



EDU 390 A- Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

Instructor: Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II
Office: Founder Hall 310 A

Required Textbooks:

Hammond, Z (2015) Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain, ISBN:978-148308012

Ladson-Billings, G (2009) The Dream Keepers, ISBN: 978-0470408155

Course Description:

This course covers the research, theory, philosophy, and practical implications of employing culturally responsive pedagogy, practices, and programming in and across school boundaries. Specifically, this course explores the seminal work of scholars and educators such as Gloria Ladson-Billings, Geneva Gay, Gary R. Howard, Christopher Emdin, and Django Paris, with the goals of preparing teacher candidates to develop reciprocal relationships with students and communities, while simultaneously employing exemplar cultural teaching methods within their professional practice. Additionally, this course will assist students in learning about and developing culturally responsive curriculum and pedagogy in their different content/subject matter areas.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will understand the role of students' background and culture and how that relates to student success and outcomes.
2. Students will identify guiding principles for culturally responsive pedagogy.
3. Students will develop an action plan for implementing culturally responsive classroom management.

Instructional Format:

Course lectures, readings, and learning assignments will be constructed to create Socratic questioning. The instructional format of the course involves lecture presentations, group work (e.g. presentations).

Classroom Philosophy:

This course intentionally argues for the importance of understanding, valuing, and operationalizing Exemplar Cultural teaching strategies, as a means to:

1. Promote Academic Excellence
2. Become Culturally Competent
3. Stimulate Socio-Political Consciousness
4. Tap into Student Culture

Course Deliverables:

Reflection Papers:	20%
Midterm Exam:	20%
Group Presentations	20%
Final Paper	25%
Participation:	15%

Course Assignments

In this course, you will write two critical reflection papers.

- Reflection papers will challenge you to deeply explore on issues related to cultural awareness, respect, and humility, and how to operationalize them within your teaching practice. Prior to writing the reflection paper, detailed instructions will be given in class. The reflection paper focus will be:
 1. *Reflect on a time that your culture was not valued. (Due 1/28)*
 2. *Which Cultural Pedagogy Theorist do you most align with? (Due 2/6)*
 3. *Write a reflection paper on Hammond's arguments in Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain. (Due 3/11)*
 4. *How do you attend to use the CR-SE competencies within your professional practice? (Due 3/26)*
 5. *Write a reflection paper on Ladson-Billings arguments in the Dream-Keeper. (Due 4/22)*

Group Presentation

- As part of your group presentation assignment, students will do a teaching demonstration, utilizing Culturally Responsive Pedagogy tenets (5/2 and 5/6)

Final Paper

- You will be charged to develop a culturally responsive curriculum that is focused around ensuring that every learner receives a quality and equitable education. You need to think about and construct a curriculum that infuses culturally responsive tenets into the lesson of your particular content area (Due 5/9).

Course Schedule and Focus

Course Week	Course Focus
Week 1 1/21	Introduction Framing the Course How Do You Define Culture? Why is Culture Important?
Week 2 1/24 & 1/28	HELP Framework-Pt 1 and 2 Reflection Paper #1 Due 1/28
Week 3 1/31 & 2/4	Exploring Cultural Pedagogy Theorist Part 1 and Reflection Paper #2 Due 2/6

Week 4 2/7 & 2/11	Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and the Brain Chapters 1 and 2 Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and the Brain Chapters 3 and 4
Week 5 2/14 & 2/18	Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and the Brain Chapters 5 and 6 Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and the Brain
Week 7 2/21 & 2/25	Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and the Brain Chapters, 7, 8, and 9 & CRP Recap
Week 8 3/7 & 3/11	CRP and the Curriculum Saving Tomorrow Today Documentary Reflection Paper # 3 Due 3/11
Week 10 3/14 & 3/18	Midterm Preparation Midterm
Week 11 3/21 & 3/25	CR-SE at the State Level Reflection Paper #4 Due 3/26
Week 12 3/28 & 4/1	The Dream-Keeper's chapter 1, 2 and 3
Week 13 4/4 & 4/8	The Dream-Keepers chapters 2 and 3 The Dream Keeps chapter 4 and 5
Week 14	The Dream-Keepers 6, and 7

4/11	
Week 14 4/22	CRP and the Curriculum Review Reflection Paper #5 Due 4/22
Week 15 4/25 & 4/29	CRP Group Presentations Preparation
Week 16 5/2 & 5/6	CRP Group Presentations
Week 17 5/9	Final Paper Due 5/9

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