EDUC 460.19: Specialization I Secondary Social Studies  
Winter 2024

Start date: January 8, 2024  
Last Day of Classes: March 8, 2024  
Term Break: February 19-23, 2024  
Last day to add/drop/swap: Due to the non-standard dates associated with this program, please check your Student Centre for the important dates pertaining to your section.  
Pre-requisite: Due to the multiple pathways in the Bachelor of Education, please consult Undergraduate Programs in Education for questions related to pre-requisite courses.  
Email: Students are required to use a ucalgary.ca email address for all correspondence.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The intent of the Specialization I Seminar is to introduce students to the concepts, theory, and design planning related to teaching within the specialization of discipline. Theory as connected to an understanding of practical classroom experiences will particularly inform the course curriculum and will be explored through course readings, analysis of teaching/learning artifacts, and through the design of discipline-based learning and assessment plans. Topics in teaching and learning will include teaching inclusively and addressing the needs of diverse learners, effective integration of technology, and discipline-based inquiry. Assignments will present the opportunity for students to develop an understanding of short-term instructional design and to begin to examine curriculum shifts in the province.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

• Developing a foundational understanding of the nature of discourse in the discipline, as related to teaching and learning, including specialized language, concepts, and terminology;
• Understanding teacher as designer of learning and assessment plans and use of the resources available for designing learning and assessment;
• Exploring and applying introductory theory related to the teaching of the discipline with an emphasis on designing discipline-based tasks and assessment processes and creating an adaptive classroom learning environment to better meet the needs of today’s diverse learners; and
• Successfully designing short-term learning and assessment plans to deepen understanding of key ideas/concepts within the discipline.

ORGANIZATION OF THIS COURSE:

This course explores the purposes, theory, and practice for teaching social studies in junior high and high school contexts in Alberta. Particular attention will be given to gaining a deeper appreciation of the vision for social studies outlined in the Alberta program of studies, as well as strategies for longer term planning and assessment. Each week is organized around a different set of questions that highlight specific issues and challenges that lie at the heart of social studies education including issues related to teacher identity, the teaching of multiple perspectives, and the challenges of purposeful engagement in social studies in secondary school settings. The weekly schedule includes supporting resources and activities to help us think deeply about these issues and challenges in ways that are attuned to the latest developments, theory, and research in the field.  
COURSE DESIGN AND DELIVERY: This course will be delivered face-to-face on campus with additional engagement in a D2L environment.
**REQUIRED RESOURCES** (IN ORDER THEY APPEAR IN THE COURSE):


*E-book Central licence permits only one online user at a time; please download ahead of schedule to avoid access issues*


van Kessel, C. (2020). Teaching the climate crisis: Existential considerations. *Journal of Curriculum Studies Research, 2*(1), 129-145. [https://doi.org/10.46303/jcsr.02.01.8](https://doi.org/10.46303/jcsr.02.01.8)


*See WEEKLY COURSE SCHEDULE FOR ADDITIONAL TEXTS AND RESOURCES*

**LEARNING TASKS OVERVIEW:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEARNING TASK</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION OF LEARNING TASK</th>
<th>FORMAT</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LT1: Social Studies Thoughtbook</td>
<td>In groups of 2-3, create a thoughtbook to represent how you vision how to conceptualize social studies and how it will live in your classroom.</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>January 29, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LT2: Critical Examination and Reformulation of a</td>
<td>Working individually, identify and critically assess a lesson plan aligned with the purpose of citizenship education that resonates with</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>February 28, 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Learning and Assessment Plan

| LT3: Contribution to Scholarly Community Portfolio | Build and demonstrate scholarly and professional thinking about the field of social studies through taking part in weekly tasks, discussions, and activities. | Individual | 30% | March 8, 2024 |

