

George Mason University
EDCI 553.A02: SCIENCE METHODS FOR THE ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM (3)
Summer 2013 MWF for SL Cohort

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Dates: May 20-June 21 on Monday/Wednesday/Friday (7:00 PM – 10:05 PM)
Location: Fairfax Campus, TH 2020
Audience: This course is only open to students in the PDS Semester-Long Internship program of Elementary Education who began the program in Summer 2012.

The College of Education & Human Development is committed to the following five values: collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles. <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>

I. Course Description

Develops skills and abilities in science teaching methods, applications of technology, safety practices, and creation of integrated science curricula. Examines science teaching based on contemporary theory, practice, and standards.

Prerequisite(s): Admission to elementary education licensure program.

Notes: Requires field experience in public schools.

II. Learning Outcomes

This course will enable students to:

- A. Further develop your content knowledge base in science and health through a hands-on, inquiry-based approach that includes investigative problem-solving
- B. Develop a series of interdisciplinary lesson plans utilizing a variety of science and health education materials and technology resources
- C. Predict safety issues when preparing for a hands-on classroom experience
- D. Collect a variety of materials for future use in your classroom via the course, field site, and community resources
- E. Examine science and health curricula and methods with respect to “Science for All” and standards documents at local, state, and national levels
- F. Develop an annotated bibliography of resources aligned with Virginia’s Science and Health Standards of Learning
- G. Develop an assessment tool for use in the science and health classroom

III. Relationship to Program Goals and Professional Organizations

INTASC:

#1. The teacher understands the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline he or she teaches and can create learning experiences that make these aspects of subject matter meaningful for students.

#2. The teacher understands how children learn and develop, and can provide learning opportunities that support a child’s intellectual, social, and personal development.

#3. The teacher understands how students differ in their approaches to learning and creates instructional opportunities that are adapted to diverse learners.

#4. The teacher understands and uses a variety of instructional strategies to encourage students’ development of critical thinking, problem solving, and performance skills.

#5. The teacher uses an understanding of individual and group motivation and behavior to create a learning environment that encourages positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

#6. The teacher uses an understanding of individual and group motivation and behavior to create a learning environment that encourages positive social interaction, active engagement, in learning, and self-motivation.

#7. The teacher plans instruction based upon knowledge of subject matter, students, the community and curriculum goals.

#8. The teacher understands and uses formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate and ensure the continuous intellectual, social and physical development of the learner.

#9. The teacher is a reflective practitioner who continually evaluates the effects of his or her choices and actions on others and who actively seeks out opportunities to grow professionally.

#10. The teacher fosters relationships with school colleagues, parents, and agencies in the larger community to support student's learning and well-being.

ACEI:

2.2 Science— Candidates know and understand fundamental concepts of physical, life, and earth/space sciences as delineated in the National Science Education Standards. Candidates can design and implement age-appropriate inquiry lessons to teach science, to build student understanding of personal and social applications, and to convey the nature of science. (INTASC #1 Subject Matter Knowledge)

2.6 Health education— Candidates know, understand, and use the major concepts in the subject matter of health education to create opportunities for student development and practice of skills that contribute to good health. (INTASC #1 Subject Matter Knowledge)

3.1 Integrating and applying knowledge for instruction— Candidates plan and implement instruction based on knowledge of students, learning theory, connection across the curriculum, curricular goals, and community. (INTASC #7 Planning)

3.4 Active engagement in learning— Candidates use their knowledge and understanding of individual and group motivation and behavior among students at the K-6 level to foster active engagement in learning, self- motivation, and positive social interaction and to create supportive learning environments. (INTASC #5 Management)

3.5 Communication to foster learning— Candidates use their knowledge and understanding of effective verbal, nonverbal, and media communication techniques to foster activity inquiry, collaboration, and supportive interaction in the elementary classroom. (INTASC #6 Communication)

5.2 Professional growth, reflection, and evaluation—Candidates are aware of and reflect on their practice in light of research on teaching, professional ethics, and resources available for professional learning; they continually evaluate the effects of their professional decisions and actions on students, families, and other professionals in the learning community and actively seek out opportunities to grow professionally. (INTASC #9 Reflection)

VA Health Education Standards of Learning:

Goal 1: Knowledge and Skills: Act with skill and reason to demonstrate an understanding of the concepts and behaviors that reduce health risks and enhance the health of self and others.

Goal 2: Information Access and Use: Demonstrate the ability to access, evaluate, and use health information, products and services that influence health and well-being in a positive manner.

Goal 3: Community Health and Wellness: Demonstrate the use of appropriate health practices and behaviors to promote a safe and healthy community when alone, with family, at school, and in other group settings.

Technology (ISTE NETS):

I. Teachers use their knowledge of subject matter, teaching and learning, and technology to facilitate experiences that advance student learning, creativity, and innovation in both face-to-face and virtual environments.

II. Teachers design, develop, and evaluate authentic learning experiences and assessments incorporating contemporary tools and resources to maximize content learning in context and to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes identified in the NETS•S.

III. Teachers exhibit knowledge, skills, and work processes representative of an innovative professional in a global and digital society.

IV. Teachers understand local and global societal issues and responsibilities in an evolving digital culture and exhibit legal and ethical behavior in their professional practices.

