EDU 692: METHODS AND MATERIALS FOR TEACHING GIFTED LEARNERS

DEPARTMENT: ELC

I. TITLE: METHODS AND MATERIALS FOR TEACHING GIFTED LEARNERS

II. CATALOG DESCRIPTION: The course will focus upon the development of instructional strategies and curriculum materials for use with youngsters with high ability and/or potential.

III. PURPOSE: To explore, apply, and practice the many relevant dimensions in both methods and materials that are available for facilitating the learning of the gifted, thus becoming a more creative and reflective decision-maker as a regular classroom teacher and/or as a teacher of the gifted.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES: Each of the behaviors indicated below are referenced to the KY Experienced Teacher Standards (ETS) and are understood to be reflective of, but not limited to, those behaviors advocated by the Kentucky Education Reform Act guidelines. As a result of participation in this course,

1. Students will demonstrate understanding of the characteristics of gifted students. (ETS 2; CEC/NAGC 1, 2, 3)

2. Students will be able to develop and will demonstrate leadership in the adaptation of regular school curriculum for gifted students. (ETS 1, 3; CEC/NAGC 9, 10)

3. Students will be able to modify traditional content areas and instructional methods for gifted students. (ETS 3, 4, 5; CEC/NAGC 4, 6)

4. Students will demonstrate facility with cooperation and collaboration in designing instruction for gifted students. (ETS 3; CEC/NAGC 4, 6)

5. Students will demonstrate understanding of problem finding and problem solving as it applies to teaching the gifted with technology. (ETS 10; CEC/NAGC 3, 4, 7)

6. Students will be able to articulate KERA Academic Expectations with outcomes for gifted students. (ETS 7, 8; CEC/NAGC 8)

7. Students will demonstrate understanding of authentic performance assessment and how to apply this understanding with gifted learners.
8. Students will reflect on learning and teaching in order to make effective educational decisions and to provide school leadership in the area of Gifted Education. (ETS 1, 7, 9; CEC/NAGC 6, 9, 10)

9. Students will demonstrate continued development of the COE Professional Dispositions and the Kentucky Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel as evidenced in all course activities. (ETS 1,7; CEC/NAGC 9)

The COE Conceptual Framework and the Theme of Educator as Reflective Decision-Maker are addressed in this course by urging students to consider the gifted student’s abilities and needs, reflect on how to best serve those needs, collect data regarding instructional interventions, reflect upon the implications of those data, and thus make informed decisions about future instruction.

The theme of Diversity is explored in the course through planning multifaceted instructional and assessment options. Students learn to assess and plan for the learning and achievement of all learners, regardless of gender, ethnicity, learning styles, or exceptionalities.

Technology is addressed through the provision of current web resources in the area of creativity and gifted education, use of technology in teaching and learning activities in the course, and through Blackboard-enhanced instruction.

The ESPB Themes – Diversity, Assessment, Literacy/Reading, and Gap Achievement are analyzed and discussed as students research, write and prepare professional programs to fully explore the topic.

V. CONTENT OUTLINE: Themes and topics developed in the text, current research and curriculum frameworks, as well as other content – as applicable – to include (but not limited to) those listed below.

- Review of characteristics and needs of the gifted learner (Individualized)
- Special Topics in the Home
- Special Topics in the Classroom
- Special Topics in the Schools
- Individualized Focus Study

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Readings, discussions, reflections, professional development package, action research, and a service learning project.

VII. FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES: NA.

VIII. RESOURCES: Textbook
Professional Journals
Resource people
Instructional materials
Electronic software
Web resources
Others as available and needed

IX. Grading Procedures: Students will be responsible for a number of learning activities. These will include:

Text syntheses (3) .......................................................... 30 pts.
Article Abstracts (3) .......................................................... 30 pts.
Professional Development Packet ......................................... 150 pts.
Online participation .......................................................... .60 pts.

Total ....... 270 pts.

Grading Scale:

248-270 = A
221-247 = B
194-220 = C
176-193 = D
Below 176 = E

X. Attendance Policy

Participation and achievement are closely related and affect the learning of all. In a face-to-face course, students attend fifteen 3 hour sessions, plus have at-home reading and preparation time. While an online course does not require simultaneous attendance, students are expected to devote an appropriate amount of time each week to the course reading and activities. When virtual discussions are arranged, the instructor will try, whenever possible, to arrange alternative times or activities for those students who cannot be present online.

XI. Academic Honesty Policy: All work, although (as is all our knowledge) based on the knowledge of others, must be the student’s own work. Cheating, plagiarism, or other academic dishonesty is clearly a violation of academic standards and university policy.

XII. Text and Resources:

Online Resources
XIII. **Prerequisites**: EDU 691 or permission of the instructor.

XIV. **Statement of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity**: Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, marital status, age, or disability in employment, admission, or the provision of services, educational programs and activities, and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities. For information regarding nondiscrimination policies contact the Office of Equal Opportunity, 270-762-3155.