

**AUGUSTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION**

**Course Title:** The Creative Arts

**Course Prefix and Number:** ECED 4381

**Hours:** 2-2-3

**Instructor:** Fran Brewer     [fbrewer@aug.edu](mailto:fbrewer@aug.edu)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Designed to meet the unique needs of the early childhood regular classroom teacher; this course, based on the arts infusion model, will emphasize aesthetic perception, creative expression, cultural heritage, and aesthetic valuing as reflected in the content areas of music, creative dramatics, movement, and visual arts.

*Prerequisite(s):* Courses in Blocks 1 and 2

**COGNITIVE / PERFORMANCE DOMAIN GOALS:**

- Demonstrate an understanding of student motivation to create an environment with positive social interaction, engagement in learning, and self-motivation.
- Plan instruction based on learners, subject matter, and curricular goals.
- Relate to / work with others in a learning community.

**CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK PRINCIPLES:**

*Primary outcomes:* Student will:

1. Understand the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) and be able to create learning experiences that enable all students to learn.
2. Understand how students learn and develop and be able to provide developmentally appropriate learning opportunities and support for these opportunities.
3. Understand how students differ in the approaches to learning and demonstrate the commitment for meeting their needs in fair, caring, nondiscriminatory, and equitable means.
4. Understand, use, and support a variety of instructional strategies to encourage the learner's development of critical and creative thinking, problem solving, and performance skills.
5. Create a learning environment that encourages positive social interactions, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

*Secondary outcomes:* Student will:

1. Plan, guide, and support instruction based upon knowledge of subject matter, the learners, the community, and curriculum goals.
2. Be a reflective practitioner who continually evaluates the effect of his / her choices and actions on others (students, parents, and other professionals in the learning community).

### SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The student will discuss, describe, analyze, and evaluate (orally and in writing) the following:

- The need for engaging students in learning
- Interpretations of research on motivation for varied learners
- Instructional approaches for different classroom contexts
- The effect of motivation on students, teachers, and the school
- Methods of empowering students to share ideas and explore curriculum
- Ways of developing needed skills that are engaging as well as educational

### GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE COURSE

#### ATTENDANCE POLICY

Due to the topical design of this course, it will be nearly impossible to “make-up” the content of any missed class period. Each class meeting will be devoted to a different approach to motivating students and engaging them in their learning. During class meetings, materials will be reviewed and evaluated, and students will be actively engaged in “trying out” various approaches. Therefore, punctuality and attendance for the entire period of every class meeting is required except in extreme emergencies. The maximum number of absences for this class is one. You may be withdrawn from the class on the second absence. Each tardy will count as one-third of an absence. If you are absent (even once), you will be required to do a one page reflective paper citing two articles about an issue in teacher education relating to this class. **Be on time for class!** If you are tardy more than one time, the same assignment applies and is due the following day after the absence or tardy. Designate another student to pick up any missed handouts! (Please see the instructor immediately after class today if you foresee a problem.)

#### REQUIRED MATERIALS

LiveText Membership: LiveText is required course material that will be used in every education class. This is a one time purchase and can be bought in the bookstore or online. At the end of this class your Final Project MUST be added onto your LiveText E-Portfolio. This will be randomly checked by the professor.

The following simple art materials are also required for this course: crayons (a box of 8 or 24 will be fine), markers, scissors, and a glue stick. Please remember to bring these supplies with you to class each week.

#### ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period and unless otherwise noted, should be typed. Due dates are to be strictly followed. A late assignment will result in the lowering of the grade. Hard copies of all assignments are required except for the class activity reflections and classroom observation reflections which will be submitted via LiveText.

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students are expected to read and strictly adhere to the entire Academic Honesty policy found in the Augusta State University Catalog. In part, the policy reads:

“In an academic community, honesty and integrity must prevail if the work done and the honors awarded are to receive their respect. The erosion of honesty is the academic community’s ultimate loss. The responsibility for the practice and preservation of honesty must be equally assumed by all of its members.”

Exclusions to academic honesty are listed in detail, and each is a serious offense. The most common offense, plagiarism, is the presentation as original work of ideas, words, or thoughts belonging to someone else. Since this course involves finding and trying out new ideas, the Internet will be a valuable resource. Ideas may be adapted for your particular situation, but not used in whole. **You must provide a citation for any specific words, ideas, images, etc. taken from another source.** Any project or paper containing incidents of plagiarism will, at a minimum, receive no credit or grade.

## DISABILITY/OTHER-ABILITY

If you have special needs and wish to receive accommodations in class, please contact the Office of Disability Services in Bellevue Hall (706-737-1469).

***For courtesy reasons, cell phones should be turned off or muted during class time.***

## CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Weekly Class Reflections (25 points)  
You will be asked to reflect upon something that was done in class each week. Share your thoughts. For example: How could you see yourself using this in your classroom? How would you modify the strategy or activity? This activity or strategy would best reach what type of learner? Etc. Unless otherwise noted, reflections should be no more than ½ a page and should be typed. Please submit via LiveText. Reflections are due by 6:00pm on the Thursday following class.
2. Classroom Observation Reflections (10 points)  
You will need to observe at least three hours in an elementary classroom. (See the Department of Teacher Education Website for observation opportunities) While in the classroom you need to observe at least three separate lessons and write a reflection for each lesson. A detailed reflection guide will be posted on LiveText and discussed on the first day of class. All classroom observation reflections are due no later than October 6<sup>th</sup> and should be submitted via LiveText.

3. Instructional Resource Kit (20 points)  
You will need to find or create 5 activities for the classroom using the creative arts discussed in class. In addition to giving directions for the activity, you will need to provide ideas for modifications for different age/ability levels. Each activity will need to be typed following the format provided in class. You will need to bring enough copies so that each member of the class may have a copy. Due dates for the activities will be provided in class.
4. Final Project (40 points)  
For the final, you will work with a group to prepare a complete lesson incorporating something for each of the 4 creative arts (movement, visual art, music, drama). Each group will have 30 minutes to “teach” their lesson to the class. A copy of the lesson plan and a grading rubric will need to be provided for the rest of the class. *This assignment needs to be added to your e-portfolio.*
5. Participation (5 points)  
All students are expected to come to class prepared and on time. During class you are expected to actively participate in all class activities.