



Developing Dynamic Curriculum: EDUO 9891

3 Semester Credits/Units - \$465

Syllabus

Course Overview:

Teachers and counselors will further develop their classroom curriculum through research, collaboration and exploration. They will develop ready to use classroom projects to engage all students. All class meetings take place in a local school over 8 weeks, meeting one night per week. There will be an additional 8 hours of independent work to be logged and handed in at the end of the course along with the class evaluation.

Course Description:

Some curricula are tightly prescribed, others have more flexibility. Most teachers, however, want to add their own ideas and flair to their curricula in order to create compelling and dynamic activities and lesson plans. Unfortunately, they often have difficulty finding the time to do so. Developing Dynamic Curriculum, EDUO 9891 gives teachers that time, in the company of and with the collaboration of other teachers and counselors, to work on curricula that will engage all of their students.

Course Objectives:

1. Identify curriculum to enhance for personal classroom use.
2. Investigate resources that will help teacher create engaging lessons.
3. Gather pertinent information.
4. Collaborate with other teachers.
5. Create dynamic lesson plans and projects for the classroom that will engage all students.
6. Create one eight-hour project or two four-hour projects; both related to developing dynamic curricula that will engage all students

Location and Date Options:

Fort Bragg, CA

Dates: (Mondays) January 22, 29 February 5, 12, 26 March 5, 12, 19

Times: 4:30pm - 9:00pm

Location: Noyo High School Room F, 250 South Sanderson Way, Fort Bragg

Instructor: Karen Rakofsky / nerak@mcn.org

Santa Rosa, CA

Dates: (Tuesdays) February 6 - March 27

Times: 4:30pm - 9:00pm

Location: Robert L. Stevens Elementary School, 2345 Giffen Avenue, Santa Rosa

Instructor: Sue Jordan / sieramolloy@aol.com

San Rafael, CA

Dates: (Tuesdays) February 6 - March 27

Times: 4:30pm - 9:00pm

Location: Vallecito Elementary School, 50 Nova Albion Way, Terra Linda

Instructor: Kristen Sargent / krissargent@comcast.net

Course Assignments

Week 1: Introduction

- Present expectations of class
- Identify class demographics with special attention to connecting teachers and counselors with similar demographics
- Discuss the differences between teaching curriculum with and without teacher/counselor creative input
- Initial decision of curriculum on which to focus

Week 2: Overview of different curricula areas to be explored and developed

- Initial brainstorming of ways to enhance curriculum
- Confirm areas on which to focus
- Decide on focus project
- Collaborate with colleagues within the classroom
- Begin exploration and research to enhance curricula

Week 3: Independent and/or collaborative work

- Research and creation of projects for curriculum enhancement
- Collaboration with colleagues
- Work towards goals
- Individuals share progress with whole class

Week 4: Discussion of Strategies and Individual/Small Group Work

- Share new and interesting strategies with whole group
- Discuss roadblocks to successful use of new strategies
- Small group brainstorming of ways to overcome challenges
- Full group sharing of same
- Individuals share progress with whole class

Week 5: Midterm Evaluation

- Discuss individual progress towards goals
- Small groups formed by those working on similar goals with similar challenges and/or successes to explore or expand
- Full class discussion of use of strategies for inclusion of all students
- Adjust individual goals as needed
- Individuals share progress with whole class

Week 6: Individual and Participant Chosen Collaborative Activities

- Continue work on projects and curricula individually or collaboratively
- Modification and enhancement as needed
- Individuals share progress with whole class

Week 7: Personal Evaluation of Projects and Curricula Enhancements

- Class discussion of critical analysis of projects and other enhancements
- Application of class discussion to individual work
- Short presentations of enhancement activities created in the classroom

Week 8: Present Independent Projects and Enhancement Projects/Activities

Created During the Course

- Short presentations of 8-hour projects
- Discussion of the value added from focusing on developing dynamic curriculum

Class Requirements:

1. Attendance
2. Participation
3. Curriculum development project to be done outside of class and school hours: logged and presented to class on the last day of class.

Option One: One eight-hour project

Option Two: Two four-hour projects

These projects should be ready to use in each individual teacher's classroom. Copies may be shared with class, if appropriate.

Hand in logs, final projects and evaluations on the last day of class.

Evaluations will be emailed or given to teachers/counselors before the last class session.

Course Rubric:

EXCELLENT – Meets or Exceeds Course Objectives	ACCEPTABLE – Majority of Work Meets Course Objectives	NOT ACCEPTABLE - Needs Considerable Improvement: Resubmit Work
All work submitted reflects in-depth understanding of course objectives.	Most work submitted reflects in-depth understanding of course objectives.	Work shows little or no in-depth understanding of course objectives.
Assignment discussions, projects and activities show evidence of new knowledge gained.	Most assignment discussions, projects and activities show evidence of new knowledge gained.	Assignment discussions, projects and activities show little to no evidence of new knowledge gained.
Work submitted was organized and clearly articulated.	Most work submitted was organized and clearly articulated.	Work submitted was not organized or not clearly articulated.
Assignment content and required projects were original.	Assignment content and required projects were original.	Evidence that not all assignment content and required projects were original.

Resources:

- Ginnis, Paul, The Teacher's Toolkit: Raise Classroom Achievement with Strategies for Every Learner, Crown House Publishing; Illustrated edition, ISBN-10: 1899836764
<http://www.teachhub.com/5-teaching-strategies-keep-class-interesting>