International Education: Opportunities and Challenges (5444Q)

Tuesdays 2:30 – 4:20 (002)
Room 1154

Instructor:

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Room 1032
Office Hour: Mondays 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Course Description:

In this course pre-service students will explore opportunities for working in educational contexts internationally in the private, public and NGO sectors. The practical, personal, and ethical challenges of living abroad and teaching/learning across cultures will be examined. Topics will include: current international teaching opportunities, practical and ethical challenges, comparisons of schooling across countries/regions, and pedagogies to support inter-cultural learning.

Aims:

The aim of this course is to ‘expand one’s horizon’ in conceptualizing education beyond local or national boundaries/mentaliites. Topics include: globalization, global education, opportunities for teaching internationally, international schools and the challenge of inter-cultural learning. It will provide the opportunity for teacher candidates to explore the contexts and practices of international education in a globalizing world so that they will engage potential opportunities in international education from better informed and more critical perspectives.

Course Content:

- Teaching with a global perspective; pedagogies to support inter-cultural learning
- Current international opportunities (international school system, State schools in Anglo-West, international NGOs)
- Practical, personal, and ethical considerations for teaching abroad
- Wider conditions and contexts of international educational and development work
- Criticality and reflexivity in engaging across difference in global times
Assignments and Other Course Requirements:

Students are expected to participate respectfully and thoughtfully during class times, in on-line fora, and in completing assignments; full attendance in classes is mandatory. The following list breaks down the assignments and their grade weightings. Assignments will help to structure class and be sometimes integrated within class time. More information about each assignment will be provided in class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly paragraph responses (including reading responses)</td>
<td>Sept. 13-Dec. 6</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Response 1 due Sept 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Response 2 due Nov 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Response 3 due Dec 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Global Ed’ Lesson Report</td>
<td>Nov. 22</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Culminating Response</td>
<td>Dec. 13</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Policy Statements:

In-class use of technology: As a courtesy to members of the class, please put your cell phone on ‘vibrate’ or turn it off during class. Lap tops and other electronic devices may be used in a professional manner to facilitate your activities in the course, but out of courtesy to colleagues and the instructor please engage in personal networking and non-course communication only outside class time—before or after class, or at the break.

Accessibility: The University of Western Ontario is committed to recognizing the dignity and independence of all students and seeks to ensure that persons with disabilities have genuine, open and unhindered access to academic services. Please contact the course instructor if you require course materials in an alternative format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for information about requesting academic accommodation, or go to the following website: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2009/pg118.html

Attendance: The B.Ed. and Dip.Ed. programs are intense and demanding programs of professional preparation in which teacher candidates are expected to demonstrate high levels of both academic and professional integrity. Such integrity is demonstrated in part by commitment to and attendance at all classes, workshops, tutorials, and practicum activities. Read more about the Faculty’s attendance policy at http://www.edu.uwo.ca/preservice/downloads/Attendance.pdf

Excused Absences: If you are ill, require compassionate leave, or must miss classes for religious observance, your absence is excused; you will not be penalized but you are responsible for work missed. Unexcused Absences: If you wish to be absent for a reason other than illness, compassionate leave, or religious observance, or feel you must be absent for another reason, your absence is unexcused. You are responsible for the work you missed, and for any make-up work deemed necessary. You may also pay a penalty for non-participation. Ongoing irregular attendance and multiple unexcused absences will result in referral to the Associate Dean and a change in registration status to conditional. Chronic absenteeism for any reason may provides grounds for withdrawal from the program.
Language Proficiency: In accordance with regulations established by the Senate of the University, all teacher candidates must demonstrate the ability to write clearly and correctly. Work which shows a lack of proficiency in the language of instruction is unacceptable for academic credit, and will either be failed or, at the discretion of the instructor, returned to the teacher candidate for revision to a literate level.

Late Penalties: Normally, the only acceptable reasons for late or missed assignments are illness (for which a doctor’s statement may be required) or extreme compassionate circumstances. Unexcused late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 10% per day and will not be accepted more than 7 days after the due date unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Academic Offences: Scholastic offences are taken particularly seriously in this professional faculty. Teacher candidates should read about what constitutes a Scholastic Offence at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf

Plagiarism: Plagiarism means presenting someone else’s words or ideas as one’s own. The concept applies to all assignments, including lesson and unit plans, laboratory reports, diagrams, and computer projects. For further information, teacher candidates may consult their instructors, the Associate Dean’s Office, and current style manuals. Advice about plagiarism and how to avoid it can also be found on the Preservice website: http://www.edu.uwo.ca/preservice/downloads/Plagiarism%20Policy.pdf

Plagiarism-Checking:

a. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com)
**Additional Information:**

**Tentative Class Schedule:**

*Class 1: September 6 - Introductions*

- Exploring the world: personal connections, motivations, reservations
- Course Expectations and Topics
- The Elephant and the Blind Men
- Worldviews clip

*Class 2: September 13 – Expanding the Imagination, Opportunities for Teaching Abroad*

- More than one story
- Resources to Explore
- Experiences Shared: ESL institutes, International Schools

*Class 3: September 20 – Schooling the World*

- Film
- Discussions

*Class 4: September 27 – Bringing the World into the (Ontario) Classroom*

- Teaching with a global perspective
- Reading Discussion One - Merryfield

*Class 5: October 4 – The Larger Contexts, Cross-cultural dynamics*

- Globalization: the Rise of the Economic, cultural hybridity, technology
- Culture Shock, Adaptation
- Role playing Activity

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*Class 6: November 22 – International Students* *Here, NGO work There*

- Guest International Students Panel
- Guest Lecture on NGO development context
Class 7: November 29 – International Programs, Schools and Curriculum

- Schooling from a comparative perspective
- International Baccalaureate
- Reading Discussion 2

Class 8: December 6 – Discourses of the Global Citizen

- Reading Discussion 3
- Problematics of “Doing Good”

Class 9: December 13 (reflection due) – Final Class

- Sharing Responses
- Emergent/Persisting Questions
- Course Evaluations

Assigned Readings (posted on web ct):

   Due September 27

   Due November 29

   Due December 6