V. Teachers continuously improve their professional practice, model lifelong learning, and exhibit leadership in their school and professional community by promoting and demonstrating the effective use of digital tools and resources.

Student Outcomes Referenced to Selected National Standards

Learning Outcomes	INTASC Principles	ACEI	VA Health	ISTE NETS
A	1	2.2, 2.6	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V
B	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	2.2, 2.6, 3.1, 3.4, 3.5, 5.2	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V
C	2, 3, 6, 9	2.2, 2.6, 3.5, 5.2	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V
D	4, 7, 10	2.2, 2.6, 3.1	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V
E	2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10	2.2, 2.6, 3.1, 5.2	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V
F	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10	2.2, 2.6, 3.1, 3.4, 5.2	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V
G	1, 7, 8, 9	2.2, 2.6, 3.1	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V

Key: ISTE NETS = International Society for Technology in Education National Education Technology Standards 2010; INTASC = Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium; ACEI = Association for Childhood Education International; VA Health = Virginia Health Education Standards

IV. Nature of Course Delivery

Science and health are everywhere around us. Turning on our lights at night, baking a cake, throwing a basketball while expecting someone to catch it, and taking care of our bodies are just a few examples of how we use concepts in science and health on a daily basis. Research on student learning and motivation shows that effective teaching is *grounded in students' prior experiences* and provides ample opportunities for students to *explore* more of their natural world in a *social* context. Through these opportunities, students gain new conceptual knowledge and skills while increasing their overall interest in the science/health disciplines. In this course you will be exposed to a variety of content, curricula, and methods designed to shape your future teaching practices so that your future students will be motivated learners in your classroom.

Further research on the effects of increased conceptual knowledge and skills shows that education is a tool of empowerment. The aim of this course is to provide you with numerous experiences in science/health teaching to empower you as you strive to become an effective elementary classroom teacher. As you utilize experiences gained in this course while continuing in your life-long learning and development of your teaching practices, you will become more and more capable of providing experiences in your classroom that, in turn, will empower your own students to make informed decisions, seek new opportunities, and continue in their progress as life-long learners.

V. Required Texts & Readings

Course readings and related materials (handouts and e-reserves as necessary).

Achieve, Inc. (2013). *Next generation science standards*. Available online: <http://www.nextgenscience.org/print/121> DO NOT PRINT.

Board of Education, Commonwealth of Virginia. (2010). *Standards of learning for Virginia Public Schools: Science*. Available online: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/science/complete/stds_sciencek-12.doc COPY DISTRIBUTED IN CLASS.

Board of Education, Commonwealth of Virginia. (2010). *Science standards of learning curriculum framework*. Available online: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/science/review.shtml DO NOT PRINT.

Board of Education, Commonwealth of Virginia. (2008). *Standards of learning for Virginia Public Schools: Health*. Available online: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/health/complete/stds_healthk-10.doc COPY DISTRIBUTED IN CLASS.

Board of Education, Commonwealth of Virginia. (2003). *K-10 health education technical assistance guide*. Available online: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/health/technical_assistance_guide/index.shtml DO NOT PRINT.

National Research Council (1996). *National science education standards*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press. Available Online: <http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/books/nse/htm/> DO NOT PRINT.

One* of these two texts:

Bass, J., Contant, T., & Carin, A. (2009). *Teaching science as inquiry, 11th edition*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson. OTHER EDITIONS ARE FINE.

Bass, J., Carin, A., & Contant, T. (2009). *Methods for teaching science as inquiry, 10th edition*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson. OTHER EDITIONS ARE FINE.

*Please note that the first option is more expensive, but contains lots of activity examples of science activities in the appendix. The second text is cheaper, but lacks the appendix of examples – I can’t say the additional cost is worth it since there are so many science activities online and in other resources, so I’ve asked the bookstore to supply the second text.

VI. Course Requirements

Student Products Referenced to Learning Outcomes and Selected National Standards

Products	Learning Outcomes	INTASC Principles	ACEI	VA Health	ISTE NETS
Inquiry-Based Unit Project	A, B, C, D, E, G	1, 5, 6, 7, 9	2.2, 2.6, 3.1, 3.4, 3.5, 5.2	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V
Investigation Project	A, C, D, E	1, 2	2.2, 2.6, 3.4	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V
Science/Health Journal	A, C, D, E	1, 2, 3, 10	2.2, 2.6, 5.2	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V
Annotated Bibliography Project	D, F	1, 2, 3	2.2, 2.6, 3.1	1, 2, 3	I, II, III, IV, V
Technology Project	A, B, D	1, 2, 4, 7, 8	2.2, 2.6, 3.1	na	I, II, III, IV, V

1. Inquiry-Based Unit Project (INDIVIDUAL)

30%

Utilizing problem-based learning, develop the detailed lesson plans for an integrated unit (at least five lessons) that includes the content areas of science, health, and one additional content area. Use the lesson plan format located in your program manual. You will also need to develop the student sheets and any other supporting materials needed for each of your lesson plans. Do not use student sheets “as is” because you will need to tailor these to fit the particular theme of your unit. Additionally, you will complete either a NEW webpage or PowerPoint presentation to be used during the unit and a culminating assessment of student learning for your unit.

