

College of Education and Human Development Elementary Education

Introduction to Education: Teaching, Learning and Schools EDUC 200 Section 8 3 credits

Location: Distance Education/Blackboard

Instructor	Professor: Dr. Mandy Bean			
	Office Hours: By appointment via internet/phone			
	Office: Thompson 1406			
	Email: abean5@gmu.edu			
Course	Introduces educational issues related to learning, schooling and teaching. Examines roles of			
Description	teachers and nature of American schools and learners. Requires 15 hours of school-based field			
	experience during the course. This course fulfills the Mason Core Social and Behavioral Sciences			
	requirement.			
Course	This course will be delivered online (76% or more) using an asynchronous format via Blackboard			
Methodology	Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal. You will log in to the			
And	Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email name (everything before			
Technical	@masonlive.gmu.edu) and email password. The course site will be available on August 19, 2020.			
Requirement				
S	Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.			
	Technical Requirements			
	 To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements: High-speed Internet access with standard up-to-date browsers. To get a list of Blackboard's supported browsers see: 			
	https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting Started/Browser Support#supp			
<u> </u>	To get a list of supported operation systems on different devices see: https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems • Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.			

- Students will need a headset microphone for use with the Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing tool. [Delete this sentence if not applicable.]
- Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.
- The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download: [Add or delete options, as desire.]
 - Adobe Acrobat Reader: https://get.adobe.com/reader/
 - Windows Media Player:
 https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14209/get-windows-media-player
 - Apple Quick Time Player: www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

Expectations

• <u>Course Week:</u> [Include only the sentence below that is appropriate for the course. Delete the sentence that is not applicable.]

Because asynchronous courses do not have a "fixed" meeting day, our week will start on [Day], and finish on [Day].

Our course week will begin on the day that our synchronous meetings take place as indicated on the Schedule of Classes.

• Log-in Frequency:

Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials at least [#] times per week. In addition, students must log-in for all scheduled online synchronous meetings. [Include this sentence only if the course is synchronous. Delete the sentence if the course is asynchronous.]

Participation:

Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions.

Technical Competence:

Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.

Technical Issues:

Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.

• Workload:

Please be aware that this course is **not** self-paced. Students are expected to meet *specific deadlines* and *due dates* listed in the **Class Schedule** section of this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due.

• <u>Instructor Support:</u>

Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or other course-related issues. Those unable to come to a Mason campus can meet with the instructor via telephone or web conference. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.

Netiquette:

The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting them, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. Be positive in your approach with others and diplomatic in selecting your words. Remember that you are not competing with classmates, but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.

Accommodations:

Online learners who require effective accommodations to insure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

Learner **Objectives**

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. Explain how individuals, groups, and institutions are impacted by the educational system.
- 2. Demonstrate awareness of changes in social and cultural constructs related to teaching and learning.
- 3. Describe U.S. schools and some of the issues, challenges, and rewards of teaching and learning, and the roles that teachers play within them
- 4. Identify the qualities and dispositions of effective teachers.
- 5. Use appropriate methods and resources to apply social and behavioral science concepts, principles, terminology, and theories to analyze from multiple perspectives the role of the teacher, goals of education and schools, and teacher effectiveness.
- 6. Discuss and critically reflect on the role of student ideas and learning needs in relationship to standards and curricula.
- Reflect on professionalism, intellectualism, personal and professional growth, and potential to make meaningful contributions to the field of education.

This course fulfills the Mason Core Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement and addresses the following learning outcomes:

- 1. Explain how individuals, groups or institutions are influenced by contextual factors;
- 2. Demonstrate awareness of changes in social and cultural constructs;

Use appropriate methods and resources to apply social and behavioral science concepts, terminology, principles and theories in the analysis of significant human issues, past or present.

Required textbook(s) and/or materials

Johnston, P. H. (2012). Opening minds: Using language to change lives. Portland, ME: Stenhouse Publishers.

Nieto, S. (2015). Why we teach now. New York: Teachers College Press.

