I. Course Description

This three credit hour course is an extension and elaboration of EDCI 797a and EDIT 797b / 797c and is designed to further student mastery of advanced web-page design strategies. Attention will be paid to extending student knowledge about web page layout and design considerations and web page production. Prior knowledge related to graphic selection, design, and production will be furthered during this course. These concepts will be used to frame activities that promote the production of virtual high school courses.

II. Methodology

The course is structured around readings, reflections on those readings, class demonstrations and discussions, and practical application of the tools and design concepts. The course is designed to develop an understanding of appropriate web page/site design and the use of graphics in communication.

III. Objectives

As a result of this course, participants will be able to:

1. choose appropriate design techniques for the production of web pages/sites for the Virtual High School project.
2. select and utilize appropriate web page/site tools to create and manage web pages and sites;
3. describe the appropriate use of graphics in web page design
4. create original web pages/sites appropriate for the learning environment;
5. design web pages/sites that are in compliance with access guidelines for all users;
6. incorporate appropriate graphics in the development of web pages.

IV. Course Materials

1. Students are expected to obtain and bring to class appropriate materials and supplies to include 3.5” disks or 100 Mb Zip disks and note taking materials.
2. Students must have an email account (GMU provides free to students) and regular, systematic, easy access to both telecommunications and a computer.

V. Course Requirements
1. Attendance in class is mandatory, as discussions, lectures, and hands-on activities are important parts of the course.
2. Each student is expected to complete all readings and participate in all discussions.
3. Each student is expected to participate in and complete all classroom projects.
4. Students who miss a class are responsible for notifying the instructor (preferably in advance) and for completing any assignments, readings, projects, etc. before the start of the next class.
5. All written assignments must be completed on a word processor. Assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of class on the date due. Late assignments will not be accepted without making prior arrangements with the instructor.

VI. Course Assignments

1. Online Portfolio: Students will be expected to add a new section in their portfolios related to this course. This portfolio should be completed by the end of the course.

2. Design and Development of Course documents: Design and development of web-based curriculum and materials associated with five high school course modules.

3. Class Participation: The class depends heavily on class participation and completion of in-class activities. Points will be awarded for participation and completion of these activities.

VII. Evaluation

Since this is a graduate level course, high quality work is expected on all assignments and in class. Points for all graded assignments (see section 6) will be based on the scope, quality, and creativity of the assignments. All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late assignments will not be accepted without making arrangements with the instructor.

Points will be assigned to all graded assignments using a rubric process. Both class participants and the course instructor will be involved in assessment of graded assignments. Prior to the due date for any assignment, the class will participate in the development of an assessment rubric. This rubric will result from a discussion of applicable course objectives and an elaboration of qualities and components associated with excellence in completion of the assignment.

When assignments are presented on the designated due date, class participants and the instructor will complete an assessment of the assignment using the rubric created in class. Class participants’ ratings on the rubric will be averaged. Then the class participants’ average will be averaged with the instructor’s ratings on the rubric to compute a final point value for assignments. In this way, the development of the rubric will inform the final completion of the assignments as well as serve as the instrument for assessment and determination of points awarded.