During EDCI 553, you will teach 5 minutes of a lesson plan from your unit (the hands-on science/health portion of the lesson) and will be evaluated by the course instructor using the “Summary Observation Report.” The lesson that you select to teach must use hands-on science/health materials.

As your *Performance-Based Assessment* for EDCI 553, the following chart can be used to track your mastery of competencies as documented by your work on this assignment:

Standard	Rubric Item (must earn at least a 2 for all items to enter “MET” in your chart)
INTASC 1. Content (ACEI 2.2, 2.6)	I, J, L, M
INTASC 2. Development	Not Applicable
INTASC 3. Diversity	Not Applicable
INTASC 4. Instruction	Not Applicable
INTASC 5. Management (ACEI 3.4)	H, K, S, T
INTASC 6. Communication (ACEI 3.5)	N, O, P, R
INTASC 7. Planning (ACEI 3.1)	A, B, C, D, E, F
INTASC 8. Assessment	Not Applicable
INTASC 9. Reflection (ACEI 5.2)	G, Q, U
INTASC 10. Community	Not Applicable

2. Investigation Project (COMBINATION OF GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL) 15%

In Spring you observed instruction in elementary school. Now you will participate in our in-class investigation experiences and submit an experiment report based on the experience. Additionally, for one grade level you observed in Spring, answer the following questions:

- What are the investigative skills that students are to learn during your selected grade level according to the grade level's science SOLs?
- How are each of these particular skills used during the design, performance, and/or reporting of a controlled experiment?
- According to local curriculum information you are able to find online or through other resources for that grade level, describe the opportunities students have to learn and practice these skills during the school year.
- To what extent did you observe children learning and practicing these skills? A. Describe what you saw OR B. Describe opportunities in which the instruction you observed could be modified to enhance students' learning of investigative skills described in the grade level's SOLs or local curriculum guide.
- Based on your response to the fourth bullet, A. What were the safety hazards involved and how did you see the teacher prevent them? OR B. What would be the safety hazards involved and how could you prevent them?
- For the science investigation in EDCI 553 that you wrote an experiment report on, what are the safety hazards involved and what could you do to prevent them?

Detailed project descriptions and rubric expectations (including length of essays) can be found on Blackboard.

3. Science/Health Journal (ONLINE MODULE; INDIVIDUAL) 20%

Complete a journal documenting your participation during EDCI 553 class in seven inquiry-based activities and four visits you make to science/health-related community resource sites (total of 11 entries). For all activities and community visits, identify one standard from the K-6 science/health Virginia SOLs and its corresponding performance expectation from the *Next Generation Science Standards* that could serve as the science/health content focus of the activity/visit. For each activity and visit, illustrate your **knowledge and understanding** of the content of this science/health standard through a mode of your choice ((examples include: bulleted list, poetry, concept map, sheet you design for students with answer key, skit for students to enact, story for students to read, brochure for students, etc.). For all activities/resources, identify and explain how the activity/resource relates to an aspect of the nature of science as identified by VMSC/NGSS and how you could make this aspect of the nature of science explicit to elementary children via this activity/visit. **Upon conclusion of this assignment, your eleven entries should include all eight of these areas: physics, chemistry, biology, health, meteorology, geology, oceanography, and space sciences.** Detailed project descriptions and rubric expectations (including length of journal entries) can be found on Blackboard as an online learning module.

4. Annotated Bibliography Project (INDIVIDUAL) 15%

Select one science or health SOL for a particular elementary grade level. For the SOL you selected, find one example of a developmentally-appropriate book to use during the teaching of that particular topic/theme. For the book you select, you will need to provide the following information:

- a. Topic and SOL:
- b. APA citation:
- c. Summary of the book:
- d. Summary of the science/health concepts addressed via the book including your assessment of its accuracy using a reputable science/health content resource text (cite your resource):
- e. Your ideas about HOW the book can be used in the classroom to teach the science/health concepts:
- f. One example of an anticipated naïve theory or misconception of students regarding these science/health concepts that the book might propagate:
- g. Your strategy for how to prevent this:
- h. Your description of how the content of the book relates to a cross-cutting concept in science (see NGSS):
- i. Your description of how the content of the book relates to the nature of science (see VMSC/NGSS):
- j. Your name:

Detailed project descriptions and rubric expectations (including length of essays) can be found on Blackboard.

5. Technology Assignment (GROUP)

20%

In this project you will:

- Explore the technology at your station.
- Thinking about this technology, select a 3, 5, or 8 grade science SOL test item. This item should relate to one of the technology tools at your station. Copy item to MSword.
- Select the elementary grade-level science/health SOL(s) that this test item addresses. Copy SOL(s) to MSword.
- Using curriculum framework, design a 5-E set of activities that targets the SOL(s) and utilizes your selected technology tool. Type a brief 1-sentence description for each of the 5-Es.
- For the last E, include the test item in your evaluation plan.
- Make sure all group member's first and last names are on the document.
- Submit via email to wfrazier@gmu.edu and cc your group members.
- Be prepared to orally describe your set of 5-E activities, demonstrate and call on volunteers to operate the technology, and go over the release item with your audience.

Detailed project descriptions and rubric expectations can be found on Blackboard.

