

**Oakland University School of Education and Human Services Department of  
Teacher Development and Educational Studies**

**Course Titles and Numbers:** EED 2000: EXPLORING K-8 TEACHING:  
RESPONSIBILITIES & OPPORTUNITIES IN EDUCATION  
EED 2001 ADVANCED EXPLORATION K-8 TEACHING  
**Fall 2018**

**Hours Of Credit:** SEMESTER HOURS: 3 (EED 2000) 2 (EED 2001)

**Instructor:** Dr. Karen Bolak, Associate Professor  
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**Required Text:**

Sadker, D., M., & Zittleman, K., R., (2012). *Teachers schools and society: A brief introduction to education* (3rd ed.). NY: McGraw Hill Higher Education.

**Course Catalog Description:**

Explores teaching as a profession as it relates to power, responsibilities and opportunities in K-8 learning environments. Assists students in determining whether they possess the desire and skills needed for pursuing teaching as a career. The course includes required experiences in various learning environments. EED 2000 satisfies the OU general education requirement for intensive writing in the major.

**Program Goals Addressed in This Course:**

- To provide the student an orientation to a foundational base of knowledge related to education and information regarding the elementary education program at OU; to allow the student to make an informed decision about selecting elementary education as a profession.
- To provide the Department of Teacher Development and Educational Studies with information about the student to assist in the program admission process.

**Conceptual Framework Addressed in This Course:**

- To provide a field-based model for school personnel preparation. Field experiences integrate knowledge of discipline with theoretical and philosophical perspectives and methods of best professional practice.
- To insure student and faculty communication using technology for educational applications. Student communication with instructors and classmates, download forms/information related to elementary education at the web site <http://www.oakland.edu/sehs> and utilize the materials as instructed in the field. Students apply their understanding of program expectations.
- To learn the necessity of creating educational environments to meet the needs of diverse populations in order support learners and their families as well as communities.

**Course Objectives:**

Students will:

- Study, reflect upon, and demonstrate an understanding of a body of knowledge related to issues in education including, but not limited to, the following: perennial issues and emergent issues arising in the education today.
- Consider the role of as well as standards/principles/regulations developed by groups such as the Department of Education; Every Child Succeeds Act; the Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (InTASC); the Michigan Department of Education Standards (MDE); teacher

licensure, examinations, certification and requirements.

- Consider issues such as teaching as a profession; what makes a competent teacher; philosophical and psychological ideas and events that have shaped public education; cultural, political and socio-economic realities confronting schools; governance of the schools; ethical and legal issues in education in the United States; teaching diverse learners; addressing learners' individual needs; creating a implementing curriculum; instructional designs; teaching with technology; effective teaching; teachers as educational leaders and professionals; assessment; and relationships with parents and the community.
- Participate actively in the field-school based portion of the course.
- Apply theory related to the content of the course.
- Be a member of our community of learners by developing and forming professional relationships.

**Course Requirements:** Successful completion of the field experience. Successful completion of assignments that demonstrate the student's ability to engage in learning situations by completing individual and team assignments while using a variety of learning skills. Students will be expected to research issues, make observations and report observations, cooperate with others, use decision-making and critical thinking skills, communicate effectively online, orally, and in writing, demonstrate professional behaviors, participate as an active an responsible member of classroom and school communities of learners. Some assignments will vary for EED 2000 and EED 2001 students.

**Methods of Instruction:** This course requires the active participation of students who are ultimately responsible for their own learning. Students in this class will become a community of learners engaged in the study of education as a profession in order to consider who is responsible for the education of children and adults, and consider their future roles in the educational community as well as their personal decision to become a professional educator. In order to do the former, students will study, discuss and research to pursue issues, cooperate in learning/teaching teams, provide assistance to other students, demonstrate the ability to use technology, complete all readings and assignments. The instructor will facilitate this process by providing a core curriculum knowledge base, modeling effective instructional techniques, giving feedback, coaching, and assessing each student.

**Methods of Evaluation:** Class attendance, class participation as assessed by self/team/ instructor, coming to class prepared, competence online, completing all assignments in a thoughtful scholarly manner, and successful completion of the field experience.

**Performance Assessment:** Assignments and the criteria for evaluating each assignment will be discussed during class sessions.

#### **New Grading Scale**

Beginning Fall 2018, Oakland University will switch from a numeric to a letter grade system. GPAs will be computed on a four-point scale:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Honor Points</b>
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7

D+	1.3
D	1.0
F	0.0

All assignments will be given with detailed directions as well as the criteria for grading. Grades for assignments will include the following:

- A. Field experience: anecdotal log, student reflections of classroom observations, completion of a personal Professional Behavior Assessment, as well as completion of a Common EED 2000-2001 Field Placement Assignment.
- B. Class on campus: attendance, engagement and preparation on campus, quality assignments and professional behavior. Notify the professor by e-mail when absent from class on campus. If a student has an emergency or a medical problem which causes multiple absences, the student must converse with the professor. The professor will determine if the absence is excused. Points may be deducted for every on campus absence.
- C. Working portfolio /container/folder: organization, presentation, artifacts and assessment rubric.
- D. Group and Individual: research, cooperative professional behavior and communication, attendance at group meetings, oral presentation/ instruction.
- E. Technology: Moodle online forums and communication, research, completed on time extended learning opportunities (posts and replies) as well as required assignments.
- F. Teaching philosophy essay and quiz/test.
- G. Culminating Course Project Assignment.

