

**Murray State University**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**DEPARTMENT: ECE      COURSE NUMBER: EDU 423      CREDIT HOURS: 3**

**I. TITLE:** International Teaching Experience

**II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITES:** A course designed to provide an international teaching experience for prospective teachers through which they will come to understand the culture and educational system of another country. Students will be placed in an international educational setting and will collaborate with teachers and administrators to assist in providing instruction to students. Prerequisites: Completion of all undergraduate requirements of the Teacher Education Program for graduation/certification and have passed appropriate PRAXIS II/ Specialty Exams.

**III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The objectives listed below are derived from the Kentucky Teacher Standards (KTS). They focus on supporting instruction, enhancing professional growth and productivity, communicating and collaborating with colleagues, and solving problems. Following each objective are numbers enclosed in parentheses that correspond to the Kentucky Teacher Standards.

Each student will apply her or his knowledge of and competency with the following topics:

- A. The primary aspects of the educational system in the host country and the cultural influences that impact it (1, 3, 6)
- B. The ability to plan and implement lessons appropriate for students in the host country (1, 2, 4, 8,)
- C. The ability to collaborate with peers, classroom teachers, and school administrators in the host country to plan appropriate instruction (2, 4, 8)
- D. The ability to reflect upon one's classroom experiences and instructional behaviors in the host country (7)

**IV. CONTENT OUTLINE:**

- A. Education policies and organization in the host country
- B. The role(s) of teachers in the host country
- C. The curriculum of the student's discipline and/or grade levels in the host country
- D. Problems and challenges of teachers in the host country
- E. Comparisons of teaching experiences in the U.S. and the host country

**V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

- A. Pre-departure seminars
- B. Weekly live and online discussions
- C. Professional reading
- D. Instructional planning and implementation
- E. Instructional observations (live or videotaped)

**VI. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:**

This course requires travel to another country for direct teaching experience. If the instructor is not physically present, communication with the instructor will take place via e-mail or telephone. Students will teach a minimum of four days per week for four weeks to earn three credit hours.

**VII. TEXT AND RESOURCES:**

Online instructional resources as well as those provided by the host school.

Books, articles, web sites, and other references related to the culture and education system of the host country.

**VIII. EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCEDURES:**

A. Student performance will be assessed through the following activities:

1. Attendance at all pre-departure seminars
2. Weekly communications with the instructor during the international teaching experience
3. Readings as assigned by the instructor
4. Evidence of instructional planning and implementation during the international teaching experience
5. Observations of effective instruction during the teaching experience (live or videotaped)
6. Reflective paper
7. Professional behavior and sensitivity to cultural differences
8. Other projects as appropriate

B. Grades will be determined as follows:

A – 90-100%; B – 80-90%; C – 70-80%; D – 60-70%; E – below 60%.

**IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy outlined in the current *MSU Bulletin*. Students must attend all pre-departure seminars and teach a minimum of four days per week for the duration of the international teaching experience.

**X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

This course adheres to the academic honesty policy in the current *MSU Undergraduate Bulletin*.

**XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT:**

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or other provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).

**X. FLAG SYSTEM/ CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT:**

Student progress is continuously assessed throughout the teacher preparation program. Appropriate professional characteristics and dispositions, in addition to academic achievement, are assessed. Positive and negative flags are submitted by faculty to Teacher Education Services and then presented to admissions committees. Negative flags are carefully reviewed to make a determination as to whether a student should be denied admission OR if a professional development plan will be designed for the student's progress towards program completion. **NEGATIVE FLAGS MAY BE GROUNDS FOR DENIAL OF ADMISSION TO TEACHER EDUCATION AND/OR STUDENT TEACHING.**