Special Note for All Projects:

Descriptions of expectations for each project can be found on Blackboard. Project work will be evaluated according to rubric expectations. All products must be submitted in word-processed format electronically by email with the exception of the Science/Health Journal project that is submitted on dropbox. Projects may be resubmitted based on instructor feedback and resubmitted once for re-scoring. Correct grammar and mechanics are expected of graduate students; work submitted with numerous errors may be returned to the student for editing before grading. APA style is required. All work must be submitted on the date due by 11:59PM unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor due to a documented excused reason (illness, illness in family, etc.). Work that is submitted late without consulting the instructor or due to unexcused reason will have 10 percent subtracted per day.

TaskStream Requirement:

Every student registered for any Elementary Education course with a required performance-based assessment is required to submit this assessment (*Inquiry-Based Unit Project*) to TaskStream (regardless of whether a course is an elective, a onetime course or part of an undergraduate minor). Evaluation of the performance-based assessment by the course instructor will also be completed in TaskStream. Failure to submit the assessment to TaskStream will result in the course instructor reporting the course grade as Incomplete (IN). Unless the IN grade is changed upon completion of the required TaskStream submission, the IN will convert to an F nine weeks into the following semester.

VII. Field Experience Component

To receive a grade for this course you must submit documentation of fifteen hours of virtual field experience. The virtual field experience consists of viewing videos of classroom instruction from the following website:

<http://www.learner.org/resources/browse.html?discipline=6> and completing the documentation log. Once your documentation log is completed you may submit it via email to your instructor by 11:59pm the last night of class.

VIII. Course Schedule

**SUMMER 2013 CALENDAR
CLASS SCHEDULE
VIRTUAL FIELD EXPERIENCE OF 15 HOURS REQUIRED**

Session	Topic/Learning Experiences	Readings & Assignments
SUMMER	7:00 PM – 10:05 PM Monday/Wednesday/Friday	
Monday, May 20	--Investigation: Mealworms and poetry --Discussion: How are the mealworm activities aligned with the Virginia science/health SOLs? (Introduce science/health SOLs and curriculum framework website) --Discussion: Investigation at the elementary level, National science standards, Community resources – How does science relate to the real world? (Introduce Science/Health Journal Project)	-- Bring Science/Health SOLs to every class --Chapter 1 (Children, Science, and Inquiry: Some Preliminary Questions)
Wednesday, May 22	--Discussion: Safety --Discussion: Parts of controlled experiment (Introduce Investigation Project) --Investigation continued: Mealworms experiments --Share: Findings from group experiments via Poetry in Two Voices --Discussion: Poetry and the nature of science	--Chapter 2 (Processes and Strategies for Inquiry) --Chapter 5 (Planning and Managing Inquiry Instruction) --Read article “Poetry in Two Voices: Poetry and the Nature of Science”
Friday, May 24 [ONLINE]	Visit to science/health-related community resource (unscheduled – see online module on blackboard)	--Chapter 3 (Learning Science with Understanding)
Monday, May 27	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
Wednesday, May 29 [ONLINE]	Online Module: --Nature of science --Learning cycles in science/health --Role of children’s literature in science/health learning cycles (Introduce Annotated Bibliography Project)	-- Investigation Project due via email by tonight --Chapter 4 (Teaching Science for Understanding: The 5-E Model of Instruction) --Readings incorporated in online module
Friday, May 31 [ONLINE]	Visit to science/health-related community resource (unscheduled – see online module on blackboard)	--Chapter 3 (Learning Science with Understanding)
Monday, June 3 (your EDCI 545 class starts Tuesday, June 4)	Online Module: --Hands-on and inquiry-based science/health instruction -- <i>Next Generation Science Standards</i> (cross-cutting concepts)	--Readings incorporated in online module
Wednesday, June 5	--Share: Findings from Annotated Bibliography Project (bring your children’s book to class to share) --Discussion: Strategies for integrated curriculum planning (Problem-based learning) --Population Connection website (http://www.populationconnection.org) as example of integrated social studies and science/health instruction (Introduce Inquiry-Based Unit Project)	-- Annotated Bibliography Project due via email by tonight (bring your children’s book to class) --View Population Connection website --Chapter 9 (Connecting Science With Other Subjects)
Friday, June 7 [ONLINE]	Visit to science/health-related community resource (unscheduled – see online module on blackboard)	--Chapter 3 (Learning Science with Understanding)
Monday, June 10	--Investigation: Technology and science/health (microscope; probeware) --Share: Findings from Technology Project --Discussion: Guiding questions --Work on units and plan for micro-teaching (explore resources available in TH 2020)	--Chapter 8 (Technology Tools and Resources for Inquiry Science) --Chapter 7 (Effective Questioning) -- Technology Project due via email by tonight (all work on this project is performed in class)

Wednesday, June 12	--Micro-teaching: --Discussion: Questioning strategies --Peer feedback: One lesson plan from unit	--Bring one lesson plan from your unit to class today for peer feedback (Instructor does not grade it)
Friday, June 14 [ONLINE]	Visit to science/health-related community resource (unscheduled – see online module on blackboard)	--Chapter 3 (Learning Science with Understanding)
Monday, June 17	--Micro-teaching:	--Science/Health Journal Project due by 11:59 via dropbox
Wednesday, June 19	--Micro-teaching:	--Micro-teaching completed by this date
Friday, June 21	Individual Progress Meetings and/or Make-Up Date if needed (Otherwise, no whole class meeting)	--Unit Project due via email to wfrazier@gmu.edu --Field experience log due via email to wfrazier@gmu.edu

IX. POLICIES - MASON'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Student Expectations

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/>].
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>].
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.*
- Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

Campus Resources

- The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].
- The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, Graduate School of Education, please visit our website [See <http://gse.gmu.edu/>].

