions. Spelling is generally correct. Punctuation is accurate. Grammar and usage are correct. Paragraphing tends to be sound. The piece needs very little additional editing.

Schedule as of 06/01/09
Schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor

Date	Topic	Reading log due on prior Friday noon	Assignment
Jun 01 Session one	>Course intro >Why teach? Metaphor activity- What is an educator?	Read the field experience guidelines at http://www.csusm.edu/coe Click on the link for the Summer 2009 Syllabus at the right hand side of the COE web page. At the top of the syllabus page, you will find the experience guidelines under the text or pdf of "EDUC 350 Field Experience"	Access the WebCT course website at http://webct6.csusm.edu/
June 02		In addition to the reading for your log, read and be prepared to discuss the following: read program brochure of your choice at: http://www.csusm.edu/coe/Programs/index.html and the advising session information for at: http://www.csusm.edu/coe/advising/index.html click on "prospective students" to find the information links	DUE: Reading Log 1: GG ch. 6 DUE: Reading Log 2: GG ch. 10
Jun 03 Session two	>The teaching profession >Tchr & Stdnt rights & responsibilities	Share reading log 1 & log 2 with partners Obtain Nieto chpt reading	
June 07			DUE: Reading Log 3: VT ch. 1 & 2 DUE: Reading Log 4: Reaction to Nieto
Jun 08 Session three	>The lives and work of teachers >Inclusion	Share reading log 3 & log 4 with partners Fat City Video and Discussion Special education inclusion paper requirements	Current Events reports
June 09			DUE: Reading Log 5: GG ch. 1 & Goals of Education article on WebCT site
Jun 10 Session four	>Context of Education >Professional Ethics >Introduction to Philosophy	Share reading log 5 with partner Ethics role play activity Form "Issues in Ed" groups In group process- The elements of your teaching philosophy. Make sure you bring a copy of the syllabus to class.	Current events reports (Please note the large amount of reading for next week)
June 14			DUE: Reading Log 6: GG ch. 8

Jun 15 Session five	> Teacher Interview >Philosophical perspectives	Share reading log 6 with partner In class teacher interview: Guest Educator(s) “Issues in Ed” groups meet	Current Events reports (please note the large amount of reading due for June 17 session)
Jun 17* Session Six On-line	>School organization & finance >Effective Tchrs >Middle School	Work independently on log entries, special education inclusion paper and teacher interview assignment Peruse the National Middle School Association website, www.nmsa.org	DUE: Log 7, GG ch. 7 DUE: Log 8, GG ch. 11 DUE: Log 9, GG ch. 2
June 21			DUE: Log 10: GG ch. 9 & ch. 4
Jun 22 Session Seven	>Ed governance & curriculum >Diversity issues & the second language student Philosophy paper workshop	Share Log 10 with partner California TPA overview and discussion “Issues in Ed” Groups meet Philosophy Paper workshop Come to class with three rough drafts of your philosophy paper to work on in class. You will work in groups of three. A framework for evaluating your papers will be given in class. For this class session you are to work on your philosophy paper.	Bring three (3) copies of your philosophy paper rough draft to class DUE: Special education inclusion assignment on WebCT
Jun 24* Session Eight On-line	>The nature of schooling >Effective Teaching	In the discussion board of WebCt answer all four questions posted on the blog, submit your Teacher Interview assignment and also, work on completing your observation write ups.	DUE: WebCT Discussion DUE: Interview of Tchrs on WebCT
Jun 29	Presentations		DUE: Issue in Ed Presentations
Jul 01	Presentations		DUE: Issue In Ed Presentations
Jul 06			DUE: Classroom Observation Reports on WebCT DUE: Philosophy paper on WebCT
	Notes:	*This is a hybrid class; two of your class sessions will be conducted on line. Is it your responsibility to complete the work assigned during a given class session. You will be graded for content and for participation in these required activities of class. Moreover, failure to turn in all work will also count as an absence from class and will affect your participation grade.	