### WEEKLY COURSE SCHEDULE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>Resources and Tasks</th>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>Tasks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Jan. 8-12 | What are the aims and purposes for teaching social studies more generally and in Alberta in particular? | LT3 knowledge building activity: Which of the four defining purposes of citizenship education most resonates with the kind of social studies educator you wish to become: a) personal development, b) intellectual (disciplinary) development, c) social initiation, or d) social reform/social justice (Clark & Case, 2008)? LT3 application exercise: How, and to what extent, are these differing visions for social studies present within the front matter of the Alberta Social Studies Program? | • Alberta Education. (2005). Social studies Kindergarten to grade 12: Program rational and philosophy (pp. 1-10). [http://education.alberta.ca/media/456082/sockto3.pdf](http://education.alberta.ca/media/456082/sockto3.pdf)  
• Clark, P., & Case, R. (2008). For defining purposes of citizenship education. In R. Case & P. Clark (Eds.), The anthology of social studies: Issues and strategies for elementary teachers (pp. 18-29). (Posted on D2L) | Choose group members for LT1 (Thoughtbook) |

| Jan. 15-19 | How can we carry out the vision of transformative citizenship outlined in the Alberta program front matter when the culture of much classroom practice seems primarily concerned with information mastery and content coverage? | LT3 idea contribution: How, and to what extent, was the vision of social studies articulated in the Alberta Program front matter present in your own schooling experience? What might account for a disconnect between these two spaces? LT3 knowledge building activity: Have each LT1 group member listen to a different podcast and report back what they learned about the nature of the podcast medium:  

| How might historical thinking | Resources:  
• Seixas, P., & Morton, T. (2013). The big six historical thinking concepts: | | | |

| Resources:  
•Clark, P., & Case, R. (2008). For defining purposes of citizenship education. In R. Case & P. Clark (Eds.), The anthology of social studies: Issues and strategies for elementary teachers (pp. 18-29). (Posted on D2L) | Historical |
| Jan. 22-26 | help our students engage in historical inquiry in ways where they learn not only what happened in the past, but how ‘what happened’ was constructed? |
| Jan. 29 - Feb. 2 | How can we create teaching, learning, and assessment opportunities that foster deep subject-matter understanding? |
| Feb. 5-9 | What constitutes controversial, contentious, and/or risky issue/s in social studies education, and how can we engage with something that makes us and/or others uncomfortable? |
| Feb. 12-16 | How can I meaningfully and ethically engage my students with Indigenous experiences, histories, and perspectives and/or any ‘Other’ |

**Historical significance (pp. 1-9), Nelson Education. (Posted on D2L)**


**LT3 knowledge building activity:** In preparation for the historical thinking workshop, choose and gain a deeper understanding of a particular historical thinking concept (e.g., the ethical dimension) through viewing three of the above resources. **LT3 application exercise:** Using a resource within the Doucette library, create a historical thinking task based on your chosen concept. **LT3 collaborative feedback:** Provide feedback on how your colleague’s historical thinking task could be strengthened and improved.

**Resources:**


**LT3 knowledge building activity:** Document your participation within the lesson simulation led by the instructor. **LT3 idea contribution:** Drawing on insights from the course readings, offer suggestions for how the lesson could be strengthened based on the approach to citizenship education that resonates with your own practice.

**LT3 application exercise:** Drawing on the Wiggins and McTighe reading, critically evaluate the extent to which your chosen lesson plan includes: 1) clearly defined and assessable learning intentions aligned with the Alberta Program and your vision for social studies, 2) a viable summative assessment task that would help students demonstrate deep understanding of these learning intentions, 3) a learning sequence that would help students provide a sophisticated response to the summative assessment task. **LT3 application exercise:** Reformulate 3 questions within your chosen grade level for LT2 so they are critical questions. **LT3 collaborative feedback:** Provide feedback on how your colleague’s 3 critical questions could be strengthened and improved.

**Resources:**

- van Kessel, C. (2020). Teaching the climate crisis: Existential considerations. Journal of Curriculum Studies Research, 2(1), 129-145. [https://doi.org/10.46303/jcsr.02.01.8](https://doi.org/10.46303/jcsr.02.01.8)

**LT3 knowledge building activity:** Working in a jigsaw activity, outline some of the key take-aways from one of the readings. **LT3 idea contribution:** Provide a response within a small group discussion to the throughline question guiding this week’s readings. **LT3 collaborative feedback:** Present your proposed reformulated summative assessment task for LT2 to a colleague and provide feedback on how their task could be improved.