*The university has a policy that requests students to turn off pagers and cell phones before class begins; however, you may leave your cell phone on vibrate to receive emergency calls in Wendy Frazier's class. If your phone is set to vibrate, then please keep your phone easily accessible, immediately accept the call so it does not continue to vibrate, say "please hold," and walk outside the room before beginning your conversation. Laptops and PDAs may be used in class during group and individual work time to maintain emergency contact and assist with you with your work, but laptops must be kept closed and PDAs face-down during whole class discussions. Register for campus alerts at <https://alert.gmu.edu>. An emergency poster exists in each classroom explaining what to do in the event of crises. Further information about emergency procedures exists on <http://www.gmu.edu/service/cert>.

PBA - EDCI 553: Unit Assignment and Micro-Teaching – Fairfax, TFA, Intensives

Overview:

Utilizing problem-based learning, develop the detailed lesson plans for an integrated unit (at least five lessons) that includes the content areas of science, health, and one additional content area. Use the lesson plan format located in your program manual. You will also need to develop the student sheets and any other supporting materials needed for each of your lesson plans. Do not use student sheets “as is” because you will need to tailor these to fit the particular theme of your unit. Additionally, you will complete either a NEW webpage or PowerPoint presentation to be used during the unit and a culminating assessment of student learning for your unit.

During EDCI 553, you will teach 5 minutes of a lesson plan from your unit (the hands-on science/health portion of the lesson) and will be evaluated by the course instructor using the “Summary Observation Report.” The lesson that you select to teach must use hands-on science/health materials.

Activities:

After you have worked with the course instructor to establish a unit theme (integrates one grade level’s SOL in science, health, and one other content area), perform the following tasks:

- Utilizing problem-based learning, develop lesson plans (at least five) for your unit based on your integrated unit’s theme. Use the lesson plan format and project rubric to guide you. Develop/modify student sheets needed for each lesson plan. Be sure that your student sheets are customized for the actual lesson plan for which they will be used and are modified to fit the theme.
- Develop a NEW web page or PowerPoint presentation for use during the unit. If designing a web page, include at least 3 links. If designing a PowerPoint presentation, include at least two slides. Submit your work electronically via email to your course instructor.
- Develop a culminating assessment of student learning for your unit and develop a rubric that can be used to score student performance on the culminating assessment. Consider using <http://rubistar.4teachers.org> to help you. The rubric needs to contain **descriptions** of student performance of various items at varying levels of performance.
- Select a hands-on science/health activity from your unit that you would like to teach during EDCI 553. This hands-on science/health activity should teach a concept defined in one grade level of the Virginia Standards of Learning in Science/Health.
- Bring enough copies of the student sheet that accompanies your activity to distribute in class when you teach your activity.
- Teach 5 minutes of your hands-on science/health activity during EDCI 553 classtime. At this time, share a photocopy of your student sheet with your fellow classmates. Your instructor will complete a “Summary Observation Report” based on your teaching.
- After you have taught the five-minute activity during EDCI 553 classtime, lead a brief discussion on what it was like to teach this activity.
- **Formal Reflection:** Reflect on the experience of teaching the hands-on science/health activity during EDCI 553 (and at your school, if applicable). Include in your reflection: What worked well; what did not work well; and ideas for how the activity, teaching strategies, or student sheet could be improved to better support student learning of concepts via inquiry. Finally, reflect on how your preparation level to teach hands-on science/health has changed over the semester. Support your reflections by specific references to what occurred during the teaching of your hands-on activity during EDCI 553 (and at your school, if applicable). Use the project rubric to guide you. (Minimum length: one double-spaced page)
- Submit REVISED/ FINAL VERSION of lesson plans, student sheets, webpage/PowerPoint, overall assessment with rubric for your unit (noting the lesson that was taught during EDCI 553), and formal reflection.

NOTE: Please email this assignment to me in one file if possible, and send me your file as .doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf

Checklist for when you lead a class discussion on what it was like to teach the science/health activity:

___ discuss at least two successes

___ discuss at least two areas that need improvement

___ reflect on students’ learning of science/health content via the curriculum strategy you selected

___ reflect on students’ learning of science/health skills via the curriculum strategy you selected

Rubric for EDCI 553's PBA: Unit Project (You must earn at least 2 for all items or you will be required to resubmit!)

