Theater 473 – Theater in Elementary Education

Credits: 3 credits (25 hrs face to face time --- 25 hrs in D2L --- 40 hrs 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@uw mad 2.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:
- 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.
COURSE CALENDAR / GRADING BREAKDOWN

Due Description

9/10 Class Meeting on Campus @ Mitchell 375 – Topics: Reviewing Syllabus, Course Calendar, Who are we and what is our intention as teachers? - How the arts can impact all areas of education, Reading National Standards

9/15 Discussion Response in D2L due by 11:30 PM.

9/17 Class meeting on campus @ Mitchell 375. Topics: reviewing logistics, fun, What is Play? making observations through a teaching eye, writing a lesson plan, answers to the questions posted in D2L (see assignment above) Have Chapter 3 in Creative Drama read for this class.

9/22 Email Kate with your chosen midterm book. (List is found in the syllabus)

9/24 No On Campus Meeting. Creative Drama and Teaching Pedagogy Discussion Post: Due in D2L discussion by 9/18 @11:30 PM. Follow the directions for the post.

9/29 1st Lesson Plan Component: Due in drop-box by 11:30 PM. All elements of the lesson required. Spelling and grammar count. Follow the chosen lesson plan template carefully. Concentrate on answering and addressing all the points listed. Use the rubric in D2L to guide you.

10/1 Class meeting on campus @ Mitchell 375. Topics: lesson plans, What is Process Drama?, fun, reviewing midterm paper guidelines/expectations and how to manage your time. Have Chapters 1-3 in Planning Process Drama read for class.

10/6 Discussion Response in D2L due by 11:30 PM.

10/8 Class Meeting on Campus @ Mitchell 375. Topics: Continuing Process Drama, fun, Lesson plans, Midterm Presentation Questions, Intro/Exit Activities/Assessment. Have Chapters 4-6 in Planning Process Drama read for class.

10/13 Discussion Response in D2L due by 11:30 PM.

10/15 No Meeting on Campus - Class Online Topics: Process Drama, Creative Drama for the Differentially Abled child, Fun, How to Modify Activities, Lesson Plans - Have Chapter 15 Read in Creative Drama for class.

10/20 Discussion Response in D2L due by 11:30 PM.

10/22 Class Meeting on Campus @ Mitchell 375. Topics: Theater Programming, Arts Integration, Process Drama, Fun, Lesson Plans.

10/24 2nd Lesson Plan Component: Due in drop-box by 11:30 P.M. All elements of the plan required. Spelling and grammar count. Follow the chosen lesson plan template carefully. Concentrate on answering and addressing all the points listed. Use the rubric in D2L to guide you.

10/27 Discussion Response in D2L due by 11:30 PM.
No Meeting on Campus: Use this week to prepare for your midterm presentation.

11/5 Discussion Response in D2L due by 11:30 PM.

11/10 Class Meeting on Campus @ Mitchell 375. Midterm Presentations: See Syllabus for full explanation. Rubric can be found in D2L.

11/11 Discussion Response in D2L due by 11:30 PM.

11/12 No Meeting on Campus. Topics: Sharing and discussing of lesson plans, fun, Process Drama, Sharing and Feedback about Midterm Presentations, How to Budget/Plan for a program, Arts at the Elementary vs. High School Level. Have Chapters 7 in Planning Process Drama Read

11/15 3rd Lesson Plan Component: Due in drop-box by 11:30 P.M. All elements of the plan required. Spelling and grammar count. Follow the chosen lesson plan template carefully. Concentrate on answering and addressing all the points listed. Use the rubric in D2L to guide you.

11/17 Discussion Response in D2L due by 11:30 PM.

11/19 Class Meeting on Campus @ Mitchell 375. Topics: Process Drama, Fun. Have Chapters 8-10 in Planning Process Drama read for class.

11/26 NO Class - Use the week to work on your final presentations, take some time to breathe, get caught up, etc.

12/3 FINAL PRESENTATIONS WORKNIGHT: This class you will be able to come and work on your Process Drama in class and I will be available to assist and help in anyway possible.

12/10 FINAL PRESENTATIONS: This is a mandatory class. You will be randomly assigned the order in which you present. Explanation of Final presentation is in the Syllabus, as well as a full detailed explanation (and rubric) will be found in D2L.

12/13 Final Reflection due: Submit your final essay in D2L by 11:30 PM.

Grading Breakdown

Attendance/Discussion Posts – 30%
Midterm Presentation – 25%
Lesson Plan Components – 15%
Final Presentation – 35%