Course Website

Blackboard will be used for this course. You can access the site at EDUC 200, Section 8.

NOTE: Username and passwords are the same as your Mason email account. You must have consistent access to an internet connection in order to complete the assignments in this course through Blackboard (http://mymason.gmu.edu). Note the technology requirements for School of Education is in your Blackboard course menu—it contains details of minimum technology requirements.

Participation

Learning can only happen when you are playing an active role. It is important to place more emphasis on developing your insights and skills, rather than transmitting information. Knowledge is more important than facts and definitions. It is a way of looking at the world, an ability to interpret and organize future information. An active learning approach will more likely result in long-term retention and better understanding because you make the content of what you are learning concrete and real in your mind.

	Although an active role can look differently for various individuals, it is expected in this class that			
	you will work to explore issues and ideas under the guidance of the professor and your peers. You can do this by reflecting on the content and activities of this course, asking questions, striving for			
	can do this by reflecting on the content and activities of this course, asking questions, striving for			
Rules and	answers, interpreting observations, and discussing issues with your peers.			
Expectations	In correspondence/communication students will be expected to:			
LAPECIATIONS	, , ,			
	 Make reasonable requests of the instructor. We will be happy to clarify course m and answer legitimate questions; however, please exhaust other information sou 			
	(e.g., syllabus, Blackboard) for answering your question before contacting me and			
	remember, "Poor planning on your part does not constitute an emergency on my part".			
	In regard to honesty in work students will be expected to:			
	a) Review the University integrity and honesty policies in the student handbook for			
	guidelines regarding plagiarism and cheating (summarized below). I will gladly clarify my			
	stance on any questionable or "grey area" issues you may have.			
	b) Refrain from dishonest work as it will receive a minimum penalty of zero on the			
	assignment and a maximum penalty of a zero for the course with a report to the Honor			
	committee. The GMU Honor Code requires that faculty submit any suspected Honor			
	Code violations to the Honor Committee. Therefore, any suspected offense will be			
	submitted for adjudication.			
Individuals	Students with documented disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services (703) 993-			
with	2474) to learn more about accommodations that may be available to them.			
Disabilities				
Academic	This course embodies the perspective that we all have differing perspectives and ideas and we			
Integrity and	each deserve the opportunity to share our thoughts. Therefore, we will conduct our discussions			
Inclusivity	with respect for those differences. That means, we each have the freedom to express our ideas,			
	but we should also do so keeping in mind that our colleagues deserve to hear differing thoughts i			
	a respectful manner, i.e. we may disagree without being disagreeable. http://oai.gmu.edu/			
Student	George Mason University strives to fully comply with FERPA by protecting the privacy of student			
Privacy Policy	records and judiciously evaluating requests for release of information from those records.			
	Please see George Mason University's student privacy policy:			
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E-Mail Policy	https://registrar.gmu.edu/students/privacy/ Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include notices			
E-Iviali Policy	from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials,			
	assignments, questions, and instructor feedback.			
	assignments, questions, and mistractor recuback.			
	Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail			
	account and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.			
Course	Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor.			
Grading &	Blackboard will be used for uploading assignments.			
Evaluation				
	Grades will be assigned as follows:			
	A: 93.00-100%			
	A-: 89.50-92.99%			
	B+:87.00-89.49%			
	B:83.00-86.99%			
	B-:80.00-82.99%			
	C+:77.00-79.99%			
	C:73.00-76.99%			
	C-:70.00-72.99%			
	A: 93.00-100% A-: 89.50-92.99% B+:87.00-89.49% B:83.00-86.99% B-:80.00-82.99% C+:77.00-79.99% C:73.00-76.99%			

