Supervision of Teacher Candidates
EDCI 588 -851
Desire to Learn (D2L) online course
Credits: 2

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This course is designed to assist the cooperating teacher or the field supervisor of a teacher candidate. The course is delivered via the Desire2Learn on-line platform and consists of reading and responding to assignments that cover practical concerns while working with a teacher candidate. Students of this course post their responses to assignments in the discussion forum of D2L, which allows everyone in the class to read and respond to each other's posts. The course format is designed for the busy teacher or field supervisor who is interested in learning more about the process of mentoring a teacher candidate. Most of the assignments involve reflecting on this on-going process while learning about the different methods of co- teaching, understanding the importance of the teacher work sample, and looking at different ways of assessing the teacher candidate's performance.

This course is a practical view of the supervision and mentoring of teacher candidates. Topics include: Getting to Know Each Other, Frequently Asked Questions of Cooperating Teachers, The Co-Teaching Model, Pre and Post Observation Questions, the MSU Teacher Work Sample, Case Studies of Common Problems, Reflection on Teacher Candidate Development.

GOALS

Enhance the experience of cooperating teachers with their teacher candidates by identifying coaching techniques needed to mutually benefit the mentor/novice relationship.

Develop reflective communication to bridge the expert to novice level.

Utilize methods and techniques of non-evaluative observation to mentor the novice teacher.

Successfully navigate the on-line discussion format, developing relationships with other members of the class, sharing experiences and information about the cooperating teaching experience, and learning from each other and the instructors.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to read the assigned articles and/or instructions for the writing assignments and create at least one post for each assignment on a week-by-week basis.

Students will read each other's posts and respond to at least one other classmate's post per assignment.

Students will implement the concepts put forth in the course within their schools, devoting "field time" to applying the concepts.

OUTLINE

NOTE: Specific assignments for each topic are outlined on D2L.

Getting to Know Each Other

Frequently Asked Questions of Cooperating Teachers – Overview of the mentoring process in a FAQ format.

The Co-Teaching Model – Techniques for enhancing co-teaching with your teacher candidate.

Pre-and Post Observation Questions – Developing thoughtful, reflective observation through questioning, listening, and reflecting.

The MSU Teacher Work Sample – A close look at what the teacher candidate must do to complete this assignment, giving the cooperating teacher insight into this project.

Case Studies of Common Problems – Real life scenarios on management issues that frequently occur during the student teaching experience. This topic allows the cooperating teacher to problem-solve according to his or her own experience.

Reflection on Teacher Candidate Progress – Looking at the expectations and the reality as the teacher candidate moves forward in the student teaching experience.

Course is Pass/Fail

This is a discussion-based, on-line course.

Read each article/assignment and write a reflective posting on what you consider important enough to share with other members of the class. You may write about your current experiences with your teacher candidate in these postings as well as ask questions of other classmates. In addition, write a detailed comment on at least one other classmate's posting per assignment.