**CTEE 4030: Natural Science Summer 2018**

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|  | **Class Time:** Spring 2019  **Class Location:** Haley Center 2414  **Credit Hours**: 3 semester hours  **Prerequisites:** Admission to Teacher Education |  |

**Instructor:** Dr. L. Octavia Tripp

**Office:** 5016 Haley Center

**Phone:** 334.844.6799

**Email:** tripplo@auburn.edu

**Office Hours:** Wednesday – By Appointment Only

Tuesday 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Required Texts

* Lever-Duffy, J., McDonald, J., Bass, J., Carin, A. & Contant, T. (2018). Teaching Science Through Inquiry-Based Investigation. Pearson Education. 13th edition. ISBN-13: 9780134515472 or ISBN-10: 0134515471.
* Membership in NSTA(National Science Teachers Association) Membership for preservice teachers – NSTA.org

**Student Disabilities:**

The Office of Accessibility provides academic services and accommodations for students with diagnosed disabilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines a disability as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. In order to receive academic accommodations, the student must submit comprehensive documentation describing the current functional limitations that impact the student in an academic setting. Documentation serves as the basis for decision-making about a student's needs for accommodations in a challenging and competitive academic environment. AU policy for students with disabilities or special needs will be followed. If a student feels that he/she has a disability and needs special accommodations of any nature whatsoever, the instructor will work with the student and the Program for Students with Disabilities to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that the student has a fair opportunity to perform in class. The instructor should be advised of such a disability and the desired accommodations immediately.

**Class Policy Statements**

* Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all class meetings and scheduled labs. Provisions for excused absences will follow procedures that are outlined in the *Tiger Cub*.
* Academic Honesty: Refer to the *Tiger Cub*

**Instructor Availability and Response Time**:

Your class interaction with the instructor and your classmates will take place on a regular, ongoing basis. Your instructor will be actively engaged within the course throughout the week. You will normally communicate with your instructor in the weekly discussions or the General Questions discussion topic so that your questions and the instructor’s answers benefit the entire class. You should feel free, however, to communicate with me via AU email at any time, particularly when you want to discuss something of a personal or sensitive nature. Your instructor will generally provide a response within 24 - 48 hours.

**Notes for consideration by the instructor:**

***Changes in the syllabus: The instructor has the privilege and right to make necessary changes to the course outline in order to provide the best possible teaching and learning situation for students in 4030.***

***All assignments are not listed on the syllabus. As with any teachable moment, the instructor may assign an assignment that will enhance the instruction of a concept.***

***All discussions will be preceded by questions and concluded with a quiz if necessary. Be prepared for these based on your readings and discussion of the course material.***

***You will be allowed to make up work if you have an excuse or if you have discussed the issue with the instructor.***

**Course Description**

This course explores teaching science as inquiry. It introduces preservice teachers to science content, teaching strategies, and inquiry activities. The course focuses on developing inquiry-based lessons for students to investigate science, using educational technologies to support science lessons, integrating other subject matter areas with science, designing lessons that include all students in learning science, and assessing student understanding of science and the nature of science. The teachers will plan and teach lessons for students to learn science, observe students learning, and conduct research on student learning.

In addition the course will engage students in learning how temperament styles, teaching styles, and learning styles are essential to having successful student learning. National Science Standards and Alabama Course of Study Standards are infused in each lesson to provide students with a useful framework for making instructional decisions.

**Course Objectives**

* Demonstrate the ability to use a variety of resources and instructional strategies in planning and teaching inquiry based hands-on elementary science lessons consistent with the Alabama Course of Study.
* Demonstrate the ability to design and implement authentic assessment strategies for science knowledge and skills.
* Demonstrate the ability to use computer technology to access information for planning lessons, to communicate via e-mail, and to integrate into the elementary science curriculum.
* Demonstrate an understanding of environmental education and the ability to use community agency resources in planning and implementing an environmental lesson.
* Demonstrate an understanding of how temperament styles, teaching styles and learning styles are connected in teaching science.
* Demonstrate an effective way of helping students learn to construct their own understanding by connecting their many ideas into concepts, attitudes, and skills.

