Instructor: Dr. William D. Edgington  
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Office hours: Mon-Fri 12:00-1:00

Texts/Readings:  

Course Description:  
This course examines growth and learning in elementary environs. Major theories of teaching-learning process are studied. Human development related to education is emphasized. Special attention is paid to the cultural milieu. This course is designed to make candidates aware of the physical, mental, emotional, and social development of children from preconception through adolescence, including issues regarding diversity and educational challenges. Additionally, candidates learn why these developmental issues are important to learning and instruction through classroom discussion and group work, field experience, small group interactions with children and finally, through self-exploration and reflection on their personal lives.

A minimum of ten hours will be spent in field experiences in a public school classroom. During Field Experience students will observe public school teachers and students for information related to coursework. For specific Field Experience requirements see assignment descriptions below.

STANDARDS MATRIX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES</th>
<th>COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT</th>
<th>STATE STANDARDS/NCATE STANDARDS</th>
<th>STATE COMPETENCIES</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| The candidate will be able to identify and describe the contextual factors that impact learning for all students. | Candidates will observe students in Field Experience Placement Site  
Candidates will develop timeline presentation including significant events in their development and schooling.  
Candidates will develop and discuss procedures for Piaget Testing | Field Experience Reflection Paper  
Class Discussion  
My Life Timeline Presentation  
Class Discussion | 1.1 k., 1.2 k., 1.3 k., 1.5 k, 1.14k  
PPR 4 | PPR 1 |
| The candidate will be able to describe the physical, cognitive, socio-emotional, and moral | | | | |
developmental theories, including:
- Nature/nurture
- Brain development
- Piaget
- Vygotsky
- Erikson
- Marcia
- Kohlberg.

- The candidate will be able to describe the importance of family involvement and environmental elements that impact learning, including:
  - teratogens
  - poverty
  - culture
  - family structure
  - ethnicity
  - sexual Identity

Based on the previous mentioned contextual factors, the candidate will be able to describe appropriate instruction for all students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEACHER STANDARDS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Sam Houston State University Teacher Preparation Program is committed to assisting teachers achieve the following proficiencies, which collectively describe a vision of an Ideal Teacher. <strong>In this course, we will focus on Standard I, specifically Competencies 1, 2, and 4.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Standard I.** The teacher designs instruction appropriate for all students that reflects an understanding of relevant content and is based on continuous and appropriate assessment.

**Domain I.** Designing Instruction and Assessment to Promote Student Learning.
• **Competency 1**: The teacher understands human developmental processes and applies this knowledge to plan instruction and ongoing assessment that motivate students and are responsive to their developmental characteristics and needs.

• **Competency 2**: The teacher understands student diversity and knows how to plan learning experiences and design assessments that are responsive to differences among students and that promote all students’ learning.

• **Competency 4**: The teacher understands learning processes and factors that impact student learning and demonstrates this knowledge by planning effective, engaging instruction and appropriate assessments.

* Web address for state standards: [http://www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us)

* Web link to Conceptual Framework: [http://www.shsu.edu/~ncate/concept.html](http://www.shsu.edu/~ncate/concept.html)

* Web link to TExES study guides: [http://texes.ets.org/](http://texes.ets.org/)

### Course Content:

Our goal is to make students aware of:

- Physical development (nature/nurture, etc.)
- Mental development (brain development, language acquisition, etc.)
- Emotional and Social Development
- Major developmental theories (historical and current)
- Diversity (SES, ethnicity, family structure, sexual identity, etc.)
- Educational challenges (ADHD, Abuse, Peer Pressure, etc.)

We provide opportunities for students to:

- Observe and interact with children in school settings
- Observe children on videos
- Interact with children one-on-one and in small group settings
- Engage in small group work to complete tasks
- Share their individual life experiences and reflections

Through these activities, students will:

- Gain factual knowledge such as terminology, classifications and methods
- Learn fundamental principals, generalizations, and theories
- Learn to apply course material to improve thinking, problem solving, and decision making
- Develop specific skills, competencies and points of view needed by professionals in the field
- Acquire skills in working with others as a member of a team

**IDEA Objectives for this course:**

- Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)
- Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions.

