

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

EDMI 543 - Middle Level Mathematics Education

CRN 40047, Fall 2008

Meeting time varies (see course schedule)

Woodland Park Middle School, San Marcos

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College of Education Mission Statement

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 ongoing service. Our practices demonstrate a commitment to student-centered education, diversity, collaboration, professionalism, and shared governance. (Adopted by the COE Governance Community October, 1997)

Course Description and Objectives

EDMI 543 focuses on developing an understanding of theory, methodology, and assessment of mathematics in integrated and inclusive elementary and middle level classrooms. This course is aligned with the California's SB 2042 Standards.

In this course, we will reflect on what it means to teach mathematics and explore curriculum development, methods, techniques, materials, planning, organization, and assessment in various middle school curricula. Socio-political issues in mathematics education and methods of cross-culture language and academic development will also be integrated into the course. Learning to teach mathematics well is challenging and, therefore, this course will only begin your education in learning how to teach mathematics. This course is but one stage in the process of becoming a mathematics teacher.

We are expected to: (a) deepen our understanding of the mathematics taught at the middle school level, including such topics as fractions, proportions, statistics, probability, geometry, and algebra, (b) develop an understanding of the current issues and practices in mathematics education, (c) develop a familiarity with the NCTM and California learning standards, (d) develop an understanding of children's content specific thinking or the psychology of mathematical learning, (e) learn to teach content specific concepts using effective and appropriate strategies, including the educational use of technology, (f) practice how to teach for mathematical understanding, and (g) develop strategies to create a classroom environment that promotes the investigation and growth of mathematical ideas and to ensure the success of all students in multi-cultural settings.

Course Prerequisites

- Admission to the Middle Level Credential Program
- Commitment to help children understand and do mathematics

Required Materials

- Van de Walle, J. A. (2007). *Elementary and middle school mathematics: Teaching developmentally* (6th Ed.). Boston: Pearson Education, Inc.
- California Department of Education (2005). *Mathematics framework for California public schools: Kindergarten through grade twelve*. Sacramento, CA: Author. This document can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ma/cf/index.asp>.
- Several other readings may be required and will be available for download.

Recommended Materials

- Driscoll, M. (1999). *Fostering algebraic thinking: A guide for teachers grades 6-10*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.
- Driscoll, M. (2007). *Fostering geometric thinking: A guide for teachers grades 5-10*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.
- Lampert, M. (2001). *Teaching problems and the problems of teaching*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (2000). *Principles and standards for school mathematics*. Reston, VA: Author. An overview of this document can be found at <http://standards.nctm.org/> (NCTM members have full access)
- STAR Test Blueprints for Standards Items: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/blueprints.asp>

Authorization to Teach English Language Learners

The CSUSM credential program has 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 SB2042 Program Standards, August 2002)

Teacher Performance Expectation (TPE) Competencies

The course objectives, assignments, and assessments have been aligned with the CTC standards for Multiple Subject Credential. This course is designed to help teachers seeking a California teaching credential to develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to assist schools and district in implementing effective programs for all students. The successful candidate will be able to merge theory and practice in order to realize a comprehensive and extensive educational program for all students.

California Teacher Performance Assessment (CalTPA)

Beginning July 1, 2008 all California credential candidates must successfully complete a state-approved system of teacher performance assessment (TPA), to be embedded in the credential program of preparation. At CSUSM this assessment system is called the CalTPA or the TPA for short.

To assist your successful completion of the TPA, a series of informational seminars are offered over the course of the program. TPA related questions and logistical concerns are to be addressed during the seminars. Your attendance to TPA seminars will greatly contribute to your success on the assessment.

Additionally, COE classes use common pedagogical language, lesson plans (lesson designs), and unit plans (unit designs) in order to support and ensure your success on the TPA and more importantly in your credential program.

The CalTPA Candidate Handbook, TPA seminar schedule, and other TPA support materials can be found on the COE website provided at the website provided:
<http://lynx.csusm.edu/coe/CalTPA/CalTPAdocuments.asp>

Requirements

Participation and Professionalism (10 points) – You are expected to actively participate in discussions, group work, presentations, and hands-on activities throughout the course. A positive professional disposition includes a willingness to consider and discuss new ideas objectively, curiosity, perseverance, and seriousness about improving one's self as a teacher. It can also include a sense of humor and social intelligence (e.g., the tact and ability to make others feel comfortable and to contribute).