NOTE: A-G above includes a number of individual assignments. Each individual assignment will be given point values.

**The following topics and focus questions will be covered during the semester. The order in which the topics and focus questions are covered will be varied.**

### Teaching

Who is responsible for the education of children and adults?  
 What are the characteristics of a professional educator?  
 What do teachers do so that students learn?  
 What are the challenges and satisfactions of teaching?  
 What does society expect of teachers?

### Learning to Teach

What essential knowledge do you need to teach?  
 How do reforms in teacher education impact the profession?  
 What can you learn from observing in classrooms and gain from practical experience?  
 What are the opportunities and expectations for professional development for teachers?

### Education in the United States

What determines an educational philosophy and how do you articulate your philosophy? What psychological orientations have influenced teaching?  
 What events, ideas and people have shaped education in the United States?

### Social Realities Confronting Today's Schools

How can schools be described historically?  
 What characteristics distinguish successful schools?  
 What societal problems affect schools and place children at risk?

### Struggles for Control of Schools in the United States

What is the role of local community in school governance?

What powers and influence do states have in governing schools?

How does the federal government influence education?

How is education financed and are trends in place for funding for equity?

### Ethical and Legal Issues in Education in the United States

What are your legal rights and responsibilities as a teacher?

What are the legal rights of students and parents?

What are some emergent legal issues influencing states, educational institutions and school districts?

### Teaching Diverse Learners

How is diversity embedded in the culture of the United States?

What is equal education opportunity?

What is multicultural education?

### Addressing Learners ' Individual Needs

How do students' change as they develop?

How do teachers plan for all the learners in the classroom? What are special education, mainstreaming, and inclusion?

### Authentic Instruction For A Community of Learners

How does the teacher create a positive learning environment? What are the keys to successful classroom management?

What are some characteristics of effective teaching?

What is taught in the schools?

How is the curriculum developed?

### Curriculum Standards, Assessment and Student Learning

What role will standards play in your classroom?

What methods will you use to assess student learning?

### Teaching with Technology

What technologies are available for teaching?

How do teachers use computers, technology and the Internet?

What are the effects of technology on learning?

### Teachers as Educational Leaders

What professional organizations do teachers belong to? What is expected of you as a beginning teacher?

How are teachers evaluated?

What are the Ten InTASC Model Core Teaching Standards with Learning Progressions for Teachers?

How do teachers apply InTASC Standard # 3: Learning Environments and Standard #9: Professional Learning and Ethical Practice with students, families and their communities?

### Education Issues for the Twenty-First Century

What are community-based partnerships and how does the privatization movement affect education?

What are the perennial and emergent issues in education?

### How to Develop a Portfolio

What is the difference between a working and professional portfolio? How is the

portfolio organized around teaching standards?  
Why use the portfolio throughout a teaching career?  
What types of artifacts could be included in a portfolio?

### **Student roles and Responsibilities:**

Students are responsible for attending all scheduled classes, field placements and completing all assignments.

As guests in the school for your field portion of the class, OU students are responsible for abiding by all the rules, regulations and policies of that school district. In addition, students should be careful not to create interruptions of the learning program for the children and to respect the confidentiality and integrity of all with whom they come in contact. The professional standards expected of a teacher regarding any contact with children are expected of you also.

Students are expected to conform to the "Academic Conduct Policy" stated in the Oakland University Undergraduate Catalog. Please read the full Academic Conduct Policy. Cheating and plagiarism are considered very seriously at Oakland University. All allegations of academic misconduct will be reported to the Dean of Students. Anyone found guilty of cheating in this course may receive a course grade of 0.0, in addition to any penalty assigned by the Academic Conduct Committee.

The goal of our professional education program is to develop capable practitioners who will prepare children and adults for multiple roles in an ever-changing, global environment. As a graduate of Oakland University, you will have strengths in five related domains.

You will:

- Develop a personal philosophy of learning and teaching and a knowledge of your discipline;
- Value and work effectively with individuals from diverse cultures and with differing abilities or exceptionalities;
- Be committed to the success of your students and possess the necessary technical tools and strategies to design effective, inclusive learning environments including gender and equity issues;
- Have a desire and commitment to continue your personal and professional growth and to make on-going contributions to your profession;
- Aspire to become a skilled practitioner/researcher and make contributions to the knowledge base of your discipline.

It is my role to assist you as you learn about becoming a professional educator. You are welcome to see me regarding any aspect of the class. I will meet with students without an appointment before or after class as well as during breaks if possible. I will also meet with students at other times to accommodate personal schedules; an appointment will be necessary.

*I am not in my office daily, the most timely way to communicate with me is  
online:bolak@oakland.edu*

At the end of the semester, course evaluations can be completed confidentially by going to <https://www.oakland.edu/evals> and entering your Grizzly ID number and password. You will be asked to rate the course and the instructor on 21 items. Written comments are also encouraged. A summary of the results is not available to the professor until after final grades have been submitted. Your feedback is taken seriously, and you are encouraged to be honest in your evaluations. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

### **DROP DATE INFORMATION:**

The last day to drop this class with 100% tuition refunds can be found under "Important Dates at" <http://www2.oakland.edu/registrar>

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