**Resources:**


**Time to work on and receive collegial feedback on LT2**

**Instructor formative feedback loop for LT2**
| Perspectives that may not be mine? | LT3 knowledge building activity: Pose a question or quandary you have about the Donald reading, along with your professional obligation to apply “foundational knowledge about First Nations, Métis and Inuit for the benefit of all students” (Alberta Education, 2020, p. 6) to a colleague. LT3 Collaborative feedback: respond to one of your colleague’s questions based on insights you gained from the readings and other discussions. LT3 idea contribution: Provide a response within a small group discussion to the throughline question guiding this week’s focus. |


| LT3 knowledge building activity: Explain key insights from the Jardine article to a colleague. LT3 idea contribution: During a breakout session, discuss ways we might reframe differentiation away from the notion that it is necessary to create separate learning plans/pathways for each individual student. Application exercise: Based on insights gained from Learn Alberta (2011) resource, integrate options for inclusion/differentiation for English Language Learners (ELL) within your LT2 lesson plan. |

| Mid-term break: February 19-23 |

| Feb. 26-March 1 | How can we adapt instruction in ways that meet the needs of all learners? |

| Resources: | LT3 Due: February 28th |

| March 4-8 | How should we as educators position ourselves in ongoing debates around the future direction of social studies in Alberta? |

| Resources: | LT2 Due: February 28th |

| LT2 Due: February 28th |

| LT3 Due: March 8th |

| LT3 idea: Discuss how you might position yourself in ongoing debates about the future of social studies taking place across the province. |

### Changes to Schedule:
Please note that changes to the schedule may occur to meet the emerging needs and dynamics of the participants in the course.

### Learning Tasks and Assessment:

**Learning Task 1:** *What is “Social Studies” and how does it live? (30%)*
**Due:** January 29, 2024 (uploaded to the D2L drop box by 11:59pm)

The word curriculum is so often used in schools and other educational fields that it seems to have become largely stultified in the minds of educators and students; it is not unusual for teachers to have accepted some form of understanding of the concept without much study or examination. Many readily available resources offer definitions of the term in mainly diagnostic, semantic ways. In a simple search of curriculum, one easily discovers descriptions such as “the skills students are expected to learn…learning standards or learning objectives they are expected to meet; the units and lessons that teachers teach; the assignments and projects given to students; the
books, materials, videos, presentations, and readings used in a course; and the tests, assessments, and other methods used to evaluate student learning”\(^1\). However, might I (as so many have before me) suggest that this type of definition only scratches the surface of what curriculum is, how we “do” curriculum, and how curriculum manifests itself in our students’ and our classrooms (arguably in our lives). How can we create a space to deepen this latter kind of understanding of “Social Studies” in this course?

The first assignment is an attempt to do this: as you in a group of 2-3 begin to explore, study (perhaps even suggest) the most powerful concepts central to the discipline, you will choose one idea on which to narrow in that strikes you as worthwhile as we contemplate the realities of our world and the place for this discipline.

As we name and examine these ideas (such as “colonialism”, “historical thinking”, “interdisciplinarity”, “critical thinking”, etc.) broadly, you will perform a deep dive into the mysteries of the topic to develop a more fulsome, proficient appreciation of one area in your field. The parameters of this study will be determined together by establishing a set of criteria (and certain “liberating constraints”\(^2\)), for “powerful inquiry”. The result of the inquiries must include,

1. the submission of your “thoughtbook” which will comprise a minimum of four (500 word) entries demonstrating sustained thinking and research about your topic and a metaphor or visual representation to reflect your thoughts
2. a “product” which each group will present to the class (on Monday, January 30\(^{th}\)) in order to expand the knowledge of the larger group. This product may take the form of a guided conversation, a curation of related artefacts, or an artist talk etc.