Reflection Papers (30 points) – You need to write six reflection papers. The first paper consists of questions about your prior experience with mathematics. The other five papers are your reflections on class readings and pressing issues in mathematics education. You are encouraged to make connections with your teaching/learning experience and your field experience (e.g., your observation of elementary school classroom activities). You can also raise questions for discussion and/or discuss how you might

specifically apply what you learned from the articles as a teacher in the classroom. Do not repeat verbatim from the readings.

Student Interviews (20 points) – You need to conduct two interviews to assess students' understanding of mathematics. Sample interview questions are provided, but you are encouraged to use your own invention. You need to choose two mathematical topics from the following five areas: (1) fractions, (2) rational numbers, (3) measurement & geometry, (4) data analysis & probability, and (5) algebra. For each student interview, you will pose mathematical problems to any one student at a predetermined grade level. The purpose is to get you to begin thinking about students' mathematical understanding, to learn how to effectively pose questions and interpret the meaning of students' responses, and to provide you with an opportunity to interact with students. For each interview, you need to submit a 3-page report. Please also include the child's written work (if available). You can work with a peer in the interviewing process, but each needs to write his/her own report. In addition, you may need to share/present your interview findings in class.

Mathematics Lesson Plan (30 points). Working in small groups of 3-4 members, your team will design one single lesson (approximately 40 minutes) that you will present in a middle school mathematics class. A draft of the lesson should be submitted for review before the lesson is taught to students. The write-up of the lesson is worth 25 points, and a reflection on its implementation is worth 5 points. Your teaching performance will not affect your grade. Refer to the lesson plan grading rubric.

Small Group Mathematics Learning Activity (10 points). The class will form groups of 4-5 members, and each group will be assigned one of the following areas in the middle school curriculum: (a) fractions, (b) rational numbers, (c) measurement & geometry, (d) data analysis & probability, and (e) algebra. Each group member needs to design a 10-minute learning activity in the assigned area and to conduct the activity in a small group setting in the EDM 543 class. In addition, you need to write a detailed description of the learning activity and provide teaching tips. Post your activity on the class WebCT, where a collection of 24 learning activities will be available for your future teaching.

Detailed information about the assignments will be given in class. You need to submit the assignments (except children's work) at the course WebCT. You are responsible for ensuring that assignments are submitted correctly and on time. Late assignments will receive a reduction in points unless *prior arrangements* have been made with the instructor.

The grade on a late assignment will be deducted 1 point per day unless *prior arrangements* have been made with the instructor.

Grading Scale

Grades will be based on the following grading scale:

A = 93% - 100%	A- = 90% - 92%	B+ = 87% - 89%	B = 83% - 86%
B- = 80% - 82%	C+ = 77% - 79%	C = 73% - 76%	C- = 70% - 72%
D = 60% - 69%	F = below 60		

CSUSM Writing Requirement

The CSUSM writing requirement of 2500 words is met through the completion of course assignments. Therefore, all writing will be looked at for content, organization, grammar, spelling, and format.

Students with Disabilities Requiring Reasonable Accommodations

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations must be approved for services by providing appropriate and recent documentation to the Office of Disable Student Services (DSS). This office is located in Craven Hall 5205, and 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.

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.

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. At a minimum, students must attend more than 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 the student have extenuating circumstances, s/he should contact the instructor as soon as possible. *(Adopted by the COE Governance Community, December, 1997).*

If you miss two sessions, you will not receive a grade of A. If you miss three sessions, your highest possible grade is a B. If you miss four sessions, your highest possible grade is a C+. If you miss more than four sessions, you will receive a grade lower than a C+, which is considered to be unsatisfactory in a credential program. Please discuss with me any extenuating circumstances that will cause you to miss class *prior* to your absence. Attendance will be taken at each class session.

Tentative Schedule

Please note that modifications may occur at the discretion of the instructor.

