

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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Graduate Studies General Syllabus

EDFD 50343 Curriculum and Design

Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisites: Admission to the M.Ed. program

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Graduate Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Focuses on the principles of curriculum design. Draws from theories of child development, principles of learning, effective teaching methodology, cultural diversity and assessment. Emphasis placed on the application of student-centered design to classroom teaching.

B. Additional Information - NA

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Articulate and apply principles of various approaches to curriculum design based on knowledge of students, learning theory, content knowledge and community.
2. Design authentic materials and lessons that respond to specific learner needs.
3. Articulate a personal philosophy of curriculum design based on a theoretical foundation.
4. Develop methods to support critical thinking, problem solving and active learning for the K/12 student.

B. Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)

The M.Ed. program bases Program Learning Outcomes on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). The NBPTS establishes and upholds rigorous expectations for what expert teachers

should know and do. This graduate course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Commitment: Teachers believe that all students can learn and meet high expectations. Teachers are committed to all learners and are passionate about teaching. They develop relationships with students in a variety of educational settings. Teachers create learning experiences that differentiate instruction to meet the needs of all students. They understand their subjects and how to teach those subjects to students.

Responsibility: Teachers facilitate and supervise student learning. Teachers embrace a variety of methods to increase student success. They establish social norms within a variety of dynamic grouping options. They motivate and engage students while assessing student performance.

Systematic Thinking: Teachers critique their practices and learn from experience. Teachers evaluate their practices and expand their learning based on best practices, current research, evolving technologies, and student data.

Leadership: Teachers demonstrate leadership that fosters excellence, effectiveness, and collaboration with colleagues, families, and the community. Teachers approach their work with a team mentality. They collaborate with all stakeholders sharing vital information and planning a course of action that will improve the effectiveness of the school.

III. Major Graduate Course Topics

- A. Perspectives and theories of curriculum
- B. Concept based curriculum
- C. Constructivist curriculum components
- D. Project Based Learning
- E. Role of academic choices in the classroom
- F. Authentic formative assessment in the classroom