Assessment of Learning Task 1

The assessment rubric for this assignment will be created in consultation and collaboration with the classroom community. This part of this assignment involves collaborative, meta-cognitive/learning about assessment. Formative and summative assessment techniques will be employed over the course of the inquiry guided by the following document (as well as others):


Thus, we will prepare the assessment criteria/rubric together, with an eye/mind towards what it is like to design these kinds of learning and assessment activities for/with students. Along with your project, which you will share in class on Monday, January 27th, we will create a list of possible reflective questions as part of our assessment design process. The purpose of working through this together is to engage in the challenges and complexities of Social Studies (and other disciplinary) assessment for diverse learners (e.g., What is good work and how do we know? How do we discern what was learned? (rather than merely, what was produced?). What counts as evidence of learning? What information do we gain as teachers from students’ (and our own) work and how do we use this information to plan for day-to-day learning and growth? What kinds of documentation might we use to share with parents, children, and administration? How do we engage students in assessment of their own learning and work? etc.).

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\(^1\) From the most searched curriculum sight in North America, The Glossary of Education Reform, retrieved from [https://www.edglossary.org/curriculum/](https://www.edglossary.org/curriculum/), December 13\(^{th}\), 2018.

**LEARNING TASK 2: Critical Examination and Reformulation of a Learning and Assessment Plan (40%)**

**Due: February 28, 2024**

This two-part assignment is designed to help you gain a deeper appreciation of the principles of a well-designed learning and assessment plan within the field of social studies education.

**Part I: Critical Examination of a Lesson Plan (20%)**

In Part I of this assignment, you are asked to identify a lesson plan that aligns with one of the four defining purposes of citizenship education that most resonates with your vision for social studies education as outlined in the Clark and Case (2008) article: a) personal development, b) intellectual (disciplinary) development, c) social initiation, or d) social reform/social justice. Your chosen lesson plan must also align with key learning intentions within a specific grade level of the Alberta Social Studies Program of Study (e.g., grade 7, 20-1). Employing insights from the Wiggins and McTighe (2005), as well as other class readings and discussions, you are asked to provide a no more than 4-page (double spaced 12-point Times New Roman font) critical review of your chosen lesson plan.

Your 4-page critical review should include the following elements:

1. **Context:**
   - Begin by listing the name of your lesson, grade level, where you found it, and a brief explanation of why you chose it in light of your chosen vision for social studies.

2. **Big idea/enduring understanding:**
   - Begin by identifying what “big idea” or “enduring understanding” you think the lesson was trying to get across. Consider to what extent this enduring understanding aligns with key notions within the front matter of the Alberta Program of Study (Alberta Education, 2005), as well as the vision for citizenship education that resonates with your own practice.

3. **Inquiry Questions:**
   - After identifying the central question/s embedded in the lesson, consider to what extent they were thought provoking, likely to spark discussion and debate, and would help students apply knowledge in ways that show understanding rather than fact recall. Additionally consider the extent to which the question/s were the types of questions asked within your chosen approach to citizenship education.

4. **Learning intentions:**
   - Critically assess the extent to which the lesson identifies and engages key knowledge/understandings, skills/processes, values/attitudes found in this grade level of the Alberta program.

5. **Assessment plan:**
   - Critically assess the extent to which the performance/assessment task would: a) be engaging and worthy of student’s time and attention, b) help students demonstrate deep understanding of key learning intentions/the big idea noted above.
   - Identify and critically assess whether the assessment plan includes other evidence for students to show their learning, as well as the assessment criteria for how students’ performances of understanding will be judged.
6. Lesson sequence:
   - Critically assess the extent to which the learning sequence effectively:
     - included an opening hook or means to draw students into the topic area
     - provided necessary background knowledge for students to engage in the performance task
     - offered opportunities for students to discuss provocative and interesting question(s) to process and make meaning of new knowledge and ideas
     - scaffolded key skills and processes to support growing competencies in these areas
     - provided a well-developed plan for how formative-assessment feedback loops would be introduced to give students strength-based feedback on works in progress

