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C&I 527.50: Advanced Literacy Strategies for Middle and Secondary Content Area Teachers

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CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION 527
Advanced Literacy Strategies for Middle and
Secondary Content Area Teachers
On-Line
Fall 2004
The University of Montana

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The limits of our language are the limits of our world.
--Ludwig Wittgenstein

Textbooks:

Three novels from young adult or adolescent literature from which you will be designing activities throughout the semester. (Required)
Vacca, R.T., & Vacca, J. A. (2005). Content area reading. 8th ed. Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon

Goals for the Course:

By the end of this semester you will:

- 1) understand the expanded definition of the nature of literacy and its social and cultural impact on a diverse and multicultural society
- 2) create a variety of meaningful classroom activities, materials, & resources for future use
- 3) understand how students learn most effectively and apply this understanding to classroom methods and activities
- 4) be able to assess and select text materials for classroom and district wide use
- 5) be familiar with a variety of ways to assess student abilities and plan for instruction accordingly
- 6) develop strategies for using young adult literature in all content area classes
- 7) be able to address, design and conduct a classroom research project
- 8) be current with professional literature and research in the area of literacy studies
- 9) develop the habit of reflective practice
- 10) challenge and reinforce your own beliefs and feelings about teaching.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS, ATTENDANCE, AND EVALUATION

Requirements:

1. Complete the assigned readings and be prepared for class discussions.
NCATE Standards (10.58.521) (d), (f) i, ii, iii, iv, v, (g)
2. Prepare a text survey on a textbook of your choice from your teaching field.
NCATE Standards (10.58.521) (l) (b), i, B, C, D, (c) i, ii, iii, v, vi, (d) i, ii, (h) v
3. Design, prepare, and present book club selections. (Completed by 10/21.)
NCATE Standards (10.58.521) (l) (a) i, ii, iii, iv, (h) iv, v, (j) i, ii
4. Participate in blackboard discussion groups & design text based activities for the class
NCATE Standards (10.58.521) (l) (d), (f) i, ii, iii, iv, v, (g)
5. Write a personal literacy history paper.
NCATE Standards (10.58.521) (l) (c) iii, (f) i, ii, iii, iv, v, (h) i, iii, viii, (j) v, (k)
6. Develop a Civic Engagement Project, (Academic Service learning), in which you and your students are the Learner/Servers. It may be possible for you to combine this project with the classroom action research project requirement.
NCATE Standards (10.58.521) (l) (b) i, (d), (g), (h) iv, v
7. Develop the question, design, procedures, and report on the results of a classroom mini-research project.
NCATE Standards (10.58.521) (10.58.501) (l) (a) i, v, (c) v, (d) i, (g) i, ii, iii, (h) iv, v, vi, (i) i, ii, iv
8. Prepare for a Final Assessment that will be determined.
NCATE Standards (10.58.521) (l) (b) ii, A, B, C, D, (c) i, ii, (j) i, ii, iii

Evaluation

Please keep a running record of your own performance. It is a good idea to keep your own copy of work and materials handed in to me.

A = 92-100; B = 82-93; C = 70-81

ASSIGNMENT	Points Possible	DUE DATES
Textbook Survey	10	September 30, 2004
Book Club Presentations	20	To be determined based on # of "Clubs" (First 8 Weeks of Class)
Personal Literacy History Paper	30	October 7, 2004
Text Discussions led by Teams Blackboard Participation & Activities Design	30	10/14; 10/21; 10/28; 11/18
Civic Engagement Discussion Teams	20	May be the same members as Text Teams. TBA for Second 8 Weeks of Class.
Civic Engagement Report and Final Reflection	30	December 2, 2004
Classroom Action Research Report	30	December 9, 2004
Final Assessment	(30) To be Determined	December 13, 2004

ISSUES OF FORMATTING

Format for any written assignments:

1. All papers should be typed, double-spaced and single sided. Do not write in the margins. Include on all papers your name, course & section number, the date and my name on the cover sheet.
2. The APA 5th Edition publication manual is required for educational writing.
3. Late work can not and will not be accepted.

Course Content		
DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT
Week I August 30, 2004	Course Introduction Information Cards Letter Response	Select Novels Buy Text Log On!
Week II September 6, 2004	Labor Day Holiday! Enjoy before the wheels start turning!	Vacca & Vacca Chpts. 1&3
Week III September 13, 2004	Organize Text Groups and Book Club members. Psychology of Literacy	The Story of the Cheques Respond to “Adolescent Literacy: A Position Statement at www.reading.org
Week IV September 20, 2004	The difference between teaching and telling! The Think-Aloud Strategy Textbook Surveys Reader-Response Groups	Complete Textbook Surveys on Vacca & Vacca Read Chapter 12 of Text
Week V September 27, 2004	What is service learning/civic engagement? Entry level Reflections Using Literature to teach content concepts The Charge to Book Clubs!	Read Chapter 5 of Text. Textbook Surveys due 9/30 in digital drop box
Week VI October 4, 2004	“The Challenge” Classroom Research Standards for Literacy and Learning in a Multicultural and Diverse World. Writing as a thinking/learning process	Book Club Presents. Vacca & Vacca Chpt.4 & 11 Personal Literacy History Paper Due! Digital Drop Box by October 7, 2004
Week VII October 11, 2004	Authentic Classroom Assessment and Techniques Service learning Reflections #2	Text Team I presents Vacca & Vacca Chpt.11 Vacca & Vacca 2
Week VIII October 18, 2004	Scaffolding Learning through the use of classroom strategies: DR-TA, KWL...	Book Club Presents Text Team II Presents on Vacca & Vacca Chpt. 9
Week IX October 25, 2004	Concept Attainment and Vocabulary Development	Book Club Presents.

Course Content		
		Text Team III Presents Vacca & Vacca Chpt.8
Week X November 1, 2004	Writing to Learn Learning @ Literature Service Learning Reflections #3	Book Club Presents
Week XI November 8, 2004	Visual Literacy and the Literacy of Viewing. How can we address this responsibility?	Vacca & Vacca Chpt. 6
Week XII November 15, 2004	How to plan for and execute three different kinds of Discussion Strategies.	Text Team IV Presents Chapters 7 & 10
Week XIII November 22, 2004	Thanksgiving Holiday—Give yourself this week to get caught up on readings and assignments	Eat, Drink, and Be Merry!
Week XIV November 29, 2004	The Inquiry Process and Reflective Discussion—Its Role in our Schools and classrooms. What is a Democratic Education?	Civic Engagement Report and Final Reflections Due. Digital Drop Box 12/ 2
Week XV December 6, 2004	Course Evaluations and Final Reflections	Classroom Action Research Report Due. Digital Drop Box 12.9
Week XVI December 13, 2004	Final Assessment	Celebrate!

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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