Metropolitan State University

LAED 445 : Teaching Writing and Communications in Urban Grades 5-12

A. Course Description

Credits: 4

Prerequisites:
EDU 300 Assessment of Learning and Teaching in Urban Grades 5-12 AND
EDU 306 Urban Middle School and High School Methods AND
EDU 400 Literacy Education in Urban Schools and at least 20 credits of English courses required for the English Teaching major.

Lab Hours/ Weeks: Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/ Week :

MnTC Goals: None

In this course, future teachers learn best practices for how to teach urban middle and high school students how to write and make oral presentations. Topics include: sentence and paragraph construction; genres of writing; how audience, purpose and situation guide writing and speeches; assessment and revision; engaging middle and high school writers; assisting English Language Learners; and technological tools for written and speech communications. Teacher candidates learn how to respond constructively to the writing and oral presentations of urban 5-12 learners.

B. Course Effective Dates: 08/26/2006 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Understands and develops strategies for teaching and critiquing persuasive writing (letter to editor; editorial, essay, etc.) and text readability: subheads, white space, staging of information (given-new), sentences, nominalizations, graphics, appeal to prior knowledge, announcing of topic, etc.
2. Understands current theories of composition instruction: formalistic, traditional textbook, composing process model, cognitive-processing, dialogic, social constructivist, and post structuralist; able to define strengths and weaknesses of differing models and implications for teaching.
3. Understands elements of the rhetorical context: subject matter, purpose, audience, text structure, attitude
4. Understands theories and research on the effects of teaching grammar; relationship between grammar instruction and writing quality; grammar and usage; sentence analysis; sentence-combining activities; readability; writing readable sentences; staging information; use of white space, graphics, subheads.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

This contains no goal areas.

G. Special Information

Note: Formerly offered as WRIT 421. Admission to Urban Teacher Program, or departmental approval required to register. Clinical field experience hours are part of the course requirements. Co-requisite: This course should be taken within one semester of student teaching and should be taken with EDU 450 Advanced Urban Teaching Practicum and Seminar unless EDU 450 has been taken with LAED 450 Teaching Language Arts in Urban Grades 5-12.