### Course Requirements:

Check BLACKBOARD and your E-MAIL account regularly. I often send comments, clarifications, and urgent messages through e-mail. On Blackboard, I post assignments, documents, any take-home tests, etc. There might be class summaries of the lessons and homework reminders for the next class sent to you through e-mail.
**Teacher Work Sample:** As you begin your certification courses, you will also be learning about the Teacher Work Sample (TWS). Basically, the TWS contains seven teaching processes identified by research and best practice as fundamental to improving student learning. The TWS is designed to help you learn to think about planning and implementing instruction like an effective teacher. In SED 374, we will focus on one of those processes, **Contextual Factors.** For specific requirements, refer to assignment instructions distributed during the semester.

**Field Experience:** Field Experience is designed to give you the opportunity to observe teachers and students in the public school, and apply information covered in class to the classroom. There are specific assignments related to Field Experience. Successful completion of Field Experience and Field Experience assignments is required to receive credit for this course.

**Exams - 180 Points**
There will be three exams, worth 60 points each. **If you know you will be absent on the day of a test, see me and I can arrange for you to take it early. Tests NEED to be made up within the week it is given.**

**My Life (Timeline) - 50 points**
This project includes a brief (5-10 minute MAXIMUM) presentation and a four-five page paper (My Life Theory Paper). For the presentation, you will create and present a timeline (on poster board) of developmental milestones and significant events in your life that influenced you as a student and/or your decision to become a teacher (consider perhaps the happiest, saddest, embarrassing moment, favorite teacher, positive/negative influences in your life, etc.) (10 points). For the paper, you will summarize a developmental theory and relate it to your life or lifeline (40 points). More information will be provided in class or via Blackboard.

**Developmental Brochure – 20 points**
Students will work in groups to create a brochure of key developmental information about a specific age-group. Specific directions will be given for the assignment and time will be given during class time to work in groups.

**Educational Issues Discussion – 20 points**
Students will work in groups to gather information on a current educational issue, emphasizing developmental components, and present to the class. Specific directions will be given for the assignment and time will be given during class time to work in groups.

**Attendance - 10 points**
During this semester, you can earn 10 points for attendance. You will receive 10 points for three or less hours absent.

**Field Experience Reflection - 35 points**
All SED 374 students must complete 10 hours of observation in order to receive credit for this course. After these observations, you will be required to write a brief reflective essay (Field Experience Reflection Paper) answering some specific questions about your experiences as well as enter information with the Office of Field Experience. All Field Experience documentations should be submitted to your instructor.

**AEIS Printout and Contextual Factor Paper – 45 points**
You need to print out the most recent AEIS report from the school(s) where you complete your 10 hours of Field Experience. (See Office of Field Experience website on how to do this). In class, we will discuss how to read and use the information in the AEIS report. From these discussions, you will write a paper discussing the contextual factors of your school.
PPR Programmatic Portfolio—10 points
As an education student, one of the programmatic requirements is that you compile a portfolio. Each class you take in education will require you to add to this programmatic portfolio. For this class you will need to create a portfolio with the following items as well as artifacts and justifications for Competencies 1, 2, and 4. Please note that for every artifact in your PPR Programmatic Portfolio, you will need a justification.

This justification about each artifact in your portfolio should be about 5 sentences in length and should relate directly to the competencies the artifact reflects. You should include specific vocabulary from the competency when possible. The statement should also answer these questions about the artifact:

- When did you create this artifact?
- Who is it written for? (Content, Course, and Grade Level)
- Where have you used it or will you use it in the future?
- Why do you believe that your artifact will be effective when used in a classroom?

PPR Binder – 5 points
Dispositions – 5 points

More information will be provided during the semester in class or via Blackboard. We recommend you begin to save on a desktop, a disk, a zip drive, etc., (the key word here is SAVE) these and any additional items:

1. Title Page
2. Table of Contents
3. My Life Theory Paper with Portfolio Justification
4. Self-Evaluation (dispositions) Form/Teacher Disposition Summary Chart
5. Field Experience Reflection Paper (paper/electronic)
6. Field Experience Log (paper/electronic)
7. Field Experience AEIS (paper/electronic)

Note - Papers turned in must comply with the following:
1. Type the paper and run spelling/grammar checks
2. Follow the recommended length
3. Add page numbers (this is especially important if you e-mail me any information)
4. Staple pages together

Evaluation:
370 possible points

Grading Scale
A = 340 – 370
B = 310 – 339.9
C = 259-309.9
D = Below 259
A grade of D or lower will result in the student repeating the course.