	D:60.00-69.99% F:0-59.99%			
Assignment Due Dates	Unless otherwise stated, all assignments are due by the end of the week in which they are			
Discussion Board Assignment (1 per lesson): 20% of final grade	Your challenge is to immerse yourself in the topics and perspectives presented in the course. You will want to be able to comment on the discussion topics with authority. You are encouraged to make notes on your own thoughts about the various concepts and issues, and consider possible issues/outcomes. Your posts should be to the point and include sufficient technical detail for others to respond. You should present your opinions, but justify them with facts and proper sources. What did you disagree with and why, or not understand?			
	Initial/Original Post Please post what you view as the appropriate responses to the above prompts. Your initial post should be 150-300 words. Please provide response with a clear, well-formulated thesis; sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, and spelling count. Support all posts with appropriate rationale and citations from readings; appropriately document sources.			
	Responding to Others Responses to at least two classmates' postings should be approximately 200 words and should be thoughtful, substantial, polite and more extensive than a simple "well done" phrase or "I agree." Consider points of agreement, disagreement, assumptions, and value judgments. You will be able to respond to others after you submit your initial post.			
	DUE: Each student will make at least one original post by Thursday 11:59 PM, EST, and react to at least two of your peers' posts by Sunday 11:59 PM, EST.			
Weekly Blackboard assignments are required to be uploaded to Blackboard. Blackboard				
Assignment (1 per lesson): 20% of final	DUE: Assignments are due by Sunday, 11:59 PM, EST . Refer to the course schedule and weekly lessons for details.			
grade Assignment: Read-Reflect- Write	You will have done the READing in preparation for class. After each Blackboard lesson, you will REFLECT and WRITE using prompts provided in class. Post your reflections on Blackboard.			
15% of final grade	These journal entries should demonstrate critical reflection on readings, class discussions/activities, and the development of ideas regarding self and developing philosophy in relation to teaching. Include references to your field hours experiences in the classroom when relevant.			
	Rubric for cumulative reflections: Written entries demonstrate critical/11 reflection on material, self, and			
	teaching philosophy and regularly meet length requirement			

Mechanics (i.e capitalization, punctuation and spelling)	/4	
Total	/15	

DUE:

Assignments are due by **Sunday, 11:59 PM, EST** unless otherwise stated. Refer to the course schedule and weekly lessons for details.

Assignment:
Education in
the Movies
15% of final
grade

DUE:

There are many great movies that deal with issues of teaching, learning, and schools. Pick one and write a 3-4 page essay that highlights how the movie presents presents teachers/teaching, students, schools and learning. How does this compare to course material and what you are learning? Highlight critical issues. For example, you could watch the movie *Dead Poet Society* and discuss how Mr. Keating encouraged his students to think and live differently, and the consequences of these actions on both students and teacher.

Your essay should include discussion of important ideas as well as what you think about these issues - don't neglect to say how the ideas help you think differently about teaching, learning, and schooling. In other words, discuss some ideas from the movie but then discuss how these ideas affect you and your notions of teaching.

Use at least 1 citation, either from class readings, books, or your own research.

Consider one of these movies or many others out there:

- ♦ Dead Poet Society (1989)
- ♦ Freedom Writers (2007)
- ♦ Mr. Holland's Opus (1995)
- ♦ To Sir, With Love (1967)
- ♦ The Breakfast Club (1985)
- ♦ Dangerous Minds (1995)
- ♦ Lean on Me (1989)
- ♦ Stand and Deliver (1988)
- ♦ Music of the Heart (1999)
- ♦ October Sky (1999)
- ♦ Front of the Class (2008)
- ♦ Up The Down Staircase (1967)
- ♦ Akeelah and the Bee (2006)
- ♦ The Hobart Shakespeareans (2005)

Rubric:

Element	Points Allotted
Thoroughness: portrays multiple perspectives on	<u>/</u> 10
teaching and education. Use one or more	
citations.	
Thoughtfulness: Includes an element of personal	_ /5
reflection/synthesis as well as communicating the	
implications for future practice.	
Total	<u>/</u> 15

DUE: Week 8 on Sunday by 11:59 p.m.

Assignment:
Interview
Teachers
and/or
Learners
15% of final
grade

Interview two people (teachers and/or learners) and write a 3-page review of what you learned about your selected topic. It could be two teachers, two learners, or one of each.

