Theater 473 – Theater in Elementary Education
Fall 2018
Credits: 3 credits (25 hrs face – to – face time --- 25 hrs in D2L ---- 40hrs individual work outside of class)
Location : Mitchell 375
Meeting Time : Tuesdays 5:00 – 7:45 p.m.
Instructor: Kate Kowbel, M.S.
Contact Information: kmkowbel@uwm.edu
Office Hours : By Appointment Only

Course Description: This course focuses on the: 1) Practice of the teaching and learning; 2) Field of arts integration; and 3) Methods and methodologies of theatre/drama education for the general classroom. On a practical level this course is designed to provide experiences that will enhance students’ understanding of how to teach, implement, and explore the arts - with a focus on creativity in urban classrooms. This will be done mostly through a seminar format.

Information for students: Please familiarize yourself with the following university policies: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/SyllabusLinks.pdf

Course Objectives: This course is designed to:
1. Expose students to the pedagogies and methods of teaching through the creative arts;
2. Increase students’ abilities to use creative dramatics and theatre activities in classroom settings;
3. Explore ways to connect the arts to content area subject matter;
4. Examine creative-arts methods for multi-cultural, urban, and diverse groups of learners;
5. To have fun and gain professional knowledge skills at the same time.

Learning Outcomes:
Students will:
• Write, edit, and create teaching modules and lessons based on content area standards and frameworks.
• Devise and construct a variety of lesson plans, units, and teaching activities.

Materials:
In order to succeed, students in this course will need the following: access to internet, familiarity with the D2L course, writing materials, colored markers or crayons, various children’s books and consistent access to assigned texts. A laptop computer is also incredibly useful but not necessary.

Texts:
REQUIRED:
• McCaslin, Nellie. Creative Drama in the Classroom and Beyond, 8th ed. Pearson, 2006.


• Assigned video clips or other media listed in D2L
SUPPLEMENTARY: (You will choose one text below for your supplementary material for the course, which will connect to your midterm paper/presentation. Acquire the book, then read and study it so that you feel you are an expert in its content. Research the subject/author then produce a drama implementation project for the classroom grade (K-6) or your choice) Plan on a 20 min. presentation that deeply reports on one of these books):

Choose one:

(You may choose a text that is not listed above with my pre-approval only)

Grading: Attendance and active participation are requisite. Plan to arrive on time, prepared, and ready to work. Full class calendar will be distributed at first class meeting.

Writing: All papers should be typed, double spaced, in twelve-point Times New Roman font with 1" margins. When references are used they must be included at the end in a list of sources. If you cite others use MLA citation format. Writing will be assessed (see rubric) for grammar and mechanics, correct use of style, precise narrative composition, originality, and creativity. Depending on the quality of the written work, you may be asked to rewrite an assignment before it is accepted for grading. All of your work must be your own original work. Plagiarism is not accepted.

Midterm Paper/Presentation: Using your supplemental material choice above - The project should include:
1. An overview of the book (in a form of a handout);
2. Brief overview of your perspective and views on the book and its subject (interactive power point);
3. Interactive exploration that focuses on one of the points of the book.
4. Be prepared to present and review this book for the class (This should be a substantial and substantive presentation 15-20 min long. It must be interactive and you must provide the rest of the class with a place to find extra resources.
*This project needs to be comprehensive, multi-disciplinary, inclusive, and original. Do not use prepackaged curriculum materials and do not use others’ ideas or plans. Do not repeat what you have read. – **DEVELOP YOUR OWN RESPONSES INSTEAD**

**Final Presentation:** Students will be required to choose a K-5 curricular content area including but not limited to: Language Arts Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Technology, World Languages, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education. *(You may choose another content area/topic with my pre-approval)* and create a 45 minute/5 day process drama. The process drama presentation (20 minutes) will take place in our final class which will include the following:

1. An overview of the process drama (in written unit plan form) and reasoning of topic choice
2. Explanation of how your entire process drama connects to the National Standards.
3. Explanation and presentation of the seven major process drama questions and processes and demonstrating how it connects to your unit.