

EDU 121: Introduction to Education

Course Abstract

If you need accommodations due to a disability, contact Disability Services in Edison Hall Room 100, 732.906.2546.

To foster a productive learning environment, the College requires that all students adhere to the Code of Student Conduct which is published in the college catalog and website.

Course ID and Name: Introduction to Education EDU121

Department: History and Social Sciences

Chairperson or Course Coordinator: Timothy Hack

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Prerequisites: PSY 123 (Introduction to Psychology)

Co-requisites: N/A

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the field of education (K-12) with a focus on elementary education. It includes a review of historical, cultural, and societal influences on education as well as current trends in the field. It also explores the role of the educator, the educational setting, and addresses general teaching approaches, educational theory, and classroom management issues. Students will be required to complete 25 observation hours in an elementary, middle, or high school setting.

General Education Status:

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours:

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the various responsibilities of an effective teacher including the development and implementation of lesson plans.
2. Define and recognize various educational philosophies and the importance of developing a personal educational philosophy statement.
3. Identify and describe historical, societal, legal, ethical, cultural, and contemporary influences on education.
4. Articulate the importance and value of national and state educational standards.
5. Develop oral, visual, and written summaries of educational concepts.

Course Content Areas:

Educator

Characteristics of an effective educator; Teaching philosophy; Teacher qualifications and overview of certification process; Teacher evaluation

Field of Education and Educational Setting

Overview of early childhood, elementary, high school and special education school settings; Role of Board of Education; Historical, social, and cultural influences on education; Legal (ex. Brown vs. Board of Education; IDEA, NCLB) and Ethical issues in education; Current trends and contemporary issues (ex. Charter schools; Merit pay); Common Core Standards

Teaching and Assessment Practices

Physical characteristics of educational setting; Teaching approaches for the elementary school classroom; Classroom management strategies; Teaching with technology; Bloom's taxonomy and planning lessons; Evaluating learning through assessment and standardized testing; Working with parents and the community