

EDU 501 Seminar for the Reflective Teacher

This course focuses on what it means to be a teacher. Students will explore research, popular stereotypes, and educational demands that will help reflect on the process of teaching. Students will define for themselves why they teach and how to enhance their practice to align to their view of the role of teacher. Themes addressing teaching as talent developer, molder of character, inspiration for lifelong learning, and provider of knowledge will provide the focus of the course. Each theme will be introduced through film with accompanying readings surrounding the research in that area.

EDU 534 The Holistic Curriculum: Teaching to Both Sides of the Brain

This course presents strategies for promoting emotional literacy in schools. Research in brain-based learning for emotional health and creating a curriculum that teaches emotional competency will be explored. Course topics include emotional intelligence and the five characteristics and abilities: self-awareness, mood management, self-motivation, empathy and managing relationships.

EDU 604 Instructional Strategies for More Effective Teaching

This course is designed to provide teaching strategies useful in helping children meet learning standards. Because better teaching increases the probability of better learning, this course will focus on the improvement of lesson design and instruction through informed decision-making and attention to the many ways children learn. Teachers will explore instructional strategies and models that promote higher level thinking and problem solving in their students.

EDL 607 Site-Based Leadership

This course is designed to develop and present leadership strategies for promoting leadership, to encourage planned change, and manage unplanned change. Topics include shared decision making and developing further understanding of school characteristics and perceptions. Leaders will learn to manage by measurement using data-driven decision making. Well known organizational development strategies and leadership skills that are needed to effect desired change in school communities will be presented, explored and expanded. Skills for creating a climate to promote and encourage the development of leaders will be developed.

SPF 611 Evaluation in Education

This course surveys assessment strategies that have proved to be successful in measuring student learning. How to provide both formative and summative feedback is a major focus. Course participants will design a series of assessments that align to curricular outcomes for both content and skills across content areas.

EDL 640 Conflict Resolution and Peaceable Schools

Using film study and online resources provided by the instructor, the goal of this course is to present strategies for resolving conflict with a special focus on school context. Topics will focus attention to the foundations of peacemaking, emotional intelligence, teaching tolerance, and team building. The course relies heavily on “media” therapy to introduce powerful images of peaceable communities and sources of conflict. The course will present a model for incorporating peaceable schools curricula into the existing school programs.

SPF 689 Research Methods

This course focuses on a background of educational research; selection and development of research problems; sources of information and data; methods, tools, and techniques; collection, treatment, application, and interpretation of research data; organizing and writing a research report. This course must be taken after completing a minimum 12 hours of graduate-level coursework.

EDU 690 Masters Project

This course focuses on the production of a curriculum or research-based project in a topic of special interest to the student; project must be approved by the instructor prior to execution. The final product must follow APA guidelines in its written form. Oral presentation required. This course is taken after the successful completion of SPF 689 Research Methods.

*****Note that SPF 689 and EDU 690 must be taken in sequence in separate semesters. SPF 689 and EDU 690 are not offered during summer semesters.***