Develop a list of 6-8 open-ended questions around a certain educational topic; for example, K-12 curriculum. A sample question could be asking the teacher: "How do you decide what to teach in your class?" This will encourage an answer while you take detailed notes. It is highly recommended to record the interview.

When you are done, write a 3-page analysis talking about what you learned about the processes of teaching, learning, and schooling in general. Don't write what the teachers/learners said... tell what you learned about the topic. That's what matters... your learning.

Ask follow-up questions that delve farther into the essential issue – and you might learn about a topic that wasn't your original focus. Avoid asking a series of disconnected questions that don't lead anywhere or fail to give you important insight.

Your paper should make clear connections between what was learned in the interviews and what you are learning in class.

Use at least 1 citation, either from class readings, books, or your own research.

Rubric:

Element	Points Allotted
Thoroughness: portrays multiple perspectives on teaching and learning. Use one or more citations.	/8
Thoughtfulness: Includes an element of personal reflection/synthesis communicating the implications for future practice.	/5
Mechanics (i.e capitalization, punctuation and spelling)	/2
Total	/15

DUE: Week 13 on Sunday by 11:59 p.m.

Assignment: Letter to my Future Self in Education 15% of final grade You will write a letter to yourself, 15 years in the future. You can include any details you'd like, but it must include the following:

- What is your current role in education? You could be in involved in education in a variety of ways. As a:
 - Teacher
 - Parent
 - Administrator
 - Volunteer
 - School Board Member
 - Politician
- What do you hope for yourself in whatever role you have become? What would you tell yourself are the most important things to remember about education?

- What article or video from this class would you have yourself go back and read/watch? And why?
- What will you hope has changed by then?
- What advice will you give your future self?

Feel free to include any other information. There is no page requirement for this assignment.

Rubric:

Letter demonstrates thoughtful	/12
reflection and makes connections to	
topics learned in class	
Mechanics (i.e capitalization, punctuation and spelling)	/3
Total	/15

DUE: Week 15 on Sunday by 11:59 p.m.

Core Values Commitment

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

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their
 Mason 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 with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see https://ds.gmu.edu/).
- Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to <u>tk20help@gmu.edu</u> or <u>https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20</u>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <u>http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/</u>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see
 https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus

Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:

As a faculty member, I am designated as a "Responsible Employee," and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason's Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason's confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek

	assistance from Mason's Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing			
	titleix@gmu.edu.			
	For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit			
	our website https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/ .			
Professional	Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all			
Dispositions	times. See https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/			
Mason Honor	The complete Honor Code is as follows:			
Code	To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all			
	members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic			
	and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth			
	this honor code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to			
	cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work. (catalog.gmu.edu)			
Cheating	Any form of cheating on an activity, project, or exam will result in zero points earned. "Cheating"			
Policy	includes, but is not limited to, the following: reviewing others' exam papers, having ANY			
	resources utilized when not allowed, collaborating with another student during an individual			
	assignment.			
	If you have questions about when the contributions of others to your work must be acknowledged			
	and appropriate ways to cite those contributions, please talk with the professor or utilize the			
	GMU writing center.			
Plagiarism	Copyright rules also apply to users of the Internet who cite from Internet sources. Information			
and the	and graphics accessed electronically must also be cited, giving credit to the sources.			
Internet	This material includes but is not limited to e-mail (don't cite or forward someone else's e-mail			
	without permission), newsgroup material, information from Web sites, including graphics. Even			
	if you give credit, you must get permission from the original source to put any graphic that you			
	did not create on your web page. Shareware graphics are not free. Freeware clipart is available			
	for you to freely use. If the material does not say "free," assume it is not.			
	Putting someone else's Internet material on your web page is stealing intellectual property.			
	Making links to a site is, at this time, okay, but getting permission is strongly advised, since many			
	Web sites have their own requirements for linking to their material. Review the Honor Code here.			

Unless otherwise stated, all assignments are due by the end of the week in which they are assigned. For the purposes of this course, a week is defined as **beginning at 12:00 am each Monday EST**, and **ending at 11:59 pm on the following Sunday EST**.