7. Differentiation:
   - Critically assess the extent to which the plan addressed how the needs of diverse learners would be accommodated including English as an additional language learners (i.e., ELL).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING TASK 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assessment of Learning Plan /8</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All 6 areas of the critical assessment were addressed in an extremely thorough, detailed, and well-supported manner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical analysis included sustained and ongoing connections to the course readings including Wiggins &amp; McTighe (2005). Connections were explained in a very insightful and well considered way.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical review was at or close to 4 pages double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font; writing style was fluid, clear, and demonstrated superior attention to form (i.e., grammar, spelling, etc.); in-text citations and reference list used correct APA 7th edition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part 2: Reformulating Learning and Assessment Plan (20%)

In Part II of this assignment, you are asked to move from the language of critique to the language of affirmative possibilities for how this lesson could be reformulated and strengthened based on the limitations you identified within each of the six areas explored in Part I. You are specifically asked to recreate your lesson in the form of a no longer than 2-page learning and assessment plan using a modified UbD template (Wiggins & McTighe, 2005). This task involves two main elements:

- A reformulated learning and assessment plan: Using the 2-page approach, you are asked to recreate your chosen lesson in ways that better address the six key areas explored in Part I of this assignment. In strengthening and enhancing your lesson through this framework, you should pay particular attention to the ways learning and assessment plan could better realize the greater animating vision of the Alberta Social Studies Program front matter (Alberta Education, 2005), the purpose of citizenship education guiding your vision for social studies, and the grade specific part of the program you are working within.
• **Annotations**: Alongside your recreation of the lesson, you are asked to provide ongoing annotations (using the track changes option in Word) offering commentary on the insights, ideas, and processes garnered from class readings and discussions that informed the changes you made. Your annotations should include a discussion on how this plan could be adapted to meet the needs of diverse learners including English Language Learners. Your commentary should also include a discussion on how aspects of this learning and assessment plan might provide opportunities for students to engage with and learn from Indigenous histories, philosophies, and perspectives.

**CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING TASK 2**

The following criteria will guide the assessment of Part II of this assignment:

• **Identification of desired results** (/5): Reformulated inquiry question/s are clearly aligned with one of the purposes of citizenship education, are thought provoking, would likely spark discussion and debate; and clearly call for higher-order thinking, such as analysis, inference, evaluation, and prediction, in ways that cannot be effectively answered by recall alone. Reformulated big ideas/enduring understanding offers a succinctly articulated powerful insight in the form of an affirmative statement (rather than a question or an activity) that is worth students remembering long after everything else they have learned is lost. Reformulated learning intentions are clearly stated, well-articulated, and assessable; and includes at least two well-chosen objectives from each of the three domains of the grade level program: values/attitudes, skills/processes, knowledge/understandings.

• **Determine acceptable evidence** (/5): Reformulated summative performance task is strongly aligned with the greater animating vision of the Alberta Social Studies Program front matter (Alberta Education, 2005), the purpose of citizenship education guiding your vision for social studies, and a grade specific part of the program. It is also connected to the world, potentially engaging, and worthy of students’ time and attention. Desired learning intentions and big idea/enduring understanding are strongly linked to the summative performance task that requires students to apply their learning in ways that show deep understanding. At least three specific and well-articulated criteria at the excelling level are identified to assess the summative task.

• **Design of learning sequence** (/5): Reformulated learning sequence outlines a well-articulated and detailed plan for 90–120 minutes of instruction. All necessary resources and sources that would not be immediately available to a teacher are identified with links. Learning sequence is guided by a provocative and interesting question(s) to help students make meaning of new ideas. Learning sequence well addresses how topic will be introduced, how necessary background knowledge will be imparted, and how students will gain competencies with key skills and processes identified in stage 1. Learning sequence also provides a well-developed plan for how formative feedback loops and assessment criteria will be integrated into the lesson.