Date	Session/Topics	Assignment to be completed BEFORE Class Session
9/2/08 AM	1. (a) Course introduction (b) Building a mathematics learning community	
9/4/08 AM	2. (a) Developing understanding in mathematics (b) Literacy in mathematics learning	Van de Walle ch 3, 4 Article 1: <i>Relational understanding</i> Reflection #1 (math experience) Due
9/9/08 PM	3. (a) Negative integers (b) Fractions I	Van de Walle ch 5, 16 Fractions Interview Due*
9/10/08 PM	4. Fractions II (math activities: group 1 presentation**)	Van de Walle ch 6, 17 Reflection #2 (ch 16-17) Due
9/15/08 AM	5. Rational numbers: Decimals, percents	Van de Walle ch 18 Rational Numbers Interview Due*
9/18/08 PM	6. Proportional reasoning (math activities: group 2 presentation**)	Van de Walle ch 19 Reflection #3 (ch 18-19) Due
9/24/08 PM	7. Geometry (math activities: group 3 presentation**)	Van de Walle ch 21 Mea/Geo Interview Due* Reflection #4 (ch 21) Due
9/25/08 PM	8. Algebra I (math activities: group 4 presentation**)	Van de Walle 15
9/30/08 AM & PM	9. Technology: Geometer's Sketchpad (GSP) 10. Technology: Spreadsheets	Article 2: <i>Interactive geometry software</i> Article 3: <i>Spreadsheets</i> Data Analysis/prob Interview Due* Draft Lesson Plan Due
10/8/08 AM & PM	11. Algebra II 12. Team teaching	Reflection #5 (ch 15) Due Lesson Plan Due on Oct. 10
10/14/08 AM & PM	13. Algebra III (math activities: group 5 presentation**) 14. The role of affect in math education	Algebra Interview Due*
10/15/08 PM	15. (a) Socio-political issues (b) Wrap-up	Reflection #6 (Culture) Due

* You just need to choose two of these five topics for student interviews. The due dates vary. For example, if you choose to do an interview on fractions, then your paper is due on 9/10. If you want to do an interview on algebra, then your paper is due on 10/14.

** Presentation of *small group mathematics learning activities*. After the presentation, you should submit this assignment within a week. For example, if you present an activity on fractions on 9/10, the description and teaching tips are due on 9/17.

SB 2042 - AUTHORIZATION TO TEACH ENGLISH LEARNERS COMPETENCIES

PART 1: LANGUAGE STRUCTURE AND FIRST- AND SECOND-LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT	PART 2: METHODOLOGY OF BILINGUAL, ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT, AND CONTENT INSTRUCTION	PART 3: CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY
I. Language Structure and Use: Universals and Differences (including the structure of English)	I. Theories and Methods of Bilingual Education	I. The Nature of Culture
A. The sound systems of language (phonology)	A. Foundations	A. Definitions of culture
B. Word formation (morphology)	B. Organizational models: What works for whom?	B. Perceptions of culture
C. Syntax	C. Instructional strategies	C. Intra-group differences (e.g., ethnicity, race, generations, and micro-cultures)
D. Word meaning (semantics)	II. Theories and Methods for Instruction In and Through English	D. Physical geography and its effects on culture
E. Language in context	A. Teacher delivery for <u>both</u> English language development <u>and</u> content instruction	E. Cultural congruence
F. Written discourse	B. Approaches with a focus on English language development	II. Manifestations of Culture: Learning About Students
G. Oral discourse	C. Approaches with a focus on content area instruction (specially designed academic instruction delivered in English)	A. What teachers should learn about their students
H. Nonverbal communication	D. Working with paraprofessionals	B. How teachers can learn about their students
I. Language Change		C. How teachers can use what they learn about their students (culturally responsive pedagogy)
II. Theories and Factors in First- and Second-Language Development	III. Language and Content Area Assessment	III. Cultural Contact
A. Historical and current theories and models of language analysis that have implications for second-language development and pedagogy	A. Purpose	A. Concepts of cultural contact
B. Psychological factors affecting first- and second-language development	B. Methods	B. Stages of individual cultural contact
C. Socio-cultural factors affecting first- and second-language development	C. State mandates	C. The dynamics of prejudice
D. Pedagogical factors affecting first- and second-language development	D. Limitations of assessment	D. Strategies for conflict resolution
E. Political factors affecting first- and second-language development	E. Technical concepts	IV. Cultural Diversity in U.S. and CA
		A. Historical perspectives
		B. Demography
		C. Migration and immigration