**COURSE SCHEDULE – See Canvas**

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Class Attendance:** Class attendance is required. Arriving late, leaving early, or missing a class will result in lowering your grade.

**Assignments:** All written assignments must be typed and should adhere to Standard English usage and conventions. Assignments must be presented on time. Two points will reduce late assignments for each day they are late.

**Class Participation** – Involves readings and discussion in class.

**Science Autobiography** – Canvas Files

***Science Project Folder***

Develop a controlled experimental investigation to answer a scientific question that you have about the world. The product you will produce is a scientific investigation report on a colored file folder. This should be formatted as follows:

**Front of File Folder**

**Problem:** Put the problem in question form. Both the independent (manipulated) and dependent (responding) variables are typically mentioned in the problem.

**Hypothesis:**This is a statement of the relationship that you expect to find between the independent (manipulated) and dependent (responding) variables. It should describe what you thought the outcome of the experiment would be and why.

**Operational Definitions:** State any definition of terms that appear in the problem or hypothesis that you need to clarify (such as “fastest,” “strongest,” “softest,” etc.).

***Inside Left of File Folder***

**Materials List:**List ALL of the materials you will need including such things as pen and paper, etc.

**Procedure:** Step by step plan for carrying out your experiment. It should include sufficient detail that someone else could replicate what you have done without seeing you do it.

**Variables:**

Independent (Manipulated): What the experimenter changes on purpose.

Dependent (Responding): Data you are collecting (should be quantitative for this investigation).

Controlled: Variables that you keep constant so that it is a “fair test.”

***Inside Right of the File Folder***

**Data:** A chart that represents at least three trials of each level of the independent variable with the levels of the independent variable down the left column and the data about the dependent variables for each trial and then the average to the cells to the cells to the right. Include title and labels for numbers that you use (Ex: 1 mm, 5 grams, etc.)

**Graph:**Bar or Line Graph of the average for each level of the independent variable with the independent (manipulated) variable represented on the x-axis and the dependent (responding) variable represented on the y-axis. Be sure to include a title for the graph and label the axes (including the units).

***Back of the Folder***

**Statement of Results:**This should be a written description of what your data and graph show about the answer to your stated problem.

**Conclusion:**Statement telling whether your hypothesis was correct and why or why not. What variables you didn’t control that should have been controlled. What would you do differently next time? What other questions emerged from your experiment?

***Throughout the Folder***

Include pictures and/or drawings that would help make the folder more informative and attractive.

**Science Teaching Journal Summary**

Obtain an elementary or middle school science teaching journal to review. Suggested journals include Science and Children or Science Scope (both published by NSTA) or Science Activities (published by Heldref Publications).

Review the journal you have selected, and then prepare a report according to the instructions below:

Overview / Introduction (9 points possible)

* Describe the journal. What is the title? What features does it include? Who is the intended audience?
* What organization publishes the journal? What issue did you read? When was it published? etc.
* Tell which part(s) of the journal were most useful to you (explain why).
* Give at least three (3) reasons why a beginning elementary teacher should read a journal like this.

Select three (3) of the articles in the journal. (7 points possible for each article) For each:

* List the title and author(s),
* Describe the objective(s) / purpose(s) of the article,
* List three (3) things you learned, consider the concepts/processes that were emphasized, then decide for a teacher in what grade level would this article be of most interest. Use specific references to state science standards (with coding and written out text) to support your choice.

Total points possible 30 points.

**Science concepts Interviews**

In order to better understand the conceptual understanding students hold about a science idea you will conduct a structured interview with 5 students at your school. You will follow a protocol developed by C. Barman and others and presented in Science and Children to identify student’s perceptions about Plants, Animals, or Science and Scientists.

These articles can be viewed in the Science and Children Archives in the NSTA Website if you are a member of NSTA.