For each lesson plan:

	Exceeds Expectations – 3	Meets Expectations – 2 (Grade = A)	Does Not Meet Expectations – 1	Does Not Meet Expectations – 0
A. Lesson Format (NCATE PLANNING #7; ACEI INTGRT & APPLY KNOWLDGE FOR INSTRCTN #3.1) [2 pages or less each]	Utilizes an innovative arrangement of components to make the plan more usable; easy to follow and use; has all required components; self-explanatory	Easy to follow and use; has all required components; self-explanatory	Difficult to use; does not have complete components; OR is not self-explanatory	No consistent format
B. Objectives (NCATE PLANNING #7; ACEI INTGRT & APPLY KNOWLDGE FOR INSTRCTN #3.1)	All are student-oriented objectives and stated in observable student learning outcomes; spans all levels of Bloom's taxonomy; just the perfect amount of objectives; all are appropriate for the lesson	All are student-oriented objectives and stated in observable student learning outcomes; covers some levels of Bloom's taxonomy; has a couple of extra objectives or too few objectives; a few seem somewhat inappropriate for lesson	A mix of student- and teacher-oriented objectives or not stated in terms of observable student learning outcomes; has only minimal levels of Bloom's taxonomy; has way too little or many objectives; OR several seem inappropriate for lesson	Missing
C. Standards (NCATE PLANNING #7; ACEI INTGRT & APPLY KNOWLDGE FOR INSTRCTN #3.1) [Type out the first time used]	Lesson addresses all standards that are listed; no standards are missing; incorporates standard into real-life examples; utilizes standards in science, health, and one more content area; utilizes national, state, and local standards	Lesson only addresses some standards that it purports to address and/or some standards are missing; utilizes standards in science, health, and one more content area; utilizes national and state standards	Lesson fails to adequately address standards listed and several of the standards are missing; lesson fails to address standards in science, health or one more content area; OR fails to utilize national or state standards	Missing
D. Materials for Learning Activities (NCATE PLANNING #7; ACEI INTGRT & APPLY KNOWLDGE FOR INSTRCTN #3.1)	List of materials is complete for both teacher and students; includes technology materials	List of materials is complete for both teacher and students [Target: Five or less materials for teacher, five materials or less for students]	List of materials is incomplete for teachers AND/ OR students	Missing

<p>E. Procedures for Learning Activities (NCATE PLANNING #7; ACEI INTGRT & APPLY KNOWLDGE FOR INSTRCTN #3.1)</p>	<p>Orderly with steps numbered; easy to understand; steps are detailed enough so that someone else could run the lesson; fits with lesson; includes introduction, instructional strategies, and summary as described in the PDS manual; steps are aligned with the 5-E's or other approved inquiry-based learning cycle model to create an inquiry-based learning experience for students throughout the entire time allotted in the procedure; provides some information regarding connections/extensions to other lessons</p>	<p>Somewhat orderly with steps numbered; contains a section that is slightly difficult to understand; needs more details for someone else to lead instruction; not exactly appropriate for lesson; includes introduction, instructional strategies, and summary as described in the PDS manual; steps are aligned with the 5-E's or other approved inquiry-based learning cycle model with few steps incorrectly identified so that an inquiry-based learning experience is created for students 50% of the time allotted in the procedure</p>	<p>Not orderly; hard to follow; has too little detail; not appropriate for lesson; OR steps are aligned with the 5-E's or other approved inquiry-based learning cycle model but they are incorrectly identified/ordered so that the lesson fails to provide an inquiry-based learning experience for students during the time allotted in the procedure</p>	<p>Missing</p>
<p>F. Time Designations (NCATE PLANNING #7; ACEI INTGRT & APPLY KNOWLDGE FOR INSTRCTN #3.1) <i>[20-40 minutes each, longer is fine, each lesson should have a definite open and close even if activities continue to the next lesson]</i></p>	<p>Time designations are provided for each phase of the experience (introduction, instruction, summary); time designations are appropriate; extra activities are defined in case of extra time; notes activities that could be left out if less time</p>	<p>Time designations are provided for each phase of the experience (introduction, instruction, summary); time designations are off; uses time appropriately</p>	<p>Time designations are not provided for each phase of the experience (introduction, instruction, summary) OR time designations are really off</p>	<p>Missing</p>
<p>G. Assessment (NCATE REFLECTION #9; ACEI PRSNL GRWTH, REFL., & EVALTN # 5.2)</p>	<p>Assessment clearly linked to objectives with procedures and criteria described for each objective; copies of written assessments are attached; interesting assessment that is innovative</p>	<p>Assessment clearly linked to objectives with procedures and criteria described for each objective; copies of written assessments are attached</p>	<p>Assessment is not linked to objectives; fails to define procedures and criteria for each objective; OR copies of written assessments are not attached</p>	<p>Missing</p>
<p>H. Differentiation (NCATE MANAGEMENT #5; ACEI ACTV ENGMT IN LRNG #3.4)</p>	<p>Lists adaptations that will be made for individual learners; based on assessment data; _____ (provide description)</p>	<p>Lists adaptations that will be made for individual learners; based on assessment data</p>	<p>Does not list adaptations that will be made for individual learners OR is not based on assessment data</p>	<p>Missing</p>
<p>II. Predicted Level of Student Interest (NCATE CONTENT #1; ACEI SCIENCE #2.2)</p>	<p>Fun-filled; student learning experience; relates science to real life, personal needs, and interests</p>	<p>Somewhat fun-filled; student learning experience; relates science to real life, personal needs, and interests</p>	<p>Somewhat fun-filled; limited student learning experience; OR does not relate science to real life, personal needs and interests</p>	<p>Missing</p>

