University Studies 1301 (Section 13051) – Fall 2018

From Freshman to First Year Teacher:
An Introduction to the Teaching Profession
Monday / Wednesday / Friday – 11:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.
Old Main – 201

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Office Hours: Online and MWF 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

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Course Description

Students in UNIV 1301 From Freshman to First Year Teacher: An Introduction to the Teaching Profession will examine historical and current trends in K-12 education. Additionally, students will explore and receive an insight into the teaching profession, the application, acceptance and completion processes of an educator preparation program as well as the certification requirements for new teachers in Texas. The course will also look at ethical and legal issues in the classroom and the role that the community plays in the daily life of a school. The course will initiate the development of a professional identity in the field of education by focusing on the enrichment of critical thinking, written and oral communication skills.

In this course, students will learn about the field of K-12 education, the differences across students and campuses, the art of teaching and the importance of professionalism in the field.
University 1301 Goals

Goal 1. Students will develop and apply elements of leadership through effective individual participation and meaningful team collaboration to empower them to be agents of change.

Goal 2. Students will examine the roles and responsibilities crucial for their success in college and beyond.

Goal 3. Students will identify, assess, and build on their strengths and experiences to develop academic and transitional strategies necessary for success in their academic, career, and life goals.

Goal 4. Students will engage in research and critical thinking activities that demonstrate their ability to effectively integrate their learning within, across, and beyond academic settings.

Goal 5. Students will engage in campus and community activities to increase their sense of academic and social belonging.

Students will be able to:

- Communicate information clearly and effectively using a variety of tools, media and genres (oral, written, iconographic) in varied contexts for a variety of purposes.

- Demonstrate strategic and adaptable thinking patterns in learning and working conditions.

- Apply analysis, synthesis, and evaluative processes that enable productive problem solving and decision-making to strengthen performance in university and workforce setting.

- Work independently and collaboratively to solve problems, accomplish goals, and build a network to create a supportive and positive learning/working environment.

- Reflect and assess their interests, abilities, responsibilities, cultural understanding, and ethics in order to more effectively pursue their academic, career and life goals.

- Use real world digital tools, research, and resources to access, evaluate, and apply information appropriate for authentic tasks.

Course Theme Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Have a sound understanding about the teaching profession through the analysis of historical trends and their implication on 21st century schooling.
• Evaluate, understand and summarize how learning differences manifest in schools and their impact on assessment and accountability.

• Communicate verbally and in writing, their thoughts about the challenges currently faced by K-12 teachers and students in their everyday campus life.

• Collaborate scholastically with peers and apply self-assessment and self-regulatory skills.

• Develop the critical thinking and analytical skills necessary to integrate course materials, current events, personal experiences and other varied information to form sound professional opinions and initiate the process of developing a professional identity.

Class Format

• Blackboard Platform Enhanced
• Facilitated Small and Large Group Discussions
• Multimedia/Multimodal Assignments
• Guest Speakers
• Interactive/Immersive Activities
• On Campus Filed Trips

Required Readings


The instructor may provide additional relevant readings in the Blackboard shell.

Additional Materials

Active email address, internet access, computer and active Blackboard account.

Paper or electronic calendar to plan required readings, assignments, exams and activities associated with all of your courses this semester.
Grading and Performance Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Course Assignments (3)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Reading Responses (8)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Borders Blog and Peer Reaction (10)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Campus Events (2)</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Research Presentation</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conference with Peer Leader Required</td>
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<td>End of Semester Survey Required</td>
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A grade of “C” or better is required to satisfy the core curriculum requirement for this course.

Assignments

Instructions for all assignments and submission of artifacts is located in Blackboard. All work for the course must be submitted through Blackboard, no paper based responses will be accepted. This syllabus is only an overview of the course; students are strongly encouraged to save copies of all coursework submissions outside of Blackboard (i.e. UTEP OneDrive).

**Course Assignments:** Students will write three small essays (2-3 pages) on specific topics. Full assignment instructions and due dates will be provided by instructor and listed in Blackboard.

**Response to Readings:** Students will write eight 200-300 word structured response analysis to chapter readings using guide questions provided by instructor. Full assignment instructions and due dates will be provided by instructor and listed in Blackboard.

**Borders Postings [BP] Blog:** Students will submit ten 100-150 word postings based on the readings and classroom discussions of Borders: Crossing into your future. Additionally, they must react to at least one of their peer blogs. Full assignment instructions and due dates will be provided by instructor and listed in Blackboard.

**Final Group Project:** This is a team research project. The team will construct their response in a research paper format (5-8 pages). Full assignment instructions and due date will be provided by instructor and listed in Blackboard.

**Attend 2 Campus Events:** As part of their integration to the UTEP community, students must attend and write a short reaction piece to 2 UTEP campus events. Full assignment instructions and due dates will be provided by instructor and listed in Blackboard.

