

CALE: Social Studies for the Elementary and Middle School

EDU 518 – 70 2 (3 credits)

Spring 2009, Curtis 354

Thursdays 7 – 9:30 p.m.

January 19 – April 30

Dr. James Mauch

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Course Description:

This course prepares the prospective teacher to develop and implement learning experiences and assessments based on the PDE standards. Emphasis is on teaching strategies and reading, writing, speaking and listening across the curriculum.

Prospective elementary teachers will explore a variety of strategies for providing students with standards-based learning experiences in history, geography, economics and political science including current events. Attention is paid to performance-based assessment and technology applications for social studies education. Prerequisite: EDU 512.

Course Outcomes:

1. The ability to identify, explain, compare, and contrast the various subjects that encompass the social studies.
2. The ability to offer a variety of different social studies learning experiences to elementary students.
3. The ability to model a diverse number of teaching strategies in the social studies.
4. The ability to consistently employ technology that *enhances* teaching and learning.
5. The ability to design and develop meaningful lessons in the social studies.
6. The ability to use the Internet and other sources to conduct research, *commensurate with graduate-level work*, on a variety of social studies topics and to communicate the results of that research to a group of peers.

7. An understanding of the various ways in which the social studies can be taught and learned outside of the classroom and the role that the teacher plays in facilitating this kind of learning.
8. A particular understanding of the roles that museums (both on-site and virtual) can play in a comprehensive social studies education.
9. The ability to effectively assess social studies outcomes.

Textbooks Required:

Savage, T.V. & Armstrong, D.G. (2008) *Effective teaching in the elementary social studies*, Sixth Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, Merrill, Prentice Hall.

Course Requirements:

1. Actively and intelligently engage in in-class discussions. This includes participating in thoughtful reflection and assessment designed to help all of us develop as educators.
2. Conduct graduate-level research in the teaching and learning of elementary social studies.
3. Attend all classes, arriving on time and staying for the duration of class.
4. Ask questions.
5. Challenge yourself and your peers in a diplomatic and professional manner.
6. Model a variety of social studies teaching skills.
7. Help to assess your classmates' performances as developing social studies teachers.

NOTE: For any assignments that include documentation of sources, students are required to use APA style.

Course Assessment:

Grades are based on the following assessments:

Response Papers: 7 total, 5 points each, 35 points total. 2 pages maximum, typed and double spaced. See schedule for due dates:

#1: Your view of the purpose of the social studies

#2: History and Geography can be so boring – how do you intend to make them come alive for your students?

#3: Political Science and Economics are so applicable to adult life – how do we help students to connect to and understand these concepts?

#4 Describe for us which strategy(ies) seem a “best fit” with your teaching style and state why you believe this is so.

#5 With what other content areas do you see a chance to integrate with for the teaching of skills of the social studies and how would you accomplish this?

#6 Theorize as to what some of the biggest impediments are to teaching issues of diversity and multicultural education are to elementary students.

#7 How will you accommodate the LEP learner in your classroom?

Reading Quizzes: 35 points total (5 points each)

Social Studies Lesson Idea: 100 points (includes lesson plan conforming to CCC lesson plan format)

Class Participation: 90 points total, 10 points each class for attendance, assessing classmates’ work and participating in discussions

Online Research: 100 points total, 20 points each

Final Exam (Research Paper): 40 Points

Total = 400 points

Attendance/Lateness/Leaving Class Early (Departmental Policy):

Your attendance at all class meetings is expected and a vital part of the learning process. If vacations, athletic activities, professional duties, medical appointments, or any other conflicts prevent you from ***fully attending all*** classes, *you are strongly encouraged to take this course during another semester*. If an illness or emergency occurs during the semester, you are responsible for contacting the course instructor to make up work missed. Due to the interactive nature of this course, however, ***there will be assignments that you will not be able to make up if you are absent***.

Late Submission of Assignments:

Assignments are to be submitted on the due date to receive full credit for the work. If you are having difficulty completing an assignment, please speak to me.

