

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

EDUC 2783 Introduction to Educational Foundations

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Provides a historical and social perspective of education as well as an overview of the teaching profession in areas such as ethics, professionalism, policy, school law, school systems, individualized learning, and discipline specific pedagogy.

B. Additional Information

Organizing Theme (Conceptual Framework): *Professionals United to Ensure Continuous Learning and Success*. The educator is an instructional leader who uses reflective decision-making; focuses on best practices; and has a thorough knowledge of students, a strong content and pedagogical knowledge, a commitment to the profession, and a desire to be a continuous learner. This course serves as the entry level course for those students interested in teaching and education as a profession. It is designed to provide the student with the history of education, its evolution to modern times, and the positive and negative aspects of the teaching profession.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the requirements of the UAFS education program, and begin to develop an awareness of the knowledge base that supports current practice in teaching.
2. Explore various school settings from a social and historical perspective.
3. Identify the qualities and dispositions of effective teachers.
4. Describe the nature of US schools and the diverse population of students and issues they face.
5. Know the realities of the profession of teaching from a historical, social, cultural, and legal perspective.

6. Demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics of children and their developmental patterns
7. Develop skills in personal-professional reflective inquiry.
8. Decide to make a commitment to teach or pursue some other suitable career choice.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of law and ethics that affect education.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULO)

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Ethical Decision Making

Students will recognize and analyze ethical dilemmas, based on the ADE Code of Ethics. Students will apply ethical concepts and rules to determine viable alternatives in any given situation.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and demonstrate understanding or application of K6 education in a global environment. Students will reflect upon cultural and learning differences including socioeconomic, language, cultural, and special needs as well as neglected or abused children. Students will identify appropriate interventions to enhance learning in diverse environments.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. The roles and responsibilities of professional educators so that an informed career choice can be made.
- B. Content knowledge of the history of education, school structures, educational philosophies, social and political factors that impact schools, diversity of students, teaching models, basic lesson planning, etc.
- C. Standards based education (InTASC, CCSS, etc.)
- D. The impact of diversity, social justice and poverty on learning and teaching.
- E. The role of an effective teacher in planning, instruction, classroom management and assessment.
- F. The undergraduate requirements for teacher education majors.
- G. Knowledge of students, teachers, and curriculum in classrooms.
- H. Construction of classroom projects to demonstrate planning, assessment, classroom teaching strategies and management.
- I. Technology and the internet as educational tools.
- J. Law and ethics related to education.
- K. Utilization of resources in the field (ERIC, internet, etc.).