**Research Presentation:** Teams will present their research paper to the class in a 15 minute technology enhanced presentation. Full assignment instructions and due date will be provided by instructor and listed in Blackboard.

**Document Peer Leader Conference Period:** Students will answer a small survey in reaction to the conference period with their peer advisor. Full assignment instructions and due date will be provided by instructor and listed in Blackboard.
**End of Semester Survey (Required):** You will be receiving an invitation to complete the ESP Student Feedback Survey online in Week 13 of the semester. This is a required assignment. IT will notify me when you have completed the survey, but will not show me your responses. It’s completion will be noted on your course record and count as part of the course grade.

**Resources**

**Academic Writing:**
For help with writing any assignments for this course, please visit the University Writing Center located in the UTEP library Room 227, http://academics.utep.edu/writingcenter, (915) 747-5486.

**Research:**
UTEP librarians are here to help you so please visit them for assistance if you should need it.

**Computer Labs:**
There are several computer labs on campus that you may use to access the course materials, complete assignments, print readings, directions, and assignments, as well as communicate with your peers and the instructor via the Blackboard course shell. Please call the main UTEP number at 747-5000 for information on lab locations and hours. Using the computer labs on campus and the class Blackboard shell allows you to complete and submit all work on time and keep up to date with course communications.

**Policies and Other Important Information**

**Due Dates:**
All assignments are due on the date and time indicated in Blackboard, **no late assignments will be accepted**. All assignments must be submitted through Blackboard. In case of an emergency, the professor must be contacted as early as possible to make necessary arrangements. If absence is due to an official UTEP team/group activity, with advance notification and supporting documentation from the coordinating department, arrangements must be made to submit all scheduled work prior to the scheduled absence. Again, no late assignments will be accepted.

**1.2.2.1 Scholastic Dishonesty [From the Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs]**

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

**Plagiarism [From the Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs]:**

Plagiarism means the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one's own academic work offered for credit, or using work in a paper or assignment for which the student had received credit in another course without direct permission of all involved instructors.
Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend and actively participate on each class period. This syllabus only provides a general listing of course assignments. Additional details and due date changes, which enables students to succeed in this class, will typically be given verbally during class. Missing instructions or due dates due to absences is not an excuse and may cause the student to not fully understand assignment requirements.

Drop Policy:

The instructor reserves the right to drop a student for lack of attendance [more than four unexcused absences total], the instructor reserves the right to drop a student for lack of attendance and participation, or a lack of scholastic progress. If at any time a student decides to drop the course, it is the student’s responsibility to do so. If you drop before the UTEP drop deadline, you will receive a “W”. If you drop on your own or are dropped by the instructor after the drop deadline, you will receive a grade of “F.”

Online Policies for Blackboard:

- You are required to check Blackboard daily for messages, updates and assignments.
- Provided respect and courtesy to fellow classmates and the instructor at all times, in all contexts. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- Be professional and respectful of your peer’s views and ideas.
- When reacting to someone else's message, address and focus on the ideas presented, not the person who posted them.
- Be careful when using sarcasm and humor. With online communications, a joke is easily construed as criticism.

Classroom Courtesy:

Students are expected to be on time and stay in class for the duration of the class period as a courtesy to the instructor and other students. Students must conduct themselves in a considerate manner, which includes not talking over the instructor or other students. The use of electronic devices is restricted to activities directly linked to the course.

1.1 Student Conduct: [From the Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs]

All students are expected and required to obey federal, state, and local laws, to comply with the Regents' Rules and Regulations, with The University of Texas System and University rules and regulations, with directives issued by an administrative official of the U.T. System or The University of Texas at El Paso in the course of his or her authorized duties, and to observe standards of conduct appropriate for an academic institution.

Students with Disabilities Policy:

If you have or suspect a disability and need an accommodation, you should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 747-5148 or at cass@utep.edu or go to Room 106 Union East Building.
Equity Statement:
All persons, regardless of gender, age, class, race, religion, physical disability, sexual orientation, etc., shall have equal opportunity without harassment in this course. This includes inappropriate comments about the above mentioned in class or in confidence. Any problems with or questions about harassment can be discussed confidentially with your instructor.

Syllabus Change Policy:
Except for changes that substantially affect the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus and the course calendar is a guide for the course and is subject to changes.

Copyright Policy:
Some of the materials in this course are copyrighted. Violation of US copyright law can result in civil damages up to $100,000 for each work copied. Copying of textbooks is not “fair use” under the Copyright Act. The “fair use doctrine” only permits non-commercial copying of part (in general, not more than 10%) of a copyrighted work. Do not bring a copied textbook to this class, your cooperation is expected. Presentation material including music, images, and video may also be subject to copyright laws. For the purposes of this course, only use material that you have express permission to use (or is considered fair use). You can view a guideline for fair use from the UT system at http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copypol2.htm