

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY**

**EDIT 790 (a)
Practicum in Instructional Technology
Fall 2010
Wednesday 4:30 – 7:10 pm**

PROFESSOR(S):

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

A. Prerequisites – None

Course description from the University Catalog: Integrates research strategies with reflective practice and robust, systematic, and semester long practice. During this field experience students systematically implement two lesson designs and conduct ongoing summative and formative evaluation of that plan. In addition, students write a comprehensive summary of the plan, the evaluation, and overall outcomes.

B. NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY

The course is structured around robust field experiences with the guidance of accomplished teachers, faculty, and site-based technology leaders. Thus, the primary methodologies of the course are threefold. First, students engage in robust and sustained teaching and leadership activities. Second, students engage in dynamic and frequent interactions with colleagues, faculty, and site based technology leaders concerning practice. Third, students present to colleagues, faculty, and site based technology leaders about their experiences and about lessons learned from those experiences. Because the primary activities of this course take place in the student's place of employment, the class is predominantly conducted through discussion board (Blackboard) conversations with the instructor and classmates for the first eight weeks and the submission, review, and revision of written documents exchanged electronically throughout.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

This course is designed to enable students to:

1. describe the purposes and processes associated with action research.
2. understand the differences between action research and more traditional approaches to research.

3. examine quantitative and qualitative methodologies for summarizing and presenting evidence related to student learning
4. examine strategies for using evidence to learn from, modify, and or reject educational practices,
5. write coherent, evidence-based analyses of teaching practice,
6. plan, design, and model effective learning environments and multiple experiences supported by technology
7. implement curriculum plans that include methods and strategies for utilizing technology to maximize student learning
8. facilitate a variety of effective assessment and evaluation strategies
9. share and reflect upon the impacts of teaching and learning with technology with peers, faculty, and site based technology leaders
10. evaluate and reflect on professional practice, making informed decisions regarding the use of technology in support of student learning

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Integration of Technology in Schools Program (IITS) is guided by the International Society for Technology Education's National Educational Technology Standards for Teachers (NETS for Teachers). These standards are addressed iteratively throughout the 36 credit hour program of which this course is a required component. The NETS for Teachers can be accessed at http://www.iste.org/Content/NavigationMenu/NETS/ForTeachers/2008Standards/NETS_for_Teachers_2008.htm, and a printed version is distributed during the first class of the semester. The NETS for Technology Leaders are added to the professional standards during the final 12 credit hours of the program – again addressed iteratively throughout course assignments, activities, and topics.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. Articles distributed in class

COURSE REQUIREMENTS, PERFORMANCE-BASED ASSESSMENT, AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

A. Requirements –

1. Implementation of Two Lesson Designs: Students will choose two lesson plans they have designed previously in their coursework or two they create and implement those two plans, managing all site-based and classroom facets that impact effective instruction. Students will be supported by faculty and site-based technology leaders.
2. Implementation of Two Action Research Plan: Students will design a comprehensive assessment plan for their two lesson designs and implement that assessment plan as they teach their two lessons. Students will prepare a written assessment and reflection for each of the lesson designs using guidelines provided in class. The written assessment and reflection will be prepared as a web page and associated with students' online portfolio. Students will be supported by faculty and site-based

technology leaders. Guidelines for writing the action research papers will be provided in class.

B. Performance-Based Assessments - This course includes two performance-based assessments. After implementing each of two lesson plans in their teaching context, students will write an evidence-based action research paper, presenting both quantitative and qualitative data, samples of student work, and a comprehensive analysis of data with reflections for improving practice. The two action research papers constitute the performance-based assessments for this course.

C. Criteria for evaluation - Assessment of each performance assessment is guided by a rubric. The rubrics will be distributed in class.

D. Grading Scale

| Requirements | Percentage |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Implementation of Lesson Plan One | 15% |
| Implementation of Lesson Plan One | 15% |
| Action Research Paper One | 35% |
| Action Research Paper One | 35% |

| Grade | Point Range |
|-------|-------------|
| A | 94-100 |
| A- | 90-93 |
| B+ | 86-89 |
| B | 80-85 |
| C | 70-79 |
| F | 69-below |

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS:

All students must abide by the following:

Students are expected to exhibit professional behavior and dispositions. See gse.gmu.edu for a listing of these dispositions.

Students must follow the guidelines of the University Honor Code. See http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/apolicies/#TOC_H12 for the full honor code.

Students must agree to abide by the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing. See <http://mail.gmu.edu> and click on Responsible Use of Computing at the bottom of the screen.

Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the GMU Disability Resource Center (DRC) and inform the instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester. See www.gmu.edu/student/drc or call 703-993-2474 to access the DRC.