September 1996 – How Do Students Really View Science and Scientists

September 1999 – Assessing Students’ Ideas about Animals

September 2003 – Students’ Ideas about Plants

First you will discuss this project with your mentor and decide which of the interviews (Plants, Animals, or Science and Scientists) you will conduct. Next, you will determine which students to interview and when these individual interviews can occur without interrupting instruction. You will need to prepare the interview materials and demonstrate the procedure to your mentor teacher, so he/she is aware of the process involved. Write a paragraph describing the discussions with your mentor and the decisions that were made regarding topic, subjects, and timing. Ask your mentor to sign and date it.

Conduct 5 student interviews, compile your data, analyze your data, then write a description of your findings, compare and contrast the ideas your subjects had, and record your reflections of what surprised you and what you learned.

**Professional Development Activity**

You are expected to be involved in at least 6 hours of professional development activities related to science education during this semester. This can be accomplished by going to an all-day conference presented by a local, state, or national science teachers association; or by attending several shorter events such as lectures at libraries, museums, workshops at school districts, or even by serving as a judge as a science fair.

The report you turn in about your experiences should include a general overview of your experiences:

Overview / Introduction (9 points possible)

* Describe your personal participation in the conference and or activities. Include the name, date(s), and location of the events and an agenda showing how you spent your time. The expectation is that you will participate in at least 6 hours of activities.
* Tell what part of the experience was most useful to you (explain why). Give at least three (3) reasons why a beginning elementary teacher should attend these kinds of professional development activities. Attach a copy of your registration receipt or name badge for each of the events.

Select three (3) of the presentations or events you attended. (7 points possible for each presentation)

* At a conference, these would be 3 different sessions, for science fair judging this could be the training session and the actual judging, for a lecture (it would be the whole event).
* For each:
  + list the title and presenter(s),
  + describe the objective(s) / purpose(s) of the presentation,
  + list three (3) things you learned,
  + consider the concepts/processes that were emphasized, then decide for a teacher in what grade level would this session be of most interest. Use specific references to state science standards (with coding and written out text) to support your choice.

Total points possible 30 points.

**Classwork:**

There will be several assignments that will be created in the classroom.

* Assessment authentic post card
* Group critique
* Hidden Messages
* Rotor Motor
* Rocketry
* Robotics
* Lung models

These activities model hands on/ minds on activities.

**Grade Definitions**

All students are expected to complete all assignments, attend all classes, and participate fully. This class is all about helping you become a teacher. Consider your priorities.

“A” An “A” indicates that a student is extremely well qualified as evidenced by exceptional performance in all aspects of the class. This student shows excellence and thoroughness in planning, interacting with students, command of subject matter and discusses issues and research in science education. All of these have been well-demonstrated by an active participation in class sessions. This person would never give the impression of being a passive learner “who learns best by just listening.” This person uses research findings to support statements and shows a strong commitment to education.

“B” A “B” indicates that this student has done a good job of demonstrating an ability at planning, interacting and dealing with issues in science education. This individual has a good grasp of the subject matter and can implement effective lessons but, curriculum design is more simplistic and written work lacks depth and/or does not consistently use research as evidence. The “B” student shows every sign of being able to become an “A” teacher.

“C” A “C” is earned by a person who has not fully demonstrated competencies deemed necessary for secondary school science teaching. This student may be quite successful in some areas and not so successful in others and most likely will write incomplete lesson plans and lack a solid personal rationale. A “C” student will probably need special attention during student teaching to insure success and certification. (Note: a “C” is not considered a passing grade in graduate school.)

“F” A “F” is earned by a person who has met none of the minimum competencies deemed necessary for middle school science teaching. An “F” student cannot teach and must plan Adapted from Sterling, D, and Varrella, G, syllabi, 2002. 4 to retake this course, passing with a grade of “C” or better.

**Due Dates & Assignment Points Breakdown**

Item Due When? What’s It Worth (pts.)?

Science Autobiography

Web Activity Analysis

Science Focus Lesson Plan

Science Video Teaching Presentation

Science in the News

Critiques

Notebook Check

Classwork Activities

Using Trade Books

Concepts Interview

AMSTI Reflection

Science Project Folder

Science Teaching Journal Summary

Final Open Book Exam