To help you manage your schedule and time to complete the assignments in this course, please follow the recommended timeline below. If you have a question or concern or encounter a problem about an assignment, please contact Dr. Bean immediately so we can discuss and work out a resolution.

Weeks	Lessons	Readings
Week 1	Lesson 1: Course Overview	 Read Syllabus carefully Watch VIDEO: Taylor Mali on What Teachers Make: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RxsOVK4syxU
Week 2	Lesson 2:	Read TEXT: Nieto (2015), Part I (Chap 1)

	Unit 1: What is Effective Teaching?	 Read ARTICLE: Ripley (2010) Watch VIDEO: What makes great teachers great: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXaLGt460e4&t=627s
Week 3	Lesson 3: Learning Environments: Building trust and community	 Read TEXT: Nieto (2015), Part II (Pick 1 chapter of your choice) Watch VIDEO: Elementary students on good teaching: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D25mzs47EZs
Week 4	Lesson 4: Identifying as a Teacher	Read TEXT: Nieto (2015), Part III (Pick 1 chapter of your choice)
Week 5	Lesson 5: Unit 2: What is being taught? InTASC standards for teachers	 Read TEXT: Nieto (2015), Part IV (Pick 2 chapters of your choice) Watch VIDEO: What makes good teaching? A short film by Harvard Education Students: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1-zTiVl-BM Review PDF: InTASC Summary of Standards
Week 6	Lesson 6: Standards Based Instruction	 Read TEXT: Nieto (2015), Part V (Pick 2 chapters of your choice) Read ARTICLE: Girod & Girod (2012): Standards-based schools Review WEBSITE: http://www.corestandards.org/ Review WEBSITE: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/index.shtml
Week 7	Lesson 7: NCLB & ESSA: Federal Legislation Acronyms to know	 Read TEXT: Nieto (2015), Part VI (pick 2 chapters) Read ARTICLE: Dennis (2017) Read WEBSITE: https://www2.ed.gov/nclb/overview/intro/parents/parentfacts.html Read WEBSITE: https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=rn
Week 8	Lesson 8: Unit 3: Teaching learners Educating All Students	 Read WEBSITE: MLK Jr (1948). The purpose of education http://old.seattletimes.com/special/mlk/king/education.html Read ARTICLE: Talebi (2015): begin on page 4 (Education and Teacher Education); read through page 12 Read PDF: Purposes of School DUE: Education in the Movies Assignment
Week 9	Lesson 9: Classroom Climates and	 Read ARTICLE: Ladson-Billings, G. (2011) Read ARTICLE: Everett, C. (2019) Read ARTICLE: Battle, C. (2019)

	Needs of our students	
Week 10	Lesson 10: Assessment	 Read ARTICLE: Badger & Quely (2017) https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/12/05/upshot/a-better-way-to-compare-public-schools.html Watch VIDEO: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-OecsmgeJoM Read WEBSITE: https://www.edutopia.org/article/what-does-research-say-about-testing
Week 11	Lesson 11: Motivating Learners	 Read TEXT: Johnston (2012) Chapters 1-3 Read ARTICLE: Parsons et al (2014)
Week 12	Lesson 12: Teacher language	 Read TEXT: Johnston (2012) Chapter 4 Read ARTICLE: Kohn (2001) Read ARTICLE: DeWitt (2012)
Week 13	Lesson 13: Constructive classroom conversations	Read TEXT: Johnston (2012) Chapter 5 -6 DUE: Interview Teachers and/or Learners
Week 14	Lesson 14: Moral Agency Collaboration among students including online environments	 Read TEXT: Johnston (2012) Chapter 7-8 Read ARTICLE: Watson (2020)
Week 15	Lesson 15: Ongoing Reflection and Professional Development	 Read TEXT: Nieto (2015): Part VII (Pick one plus read Ch 24) Read TEXT: Johnston (2012) Chapter 9 DUE: Letter to my Future Self in Education