

**Division of Teacher Education
College of Education, Western Oregon University
ED 669: Content Pedagogy, Drama
Winter 2010**

Saturdays Jan. 9th, Feb. 13th and March 13th, 8:30 am – 10:30 am & online

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Office Hours: by appointment only

Course Introduction

ED 669 is designed as an introductory overview of the instructional techniques and management strategies that are effective in meeting various educational aims in the theatre arts classroom. Course objectives and goals relate to two different sets of standards, ODE arts content standards and the national drama/theater teacher education standards.

This course is designed to balance practical, hands-on strategies with reflective, critical examination of our own and other's teaching philosophies and practices. The primary learning intent of this course is to explore effective methods and strategies for teaching dramatic theory and criticism, theatre history, tech theatre and acting techniques in the secondary classroom. I will provide the basic framework for the course, but what and how much you learn will depend on the choices you make during each class period and in your independent projects.

General Course Objectives

- To prepare reflective, professional decision makers
- To enable students to articulate a philosophy of theatre arts grounded in theory, research and best practices.
- To develop skills in designing objectives, strategies and assessments that are based in personal philosophical beliefs as well as research into best practices in education.
- To plan instruction that is meaningful and educational for learners at all instructional and developmental levels.
- To enter student teaching with a firm foundation of skills, knowledge, and strategies for effective methods of teaching theatre arts.
- To fully understand and interrelate the variety of elements and disciplines within theatre arts.
- To develop the knowledge and ability to teach according to district, state and national standards for theatre arts.

The syllabus, assignments, calendar and course readings reflect my current goals for our quarter. Course assignments and calendar are subject to revision as necessary, according to individual's needs, experiences, and goals. As you will learn when you enter your own classrooms, a well designed unit of instruction often involves many modifications along the way- we must be open to those "teachable moments," adjust to individual needs of students, and re-teach as necessary!

Required Materials:

There is no formal textbook for this course. However you will need access to various play scripts (full length, non-musicals.) You will also locate and read several professional resources.

LEARNING PROJECTS AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Professionalism/ Attendance/ In-class work

60 points

Professionalism and attendance are essential. You cannot participate if you are not here. You cannot participate if you are unprepared. 20 points will be deducted for each class missed. In-class assignments cannot be made up. You can't make up for a discussion that you missed in class. Although students participate in class discussion to various extents, each student is responsible for involving themselves in the class activities. You are also expected to be in class by 8:30 a.m. and to stay until class has ended. If you arrive late or leave early, 5 points will be deducted for each occurrence.

2. Weekly assignments- 10@10 points each

100 points

Each Sunday a new assignment will be posted. Assignment must be completed and submitted online by 6pm the following Sunday. Late assignments will lose 10% for each day they are late.

3. Weekly discussion postings- 10@10 points each

100 points

Each Sunday a new discussion question or real-life scenario will be posted to which you are expected to respond. In addition you need to read the responses of your colleagues and reply to at least one of them. Failure to respond to either the postings of the instructor or classmates will result in a reduction of points.

***MINUSES AND PLUSES WILL BE AT DISCRETION OF INSTRUCTOR BASED ON NUMBER OF POINTS EARNED,
CLASS PARTICIPATION AND PROFESSIONALISM***

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS: If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you will need to contact the Office of Disabilities Services (ODS) for coordination in your academic accommodations. The ODS is located in the Academic Programs and Support Center (APSC) Suite 405. The phone/ TTY is (503) 838-8250