

Outdoor Education Teaching Methods - Fall Semester 2009

EnEd 4163/5163 (3 credits)

Thursdays 2- 5pm in SpHC 9

Instructors (Office Hours By Appointment):

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Course Website: <http://www.d.umn.edu/~tbates> and <https://moodle.umn.edu/>

This course is designed to teach techniques involved in educating people about the outdoors. By the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Explain what outdoor education is as a method/process.
2. Be able to appropriately use various outdoor education methods that include physical, cognitive, and affective methods
3. Write lesson plans pertaining to outdoor education that use a variety of teaching methods.
4. Have a thorough awareness of the curriculum materials that are available for outdoor education.
5. Effectively present outdoor educational lessons to a variety of age groups.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE :

- Sept. 10 Walk out to Bagley Nature Area
- Sensory/Awareness/Skills - To build a forest. - Setting the tone
 - Expectations, Syllabus
 - Defining Outdoor Education
 - Instructors meet with Grad Students after class (10 min. each)
- Homework
- Define teaching methods given in class and be prepared to teach about that method, using that method – 5 minute time limit
 - Read Chapter 1 + p. 59- 62 + Chapter 7 + 98- 99 + 91- 92
- 17 At Bagley Nature Area
- Developing rubrics
 - Methods for teaching skills
 - Discussion of teaching methods - everyone presents using their assigned method
 - Coaching students
 - Get your weekend teaching assignments
- Turn in
- Your grade contract
- Homework: Read Chapter 8
- 24 At Bagley Nature Area
- Methods for giving peer feedback
 - Practice teaching a skill - teach peers an assigned skill - 15 minute presentation - feedback from peers
- Turn in
- Lesson Plan and Skill rubric
- Homework: Read Chapter 10, 4
- Oct. 1 At Bagley Nature Area
- Icebreakers, Games as tools for educating about the outdoors - combining skills and knowledge.
 - Site selection
 - Guided discovery
- Homework: Chapter 5, 6, p. 187
- Oct. 3-4 Field Session of teaching at Fish Lake and activities at the Audubon Ctr. of the Northwoods
- see attached for details

- Oct. 8 At Bagley Nature Area
- Adventure Education
 - The range of uses of adventure education
 - Competition as a healthy educational tool
 - Challenge education
- 15 At Bagley Nature Area
- Practice Teaching - a lesson that incorporates games or guided discovery - 15 min
- Homework: Read Chapter 9
- 22 At Lester River Sawmill - Meet in front of SpHC to car pool
- Theatrics/story telling - using equipment and characterization to support your lesson
 - Prepare lessons using drama/character acting/role playing
- Turn in:
- Lesson Plan
- Homework
- Find 3 teaching resources to share (be ready to explain what, why, and where).
- 29 In Classroom
- Bag of tricks
 - “Canned” Curricula - activities and programs that you can use to support your teaching.
- Read Chapter 2, 12
- Turn in
- Critique of participation in an Outdoor Education event
- Nov. 5 In Classroom
- Mid-term individual review - Meet with Instructors to discuss your progress - SIGN UP FOR A TIME SLOT BEFOREHAND - Reviews will be in the classroom. Practice teaching
- Nov. 12 In Classroom
- Mid-term individual review continued + lesson practice with feedback (bring lesson plan draft)
 - Practice teaching
- Turn in
- Summary and feedback of your Outdoor Ed. lesson at an approved site
- 19 In Sports and Health Center (session 1)
- Practice teaching: teach peers a topic using drama/character acting/role playing/storytelling as the method - Minimum 10 minute presentation - feedback from peers
- Homework: Read Chapter 3
- Dec. 3 In Sports and Health Center (session 2)
- Practice teaching: teach peers a topic using drama/character acting/role playing/storytelling as the method - Minimum 10 minute presentation - feedback from peers
- Dec. 10 In Classroom
- Professional responsibility
 - Theories
 - Review of Outdoor Ed Methods and the field of Outdoor Education
 - Professional responsibility
 - Course wrap-up; evaluation.

TEXTS : Required Text is Outdoor Education: Methods and Strategies (2006) Gilbertson, K., Bates, T., McLaughlin, T., and Ewert, A. Human Kinetics: Champaign, IL. Additional readings may be assigned and made available on the instructors' web sites

Assigned Readings: Whenever readings are listed as “homework” you will get 1-3 questions to answer (given out the week before) about that reading. Come to class with written responses (typed) for discussion purpose and to turn in for points.

GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS :

Grades will be determined by contracts. All assignments that are contracted for must be completed to a satisfactory level. All assignments must be handed in on time (see due dates). Your decision for which grade you are contracting for is due September 17

Assignment #	Grade “A”	Grade “B”	Grade “C”
1	X	X	X
2	X	X	X
3	X	X	X
4	X	X	
5	X		

Or written another way:

- A An "A" grade must successfully complete all of the below items (1-5)
- B A "B" grade must successfully complete items 1-4
- C A "C" grade must successfully complete items 1-3

Assignments & #:

1. Complete a skill lesson plan and rubric - due Sept. 24
2. Attend one event pertaining to outdoor educational methods this term. This must be an activity based event (that is outdoors), rather than a lecture format. It also must be conducted through and organization, rather than just going out with someone you know. Turn in critique by October 29.
3. Write a lesson plan (any outdoor education topic)- due October 22
4. Oct. 3-4: Observation and teaching: Webelos Action Camp and Audubon Center of the Northwoods.
5. Outdoor Education Lesson: Teach one Outdoor Education lesson at an ***instructor-approved*** site (a non-formal setting). *Submit a summary of your teaching and feedback* you received from the supervising instructor. Complete by November 12

**A format for critiques that will help guide you is on the instructor’s web site.

ALL WRITTEN WORK WILL BE SUBMITTED VIA MOODLE WITH “.rtf” FORMAT ON THE DATE IT IS DUE

Each assignment must have:

Assignment Number & Title

Name

“First Draft” or “Revision #X” – Date

Evaluator Name (if applicable)

Example:

Assignment #1 – Skill Lesson Plan & Rubric: “Simple Techniques for Portaging a Canoe”

Tim Bates

Revision #3 – 10/17/08

All class sessions must be attended. You are expected to come to class prepared. This means ready to participate & learn, all assigned readings completed, and assigned lessons/lesson plans well prepared for.

If your written and oral work is not satisfactory, you will be asked to make revisions.

Note: This process is not to be considered punitive or negative. We are striving for you to achieve mastery of your work rather than simply settle for an assigned grade.

••You must submit your revisions within 7 days (by the following class period) to receive credit.

Note: In eGradebook, your score will be listed as follows:

- 1st Draft turned in but needs revision = 7
- 2nd Revision needed = 8
- 3rd Revision needed = 9
- Fully Complete = 10

After 4 weeks from assignment due date, the assignment cannot be revised.

Extra Credit:

You may increase your grade by up to 1/2 of a grade for participating and writing up a critique for attending a professional conference (outdoor ed., environmental ed., science ed.,....).

EnEd 5163 – Grad Students Only:

- Cannot contract for less than a 'B' grade
- Are required to do additional preparation to guide structure and feedback during classes and weekend presentations.
- Submit additional lessons for in-class sessions or outside of class.

Risk Management

Please note: While field experiences are an essential component to outdoor education, we must acknowledge the inherent risk of field program participation. Leaving campus presents risk management concerns, including transportation and field site based dangers. In order to avoid problems and strengthen our risk management awareness, it is each student's responsibility to behave in a manner that promotes personal and group safety. Any questions, concerns, specific medical information, etc. should be directed to the instructor as a part of a shared effort to ensure a safe and optimal learning environment.