

SYLLABUS

Graduate Credit Course

EDU 530
THEMATIC INSTRUCTION FOR TEACHERS
AND ADMINISTRATORS OF CAREER
ACADEMY PROGRAMS
(3 Credit Course)

Instructor:

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January 8th, 2007 – March 5th, 2007

CRN 32509

I. Course Description

Recent research in "constructivist" theory, which leads to interdisciplinary education, will be explored. Career Academy practitioners from around the United States will teach the theory and practice of thematic education as practiced by secondary school educators in various career academy settings. Thematic education constructs will be developed to assist the student in designing and implementing a Career Academy program in various career and thematic areas. A method of changing the dynamics in the classroom through the Critical Friends model will be presented. Participants will use the Internet and world wide web guided instruction of the Executive Director of the National Institute for Educational Options at Nova Southeastern University Fischler School of Education. The course includes an overview of research and current trends. Participants will engage in an in-depth investigation of a selected topic.

[Students must have access to the Internet after the conference.]

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of EDU 530, Thematic Instruction for Teachers and Administrators of Career Academy Programs, the student will:

Objective 1: Identify current applications of the career academy or small learning communities.

Objective 2: Select a thematic area of career academies (health, law, medical, information technology, public service, finance, construction or communications, etc. or the areas of guidance and counseling which affect the implementation of career academies at the school.

Objective 3: Research on the internet for articles regarding the use of resources in their job duty at a school or central office; plan to investigate it in depth; and use the information gathered as the basis for a list of resources at the end of the course.

Objective 4: Report on trends and issues presented at the Conference by way of an article for the National Career Academy Coalition's newsletter regarding the conference.

III. Assignments

The course will be conducted in the following format:

1. Attendance at the approved Career Academy & Professional Development Conference.
2. Attend sessions at the Conference and write a synopsis on each session attended..
3. Follow-up activities:
 - a. Identify current applications of the career academy or small learning communities.
 - b. Select a thematic area of career academies (health, law, medical, information technology, public service, finance, construction or communications, etc. or the areas of guidance and counseling which affect the implementation of career academies at the school.
 - c. Research on the internet for articles regarding the use of resources in their job duty at a school or central office; plan to investigate it in depth; and use the information gathered as the basis for a list of resources at the end of the course.
 - d. Report on trends and issues presented at the Conference by way of an article for the NCAC newsletter regarding the conference.
 - e. Use Internet (through WebCT) and e-mail to communicate online and submit work, comments, and questions.

Please e-mail your assignments to stein@nsu.nova.edu.

Dr. Judith S. Stein
Executive Director, National Institute for Educational Options
Fischler School of Education and Human Services
Nova Southeastern University

IV. General Requirements

You must write in complete sentences and use a spellchecker. You must write your assignments in your own word processor and attach the document as a Word (Windows) document file.

Grading

The official GTEP grading scale and rubric is located at <http://www.fgse.nova.edu/gtep/students/gteprubrics.html>

Remember that an Incomplete (I) grade is given only if the student has not completed the last assignment. It may not be given to a student who has not turned in any work. An (I)

is not given automatically to a student who does not complete a final exam. An (I) is negotiated by the student and faculty member.

Any work below a C is considered not passing.

SUGGESTED TEXTBOOK(S) or INTERNET RESOURCES:

There is no text for this course. It is recommended that students use the reference list to assist with assignments. Students will be asked to add to the resource list.

Select one or more of these for your research and professional library or other on-line resources

Hull, D. (2005). *Career pathways: Education with a purpose*. Waco, TX: CORD Communications. ISBN 1-57837-408-1

Lesley, B, Brown, B and Malfas, E. (1997). *The Lawrenceville Guide to the Internet*. Pennington, NJ: Lawrenceville Press. Upper Saddle, New Jersey ISBN 1-87923-426-2

Mittelsteadt, S., & Reeves, D. (2006). *Career academy toolkit: a think it though get it going make it happen planning guide for career academies and other types of high school small leaning communities*. 2nd ed. Raleigh, NC: Bright Futures Press. ISBN 0-9713776-0-x

Sammon, G. (2006). *Battling the hamster wheel: strategies for making high school reform work*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press ISBN 1-4129-1783-2

Stern, David, Raby, Marilyn and Dayton, Charles. (1992). *Career Academies: Partnership for Restructuring American High Schools*. San Francisco Ca; Jossey-Bass, Inc. ISBN 1-5554-2488-0

Williams, B. (1997). *The Internet for teachers*, 2nd edition. Foster City, CA: IDG Books. ISBN 0-7645-0058-9