• **Annotations** (/5): Each of the three domains of the lesson (i.e., learning intentions, assessment plan, and learning sequence) are accompanied by ongoing annotations that explain decision making processes and choices made in reformulating the lesson. Annotations clearly outline the insights, ideas, and processes garnered from class readings and discussions that informed these changes. Annotations identify opportunities for students to engage with and learn from Indigenous histories, philosophies, and perspectives.
**LEARNING TASK 3: Contribution to Scholarly Community Portfolio Assignment (30%)**

**Due:** Ongoing curated evidence due March 8th

In this assignment, you will have the opportunity to demonstrate your engagement with the various ideas, insights, and processes presented in the course. Over the course of the term, you will be invited to engage in ongoing tasks and activities such as discussing course texts in small groups, acting as a critical friend to provide feedback on colleague’s ideas, and applying newly learned insights and processes within unfamiliar situations.

These weekly tasks and activities will fall into one of the following four categories: 1) knowledge building activities, 2) application exercises, 3) idea contributions, and 4) collaborative feedback. Using a Word document self-assessment template provided by your instructor, you are asked to individually curate evidence of your engagement within each of these four areas through a mix of text and images. The instructor will draw on this self-assessment to make a final summative evaluation.

Evidence of engagement can be demonstrated in several ways:
- Curated images of work produced in class including within posters and on the whiteboard
- Summarizing key insights that emerged during small group discussions or your own self reflections
- Copying and pasting highlights of discussion board posts and replies that took place on D2L

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>5-6</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2 or less</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading and viewing of course materials</strong></td>
<td>Read and/or viewed all course materials thoroughly and carefully prior to each class.</td>
<td>Read and/or viewed most course materials in a generally careful and thorough way prior to each class.</td>
<td>Read and/or viewed only about half the course materials in a partial and hurried way prior to each class.</td>
<td>Read and/or viewed only a small number of course materials in a very partial and superficial way.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Knowledge Building Activities</strong></td>
<td>Curated evidence shows a thorough engagement with all the knowledge-building activities. Negotiated gaps in understanding by consistently asking thoughtful questions that drew people into discussions.</td>
<td>Curated evidence shows engagement with almost all the knowledge-building activities. Negotiated gaps in understanding by often asking thoughtful questions that drew people into discussions.</td>
<td>Curated evidence shows engagement with only some of the knowledge-building activities. Rarely, negotiated gaps in understanding by asking thoughtful questions that drew people into discussions.</td>
<td>Curated evidence shows a lack of engagement with many of the knowledge-building activities. Failed to negotiate gaps in understanding by asking thoughtful questions that drew people into discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application Exercises</strong></td>
<td>Curated evidence shows a thorough engagement with all the application exercises. Consistently applies key ideas and concepts in new contexts in sophisticated ways.</td>
<td>Curated evidence shows engagement with almost all the application exercises. Consistently applies key ideas and concepts in new contexts in thoughtful ways.</td>
<td>Curated evidence shows engagement with only a few of the application exercises. Occasionally applies key ideas and concepts in new contexts in ways that are thoughtful.</td>
<td>Curated evidence shows a lack of engagement with most of the application exercises. Failed to apply key concepts in new contexts/or responses were under-developed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Idea Contributions</strong></td>
<td>Curated evidence shows a thorough engagement with all the idea contribution exercises. Consistently contributes a myriad of extremely original and novel ideas for the benefit of the learning community.</td>
<td>Curated evidence shows engagement with almost all the idea contribution exercises. Generally, contributes a myriad of thoughtful ideas for the benefit of the learning community.</td>
<td>Curated evidence shows a thorough engagement with only some of the idea contribution exercises. Occasionally contributes ideas for the benefit of all.</td>
<td>Curated evidence shows a lack of engagement with many of the idea contribution exercises. Rarely contributes original and novel ideas for the benefit of the learning community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collaborative feedback</strong></td>
<td>Draws on course texts/resources to regularly provide constructive feedback to help develop colleague’s emerging ideas. Feedback always includes specific and detailed advice on how ideas and applications could be improved and strengthened.</td>
<td>Draws on course texts/resources to often provide constructive feedback to help develop colleague’s emerging ideas. Feedback generally includes specific and detailed advice on how ideas and applications could be improved and strengthened.</td>
<td>Occasionally draws on course texts/resources to provide constructive feedback to help develop colleague’s emerging ideas. Feedback only occasionally includes specific and detailed advice on how ideas and applications could be improved and strengthened.</td>
<td>Rarely draws on course texts/resources to provide constructive feedback to help develop colleague’s emerging ideas. Feedback rarely, if ever, includes specific and detailed advice on how ideas and applications could be improved and strengthened.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE EXPECTATION OF EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL WORK

