

## **CURRENT ISSUES-MATH**

### **EDST 623A - Fall 2005**

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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.

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

In this course we will discuss current issues in math education at the K-12 level. The issues to be discussed, and the format for discussion, will be determined by the students in the class during the first class meeting.

#### **PROFESSIONALISM:**

As a professional in the field of education, you need to take seriously your responsibility for learning and helping others learn in this class. As a professional, you should:

- attend all classes
- arrive on time and remain for the entire period
- be prepared for each class by having thoughtfully completed all readings and assignments
- keep me informed of any extenuating circumstances in your life that may hinder your ability to succeed in this course
- remain on task during class sessions
- respect others' opinions in the class
- be curious about ideas different than your own

Since it is expected that everyone will act professionally in all class sessions, final grades will be lowered up to and including 10% for an unprofessional attitude or behavior (including lack of or inappropriate participation). Arriving late, leaving early, or skipping classes will be interpreted as lack of participation (please also see COE Attendance Policy below)

I take very seriously the idea that our class is a community of learners. It is important that everyone feels both encouraged to participate and a responsibility to participate. All ideas are welcome including those that are different than my ideas and those of the majority of the class. Only through explorations of multiple perspectives will we be able to really address the complex issues of teaching and learning mathematics.

#### **COE ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Due to the dynamic and interactive nature of course in the COE, 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. If you miss two class sessions or are late (or leave early) more than three sessions, you cannot receive a grade of "A". If you miss three class sessions, your highest

possible grade is a "C+". Should you have extenuating circumstances, contact the instructor as soon as possible. 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.

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

There are three required assignments: group project and presentation, in-depth paper about one of the topics discussed in class, and weekly participation in the topic discussions. Each assignment is worth 1/3 of the course grade.

**GRADING SCALE:**

Grades will be based on the following grading scale:

A.....	90 -100%
B.....	80 - 89%
C.....	70 - 79%
D.....	60 - 69%
F.....	Below 60%

**PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Please be sure to read and understand the university policy on plagiarism and cheating as it will be strictly enforced. Academic dishonestly will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade for this course and will be reported to the University.

**DATE**                      **TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION**

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**Session #1 (8/31)**

**COURSE INTRODUCTIONS AND PLANNING**

**Session #2 (9/7)**

**CONCEPTUAL AND PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE, PROBLEM SOLVING**

**Session #3 (9/14)**

**TEACHING ALGEBRA CONCEPTUALLY**

**Session #4 (9/21)**

**TEACH IT ALL, BALANCED APPROACH**

**Session #5 (9/28)**

**ENABLING SKILLS, UNIT APPROACH**

**Session #6 (10/5)**

**RESEARCH ABOUT EFFECTIVE CLASSROOM PRACTICE**

**Session #7 (10/12)**

**MANIPULATIVE LESSONS**

**Session #8 (10/19)**

**TECHNOLOGY**

**Session #9 (10/26)**

**COURSE DESIGN, STUDENT PLACEMENT**

**Session #10 (11/2)**

**ASSESSMENT/ GRADING**

**Session #11 (11/9)**

**INSTRUCTION WITH ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS**

**Session #12 (11/16)**

**GROUP PROJECT WORK**

**Session #13 (11/23)**

**GROUP WORK**

**Session #14 (11/30)**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Session #15 (12/7)**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Session #16 (12/14)**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**\* Individual papers DUE TODAY**