I2. Predicted Level of Student Interest (NCATE CONTENT #1; ACEI HEALTH #2.6)	Fun-filled; student learning experience; relates health to real life, personal needs, and interests	Somewhat fun-filled; student learning experience; relates health to real life, personal needs, and interests	Somewhat fun-filled; limited student learning experience; OR does not relate health to real life, personal needs and interests	Missing
J1. Appropriateness of Activities with Respect to Objectives (NCATE CONTENT #1; ACEI SCIENCE #2.2)	Appropriate to objectives; can accomplish activity; answers and accomplishes objectives; and _____ (provide description)	Appropriate to objectives; can accomplish activity; answers and accomplishes objectives	Not appropriate to objectives; can't accomplish activity; OR doesn't answer or accomplish objectives	Missing
J2. Appropriateness of Activities with Respect to Objectives (NCATE CONTENT #1; ACEI HEALTH #2.6)	Appropriate to objectives; can accomplish activity; answers and accomplishes objectives; and _____ (provide description)	Appropriate to objectives; can accomplish activity; answers and accomplishes objectives	Not appropriate to objectives; can't accomplish activity; OR doesn't answer or accomplish objectives	Missing
K. Safety and Ethical Treatment of Living Organisms (NCATE MANAGEMENT #5; ACEI ACTV ENGMT IN LRNG #3.4)	Safety risks identified that include management of materials and <i>activities</i> [Target: at least one per lesson plan]; prevention strategies identified <i>activities</i> [Target: at least one per lesson plan]; resolution strategies identified in case mishap should occur <i>activities</i> [Target: at least one per lesson plan]; lesson involves use of living organisms (if any) in an ethical manner; and _____ (provide description)	Safety risks identified that include management of materials and <i>activities</i> [Target: at least one per lesson plan]; prevention strategies identified <i>activities</i> [Target: at least one per lesson plan]; resolution strategies identified in case mishap should occur <i>activities</i> [Target: at least one per lesson plan]; lesson involves use of living organisms (if any) in an ethical manner	Fails to identify safety risks including management of materials and <i>activities</i> ; fails to identify prevention strategies; fails to identify resolution strategies; OR lesson details a procedure involving unethical use of living organisms	Missing
L1. Science Content in Earth science, space science, life science, physical science, and health (NCATE CONTENT #1; ACEI SCIENCE #2.2)	Content utilized in lesson plan is accurate, complete (as defined by SOLs, local, and national standards); incorporates all four science disciplines; and multiple connections are made between science areas via cross-cutting concepts (as defined by NGSS)	Content utilized in lesson plans includes at least three of the four following sciences: Earth and space science, life science, and physical science; content utilized in lesson plans for at least 3 of the four sciences is accurate and complete (as defined by SOLs, local and national standards)	Content utilized in lesson plan does not include at least three of the four following sciences: Earth science, space science, life science, and physical science; OR content utilized in lesson plan for at least three of the four sciences is not accurate or is not complete (as defined by SOLs, local, and national standards)	Missing

<p>L2. Health Content (NCATE CONTENT #1; ACEI HEALTH #2.6)</p>	<p>Content utilized in lesson plan is accurate, complete (as defined by SOLs, local, and national standards); incorporates the health discipline to create opportunities for student development and practice of skills that contribute to good health; and multiple connections are made between health and science via cross-cutting concepts (as defined by NGSS)</p>	<p>Content utilized in lesson incorporates the health discipline to create opportunities for student development and practice of skills that contribute to good health; health content is accurate</p>	<p>Does not address health content to create opportunities for student development and practice of skills that contribute to good health OR health content utilized is not accurate</p>	<p>Missing</p>
<p>M. Nature of Science (NCATE CONTENT #1; ACEI SCIENCE #2.2)</p>	<p>Lesson supports students' learning of science consistent with the nature of science, promotes students' understanding of the nature of science with explicit instruction and students' use of language from NGSS/VMSC and SOLs to describe the characteristics of nature of science</p>	<p>Lesson supports students' learning of science consistent with the nature of science and promotes students' understanding of the nature of science at some point during the lesson with attention to characteristics of nature of science as identified by NGSS/VMSC and SOLs</p>	<p>Lesson fails to support student learning of science consistent with the nature of science as identified by NGSS/VMSC and SOLs</p>	<p>Missing</p>
<p>N. Student sheet developed or modified by the candidate (NCATE COMMUNICATION #6; ACEI COMMUNICATION TO FOSTER COLLABORATION #3.5)</p>	<p>Modified or developed by candidate; supports inquiry-based approach (5-Es or other inquiry-based cycle); supports the use of hands-on science/health materials; vocabulary matches particular SOL/POS objective; format used is student-friendly and teacher-friendly; sheet documents student learning related to the SOL/POS topic</p>	<p>Modified or developed by candidate; supports inquiry-based learning (5-Es or other inquiry-based cycle); supports the use of hands-on science/health materials; vocabulary matches particular SOL/POS objective; format used is student-friendly and somewhat teacher-friendly; sheet documents student learning related to the SOL/POS topic</p>	<p>Student sheet is not suitable for a particular class/group of students that the candidate is teaching this semester OR does not fit the particular lesson plan</p>	<p>Missing</p>

