MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
COURSE SYLLABUS

DEPARTMENT: ACS    COURSE NUMBER: PHE 680    CREDIT HOURS: 1-3

I. TITLE: Independent Study in Health and Physical Education

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION: Prerequisite: none.

III. PURPOSE: This independent study course is used as a substitute whenever a student’s schedule does not permit him/her to enroll in a regularly scheduled course. Occasionally a graduate student will choose to complete this course due to a particular interest in a topic not covered in the regular curriculum.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Class activities will be centered on the attainment of the course objectives listed below. These objectives are understood to be reflective of, but not limited to those behaviors advocated by the Kentucky Education Reform Act guidelines. Following each objective, and enclosed in parentheses, are numbers which reference the Kentucky Teacher Standards for Preparation and Certification (KTS). Upon successful completion of this class, students will be able to:
A. Design a research study or project.
B. Utilize library and/or other sources to secure pertinent information.
C. Collect data related to the study or project.
D. Analyze data and report in an acceptable manner.

The COE Theme of Educator as Reflective Decision-Maker is addressed in this course by requiring students to reflect on the accepted project’s impact on student learning at the teacher’s school or daily work in the university student’s work life.

The EPSB Theme of Assessment is explored as students evaluate and assess their physical education programs to determine any curriculum gaps in teaching content as it relates to the Kentucky Core Content. The EPSB Theme of closing the “achievement gap” is also addressed in this course as students evaluate a needed focus around KY state testing in the area of dance, health or physical education. Projects may need to focus on specific groups such as non-athletes, adolescent girls, overweight teens, low SES students, freshman physical education class, special education students, etc. The project should be action research based on KY standardized test scores and make sense for the local setting and needs of the teacher.

V. CONTENT OUTLINE:
Varies according to the individual. The student will
A. Take responsibility for developing the problem to be studied (in conjunction with the program coordinator or other faculty member assigned).
B. Submit to the program coordinator/assigned faculty a formal application request to pursue the study.
C. Indicate the nature of the special problem that necessitates the substitution of courses.
D. Submit an outline which indicates how the independent study will be conducted.
E. Return the completed study to the directing instructor according to a predetermined
time schedule.

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:
Generally involves independent library research conducted by the student.

VII. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES: none

VIII. RESOURCES: Varies according to individual needs.

IX. GRADING PROCEDURES:
The grade for the course is dependent upon the quality of the completed study. Typically
grades are reported as A, B, C, D, E.

X. ATTENDANCE POLICY:
This course adheres to the attendance policy stated in the current MSU Graduate
Bulletin.

XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:
This course adheres to the academic honesty policy stated in the current MSU Graduate
Bulletin.

XII. TEXT AND REFERENCES: none

XIII. PREREQUISITES: none

XIV. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT:
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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).