Expectations:

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY
Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education
excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for
the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose
absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be
allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused
within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor.
A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a)
religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the
religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the
first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will
complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed
assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY
It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified individual with
disabilities shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be
denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life
program or activity. Students with disabilities may request help with academically related
problems stemming from individual disabilities from their instructors, school/department chair,
or by contacting the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and
Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with
respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with
disabilities that may affect adversely their work in this class should register with the SHSU
Counseling Center and talk with their University supervisor and classroom mentor teachers about
how they can help. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no
accommodation can be made until registration with the Counseling Center is complete.

Attendance Policy: Regular and punctual attendance is required for class, seminars, and field
experience. A student shall not be penalized for three or fewer hours of absences when exams or
other assigned class work have not been missed; however, at the discretion of the instructor, a
student may be penalized for more than three hours of absences. Absences, tardies and early
exits will affect grades. The three hours of absence provided by University policy should be used
carefully for illness and emergencies.

After second hour the student will be notified by instructor via e-mail of a concern over these
two absences. After the third hour the student will receive a copy of the letter sent to the Chair
of C & I indicating a concern over absences. After the fourth hour, a meeting will be held with
the student, faculty, and chair to determine if the student needs to continue in the program.

Attendance (absences, tardies, early exits) will be documented each day. Students should discuss
each absence with the instructor in advance. Excessive absences and/or tardies may adversely
affect your final grade in this class.

If you are 15 minutes late or leave 15 minutes before class is dismissed, I will count that as an
absence. A student who shows a pattern of coming in late or leaving early will be notified that
continuation in this behavior will result in being counted absent and that procedures for being absent will be followed.

Assignments and Handouts: All assignments need to be turned in on the due date. If for some reason you are unable to bring in an assignment, or have a friend bring it in when it is due, 10% (from the total possible points) will be deducted each day it is late. Do not e-mail me your assignments unless prior arrangements have been made.

I will only take responsibility for having handouts and materials at class on the day initially provided. If you have to be absent, be sure you have arranged for a peer to obtain materials for you or see me during office hours.

Time Requirement: For each hour attempted, at least three hours outside class is expected. This 3-credit hour course will meet three hours each week. This means a minimum of nine hours each week outside of class in which to read, observe, and complete assignments. It is expected that if you are enrolled in this course, you can meet the time requirements. I expect that you read the material before you come to class.

Professionalism: Attendance, punctuality, the quality of your interactions with colleagues and supervisors, and the quality and timeliness regarding completing assignments all determine your professionalism, which in turn, signals your readiness to advance in the teacher education program. In this class, I will not only lecture, but will expect you to participate in classroom discussion and activities. If you feel you cannot appreciate the comments and questions of others in this class, respect the attendance and punctuality expectations, or handle the workload for this course this semester, you might consider registering during another semester.

Bibliography:


### Tentative Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Assignments Due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue June 3</td>
<td>Overview of Course</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed June 4</td>
<td>Nature of Education in Texas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu June 5</td>
<td>Portfolio and TWS; Psychosocial and Cognitive Development (Bloom)</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri June 6</td>
<td>Psychosocial and Cognitive Development (Erickson &amp; Piaget)</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon June 9</td>
<td>Psychosocial and Cognitive Development (Vygotsky &amp; Kohlberg)</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue June 10</td>
<td>My Life Presentation</td>
<td>My Life Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed June 11</td>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu June 12</td>
<td>Age Level Characteristics</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri June 13</td>
<td>Field Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon June 16</td>
<td>Understanding Student Differences</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue June 17</td>
<td>Cultural and Socioeconomic Diversity</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed June 18</td>
<td>Student Variability</td>
<td>Chapter 6 Developmental Brochure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu June 19</td>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri June 20</td>
<td>Field Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon June 23</td>
<td>Information Processing</td>
<td>Chapter 8 Field Experience Reflection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue June 24</td>
<td>Constructivist Learning Theory</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed June 25</td>
<td>Approaches to Instruction</td>
<td>Chapter 11 AEIS/Contextual Factors Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu June 26</td>
<td>Educational Issues Discussion</td>
<td>Educational Issues Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri June 27</td>
<td>PPR Portfolio Share</td>
<td>PPR Portfolio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon June 30</td>
<td>Wrap-up</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue July 1</td>
<td>Exam #3</td>
<td></td>
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