MEDUC 6290 - Current Issues, Topics and Practices in Education

Session Descriptions

Monday AM Educational Psychology - Jack Rasmussen

This session is intended to review and expand students' knowledge concerning current educational thought and research pertaining to the psychology of learning, teaching models, and instructional approaches for creating learning environments. The session will provide a systematic exploration of interaction among educational purposes, pedagogical strategies, curricular designs and social and psychological theory.

Monday PM Current Laws, Issues, & Ethics – Kristin Hadley

This session will be a focus on current federal and state laws that are impacting education k-12 and the issues associated with them.

Tuesday AM Diversity/ESL – Peggy Saunders

Schools today are more diverse. This session will help teachers recognize the many aspects of multicultural education and it effects on the classroom. You will also learn several teaching strategies that will help all of your students especially those who speak English as a Second Language (ESL)

Tuesday PM Classroom Management I – Marilyn Lofgreen

This session will review concepts and strategies for classroom management to help manage the challenges that exist in today's diverse classroom settings.

Wednesday AM Special Education – Melina Alexander

This session will be an update on special education law and practice as it relates to educators in the general classroom. We will discuss the responsibilities of general educators under NCLB and IDEA and methods for including students with special needs in the general classroom.

Wednesday PM Accountability & Assessment- Penee Stewart

This session will review basic concepts of assessment including purposes of classroom and large-scale assessment, alignment with objectives, types of assessment, and the current issues of accountability.

Thursday AM Literacy– Judy Mitchell

This session will briefly explore the primary language arts (listening, speaking, reading, writing), individually and as integrated elements that make up the complex process of communication. Although Language Arts is considered a content area in the elementary education curriculum, it should be considered primarily as the tools we use in teaching and learning. The course will examine the knowledge a teacher must have in this area, particularly in teaching reading and writing.

Thursday PM Differentiation – Melina Alexander

This session will address methods for meeting the needs of diverse students. We will discuss Universal Design for Learning and other methods for ensuring that the curriculum is accessible to all students

Friday AM Classroom Management II - Peggy Saunders

It is said that over 80% of communication is non-verbal. In this classroom management session, we will focus on ENVoY—Educator's Non-Verbal Yardsticks. You will learn many useful, easy techniques to manage your classroom without using your voice, thus, saving your voice for the most important part of your school day, instruction.

Friday PM Assessment II – Penee Stewart

This session will expand on the concepts reviewed in Assessment and Accountability, and will also include issues of scoring, decision-making (grading), and strategies for developing assessments for use in the classroom. We will also explore sources of assessment items, how to critique items, and how to write assessments.

Saturday AM Technology in the Classroom I - Vicki Napper (Room 303)

Overview of copyright/fair use in educational sessions, Review of Federal laws (FERPA and electronic records, CIPPA, COPPA), Introduction to Interactive whiteboard technologies (tools)

Saturday PM Technology II – Vicki Napper (Room 303)

Creating a simple lesson using Interactive Whiteboard technology sofware (SmartBoard Notebook).