<p>O. Resources (NCATE COMMUNICATION #6; ACEI COMMUNICATION TO FOSTER COLLABORATION #3.5) <i>[Reference source on student and sheet and in lesson plan; you can use the same resource in more than one lesson plan as much as you need to]</i></p>	<p>Sources of lesson plan ideas clearly identified so that someone else could locate the sources; more than two sources used to write each lesson plan or develop student materials; uses more than one non-paper resource (electronic media, audiovisual, etc) per lesson plan</p>	<p>Sources of lesson plan ideas clearly identified so that someone else could locate the source; at least two sources used to write each lesson plan and develop student materials; uses at least one non-paper resource (electronic media, audiovisual, etc.) per lesson plan</p>	<p>Source of lesson plan ideas not clearly identified so that someone else could locate the source OR fails to use at least two sources to write each lesson plan and develop student materials OR does not use at least one non-paper resource per lesson plan</p>	<p>Missing</p>
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For entire assignment:

	Exceeds Expectations – 3	Meets Expectations – 2	Does Not Meet Expectations – 1	Does Not Meet Expectations – 0
P. Web page / PowerPoint Presentation (NCATE COMMUNICATION #6; ACEI COMMUNICATION TO FOSTER COLLABORATION #3.5)	Includes at least 3 links if a web page; includes at least two slides if a PowerPoint presentation; is included in the procedure for at least one lesson plan and clearly relates to the content and activities of that lesson plan; is supportive of student learning; and uses technological features to enhance learning via improved communication of ideas	Includes at least 3 links if a web page; includes at least two slides if a PowerPoint presentation; is included in the procedure for at least one lesson plan and clearly relates to the content and activities of that lesson plan; is supportive of student learning	Does not include at least 3 links if a web page; does not include at least two slides if a PowerPoint presentation; is not included in the procedure for at least one lesson plan; does not clearly relate to the content and activities of at least one lesson plan; OR is not supportive of student learning	Missing
Q. Overall Unit Assessment of Student Learning (NCATE REFLECTION #9; ACEI PRSNL GRWTH, REFL., & EVALTN # 5.2)	Is aligned with unit theme, guiding questions, unit objectives, and national and SOL/POS standards; is appropriate with the procedures outlined in the set of lesson plans; allows for documentation of student learning of unit objectives; and includes student outcomes data	Is aligned with unit theme, guiding questions, unit objectives, and national and SOL/POS standards; is appropriate with the procedures outlined in the set of lesson plans; allows for documentation of student learning of unit objectives	Is not aligned with unit theme, guiding questions, and national and SOL/POS standards OR is not appropriate with respect to the procedures outlined in the set of lesson plans OR does not allow for documentation of student learning of unit objectives	Missing

For hands-on teaching assignment (referred to as “Micro-Teaching”):

	Exceeds Expectations – 3	Meets Expectations – 2	Does Not Meet Expectations – 1	Does Not Meet Expectations – 0
R. Documentation (NCATE COMMUNICATION #6; ACEI COMMUNICATION TO FOSTER COLLABORATION #3.5) [You do not need to submit this since your instructor has record of it in their files]		Includes Summary Observation Report from Clinical Faculty, Camp Director, or Loudoun Course Instructor; Summary Observation Report from EDCI instructor; student sheet used during teaching of the hands-on activity	Summary Observation Report from Clinical Faculty, Camp Director, or Loudoun Course Instructor; Summary Observation Report from EDCI instructor; OR student sheet used during teaching of the hands-on activity is missing	Missing
S. Summary Observation Report from Inservice Teacher/Administrator, Camp Director, or EDCI Instructor (NCATE MANAGEMENT #5; ACEI ACTV ENGMT IN LRNG #3.4) [You do not need to submit this since your instructor has record of it in their files]	Statements indicative of going beyond expectations for performance in preparation and planning, instructional methods and management, assessment, and professionalism	Statements indicative of entirely satisfactory performance in preparation and planning, instructional methods and management, assessment, and professionalism	Statements indicative of less than satisfactory performance in preparation and planning, instructional methods and management, assessment, and/or professionalism	Missing
T. Summary Observation Report from EDCI Instructor (NCATE MANAGEMENT #5; ACEI ACTV ENGMT IN LRNG #3.4) [You do not need to submit this since your instructor has record of it in their files]	Statements indicative of going beyond expectations for performance in preparation and planning, instructional methods and management, assessment, and professionalism	Statements indicative of entirely satisfactory performance in preparation and planning, instructional methods and management, assessment, and professionalism	Statements indicative of less than satisfactory performance in preparation and planning, instructional methods and management, assessment, and/or professionalism	Missing
U. Formal Reflection (at least one double-spaced page in length) (NCATE REFLECTION #9; ACEI PRSNL GRWTH, REFL., & EVALTN # 5.2)	Formal reflection is clearly articulated; addresses all items fully; and makes many specific references to the experience of teaching the hands-on activity during EDCI 553 and at the teaching site (if applicable).	Formal reflection is mostly clear; addresses all items adequately; and makes a few specific references to the experience of teaching the hands-on activity during EDCI 553 and at the teaching site (if applicable).	Formal reflection is not clear; does not address all items adequately; OR does not make specific reference to the experience of teaching the hands-on activity during EDCI 553 and at the teaching site (if applicable).	Missing