Please review the Academic Calendar carefully. It describes the program and provides detailed schedules and important dates. It contains information on expectations for student work and professional conduct. In addition, procedures are described regarding concern about student performance in the program. Please pay especially careful attention to details and descriptions in the following topic areas:

• The Importance of Attendance and Participation in Every Class

As this is a professional program, experiences are designed with the expectation that all members will be fully involved in all classes and in all coursework experiences. As you are a member of a learning community your contribution is vital and highly valued, just as it will be when you take on the professional responsibilities of being a teacher. We expect that you will not be absent from class with the exception of documented instances of personal or family illness or for religious requirements.

• Engagement in Class Discussion and Inquiry

Another reason for the importance of attendance and participation in every class is that the course involves working with fellow students to share ideas and thinking. For example, each class you will work with a small group to engage fellow students in discussions on work being considered in class. You will also help other groups by providing ideas for scholarly inquiry in assignments. If you find that you are experiencing difficulties as a group collaborating, please inform the instructor.

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

All written assignments (including, to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. If you need help with your writing, you may use the writing support services in the Learning Commons. For further information, please refer to the official online University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, E. Course Information, E.2: Writing Across the Curriculum: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html)

LATE SUBMISSIONS

All late submissions of assignments must be discussed with the instructor prior to the due date. Late assignments submitted without contacting the instructor prior to the due date will receive a 10% reduction per day. Students needing an extension may be required to provide written documentation of the associated extenuating circumstances (e.g. statutory declaration, doctor’s note, note from the University of Calgary Wellness Centre, obituary notice). A deferral of up to 30 days may be granted at the discretion of the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs with accompanying written evidence.

ISSUES WITH GROUP TASKS

With respect to group work, if your group is having difficulty collaborating effectively, please contact the instructor immediately. If a group is unable to collaborate effectively or discuss course materials online in a timely manner, the instructor may re-assign members to different groups or assign individual work for completion.
GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA Value</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Description per U of C Calendar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>95-100</td>
<td>Outstanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>90-94</td>
<td>Excellent – Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>85-89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>80-84</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>75-79</td>
<td>Good - clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>70-74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>Satisfactory - basic understanding of the subject matter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>60-64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>52-54</td>
<td>Minimal pass - Marginal performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>50-51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>49 and lower</td>
<td>Fail - Unsatisfactory performance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students in the B.Ed. program must have an overall GPA of 2.5 in the semester to continue in the program without repeating courses.

**Academic Accommodation**
Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

**Academic Misconduct**
For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html

**Attendance/ Prolonged Absence**
Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, third party letter of support or a statutory declaration etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student.

Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/n-1.html
The Freedom of Information Protection of Privacy Act prevents instructors from placing assignments or examinations in a public place for pickup and prevents students from access to exams or assignments other than their own. Therefore, students and instructors may use one of the following options: return/collect assignments during class time or during instructors’ office hours, students provide instructors with a self-addressed stamped envelope, or submit/return assignments as electronic files attached to private e-mail messages.

For additional resources including, but not limited to, those aimed at wellness and mental health, student success or to connect with the Student Ombuds Office, please visit https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines

Education Students Association (ESA) President for the academic year is Claire Gillis, esa@ucalgary.ca.

Werklund SU Representative is Elsa Stokes, edurep@su.ucalgary.ca.