Honor Philosophy:

The formal honor philosophy adopted by Cedar Crest College as outlined in the college course catalogue and student handbook is strictly followed in this class.

Appropriate classroom behavior, the generation of original work, proper citation of sources consulted and used, and the creation and maintenance of a courteous, respectful classroom environment and a classroom free from distractions is implicit in the CCC honor philosophy.

The *Cedar Crest College Student Guide* includes the following under *Honor Philosophy, Community Standards for Academic Conduct, Classroom Protocol*:

Appropriate classroom behavior is implicit in the Cedar Crest Honor Code. Such behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations, and any other behavior that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students' access to their Cedar Crest College education.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is regarded as a failure to comply with the college honor code. If it is determined that a student has used the work of another person and has not cited that person in APA style as the source of the idea(s), a grade of “0” will be earned for that paper.

Class Cancellations:

College-wide class cancellations are announced on the regular media outlets and on the college inclement weather hotline (610-606-4629). In the rare event I must cancel an individual class, every effort will be made to notify students via e-mail of the class cancellation. I collect contact information at the start of the semester for this purpose. If a class is cancelled, we will complete all of the work scheduled during our next meeting.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center.

Final Examination Policy:

Your obligations for this course include attendance at the final exam, on the day and time scheduled by the Registrar's Office. You should not make travel arrangements until the final exam schedule is published; if you must make plans early, you should schedule your travel after the last final exam day.

Course Schedule:

- Class 1: January 22nd Course introduction and overview
Review of syllabus
What are your social studies experiences?
Assignment: Begin work on standards (see online night #1 description)
- Class 2: January 29th Online Class #1: SS Standards Review.
Assignment: Read S&A 2-27. Work on standards presentation.
- Class 3: February 5th Response Paper #1 due today
Class discussion S&A 2-27; Purpose of a Social Studies Education
Group Presentations on Standards
Reading Quiz on S&A 2-27
Assignment: Begin work on online assignment. Begin to work on Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
- Class 4: February 12th Online Class #2: Innovative ways to teach social studies to elementary students.
Assignment: Read S&A 28-51; Begin to work on Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
- Class 5: February 19th Response Paper #2 due today
Class discussion S&A 28-51; How do we make History and Geography come alive? AND what we discovered in our online research.
Reading Quiz on S&A 28-51 and standards
Assignment: Work on online night #3 assignment. Work on Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
- Class 6: February 26th Online Night #3
Assignment: Read S&A 52-80; work on Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations.
- Class 7: March 5th Response Paper #3 due today
Class discussion S&A 52-80; How to connect young students with political science and economics AND what we discovered in our online research.
Reading Quiz on S&A 52-80
Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
Assignment: Work on online assignment. Work on Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations

- Class 8: March 19th Online Night # 4
Assignment: Read S&A 109-156; work on Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
- Class 9: March 26th Response Paper #4 due today
Class discussion S&A 109-156; Teaching strategies that work in the social studies AND what we discovered in our online research
Reading Quiz on S&A 109-156
Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
Assignment: Read S&A 158-187 and 264-286;
Work on Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
- Class 10: April 2nd Response Paper #5 due today
Class Discussion S&A 158-187 and 264-286;
Integrating the social studies with other content areas
Reading Quiz on S&A 158-187 and 264-286
Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
Assignment: Read S&A 188-211; Work on Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
- Class 11: April 9th Response Paper #6 due today
Class Discussion S&A 188-211; Diversity Issues
Reading Quiz S&A 188-211
Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
Assignment: Read S&A 212-233; Work on your Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
- Class 12: April 16th Response Paper #7 due today
Class Discussion S&A 212-233; How to include the LEP learner
Reading Quiz S&A 212-233
Social Studies Lesson Ideas Presentations
Work on online assignment. Work on final exam.
- Class 13: April 23rd Online Night #5
Assignment: S&A 288-314. Work on final exam.
- Class 14: April 30th Class Discussion S&A 288-314; Assessment in the social studies AND results of our research online
Final Exam

A guest has been invited to speak to our class – date TBA.