Education and Computers.

300:350:92

Rutgers University, Graduate School of Education

Fall 2011

Instructor: Edward Potosnak III
Virtual Office Hours: From 9-10pm: Thursday, September 29th and Thursday, October 20th. Please contact me in advance.
Email: ed.potosnak@rutgers.edu
Home Phone: 732-745-1866
Course Website: Using Sakai. Direct Link: https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal/site/5e17d2c0-659c-4a44-84b5-15e5739161f3
Course Wiki: http://potosnakedcomp.wikispaces.com/
Voice Thread: http://voicethread.com/ Subscribe at: http://voicethread.com/groups/subscribe/31410/897201f1b/

Class meeting times:

There are no in-person class meetings. There will be 3 synchronous online meetings. All assigned work must be completed by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, December 13th, 2011.

Required Reading:

Lever-Duffy and McDonald: *Teaching and Learning with Technology.* Fourth Edition. New York. 2010. ISBN #978-0-13-800-796-6, 0137073984

Richardson, Will: *Blogs, Wikis, Podcasts, and Other Powerful Web Tools for Classrooms.* Third Edition. Thousand Oaks, California. 2010. ISBN # 978-1-4129-7747-0

You will need access to a microphone that can hook to your computer and a digital camera to participate in some of the multimedia portions of the class. You will also need access to the MS Word Suite (Word and PowerPoint). Please let me know if you need help in obtaining these items.

Other course readings will be provided.

Course Description: (as notated in the GSE Catalog)

Education and Computers establishes a foundation for using the computer and technology in a variety of educational settings across all subject areas. The course is hands-on in nature, with focus on current trends. Additionally, learners can expect to discuss theory, practice, and social/philosophical issues related to the use of computers in education. Some familiarity with computers is recommended; no prior computer skills are required.

Course Goals:

1. Provide a foundation for using technology in all core curriculum content areas.

2. Understand computer hardware and software to support technology use in the classroom for a variety of uses.

3. Understand emerging technologies and trends and their implications on learning.

4. Develop a community of practice in using and understanding the social, legal and ethical issues concerning technology use in the classroom.

5. Encourage an open dialogue to discuss knowledge and beliefs about technology use in the classroom.

6. To apply technology to serve the needs of 21st century learners so that they may foster higher order thinking, creativity and problem solving skills.

About this Course:

The great thing about the course is that it is online, so you can choose when you can get the work done. That being said, this course is designed in such a way that you'll need to be checking in on a daily basis.

Make sure you transcribe due dates and deadlines into your calendar at the onset of the course. Students in the past had trouble keeping track of assignments and projects using the web-based tools (calendar and website). Please put all the dates into whatever you use to keep track of deadlines in all your courses. Three sessions will be held synchronously in our virtual classroom see “Weekly Activities” for more on this exciting technology.

My advice is to get things done earlier rather than later. The reason for this is simple. Things happen. Your computer can crash. The power might go out. It's best not to wait until the last minute. As Murphy's Law states: Anything that can go wrong WILL! If something does go wrong, contact me right away. E-mail is my preferred method of communicating, but you can call me as well at 732-745-1866 (please leave a message with all your contact info and the nature of the issue if I don’t pick up).

I am here to listen if you have any questions and/or concerns. The course requires effort on your part and your grade will reflect that effort. By the end of this course you should have an understanding of the technological tools available to educators, but I don’t expect you to be a computer wizard (unless you already are one!). I want you to leave the class with new instructional strategies that promote higher order thinking skills through the utilization of technology. Most of all, I want this to be an enjoyable and enriching experience for you.

Here are some tips before you get started. They will help you to understand what is expected of a student taking this course: (not required, you can just browse through them)

Tips for becoming a successful online learner
What characterizes a successful online course

Organization:

The course is broken up into six modules, so that you can stay focused on identified topics as we move through the course. The module page in Sakai organizes all the assignments, project dead lines, and discussion board prompts in all one place and is the best place to keep track of what is due. The first three modules are designed to help you acquire knowledge of theory, background and the various technologies used. The second three modules of the course are more practical and allow you to apply technology. There will be an overarching Web site project that runs the length of the course. It will parallel the modules we are studying and the information you've learned in each module will be folded into your final project.

Each module is detailed on the course website and will include several activities that you will need to complete. I may make updates to the modules as the course moves forward. These changes will be to further clarify assignments, the assignments are set in stone, and so if you work ahead you will not be penalized. I will refrain from updating any module that is currently assigned, except in cases where something is unclear and I receive a lot of feedback on the item.

Additionally, you'll need to start thinking about the final project as soon as you start the course. Take a look at the project page. You'll need to create a Web site by the end of the course and I'd like that site to reflect your interests so that it is meaningful to you and is something you can use after the course ends.

Weekly Assignments:

Readings: Materials will be assigned weekly, basic readings are outlined in the syllabus and on the course calendar and other short articles, videos, podcasts etc… may be added as the course progresses. Please check the current module for updates and additions.

Online Discussion Board on Sakai: Discussion of the readings will be assigned weekly. You will need to be active and present for these discussions, posting **at least** one original posting and two response comments. You may post to any or all of the topics under a weekly reading. **Citations must be included in your original posting**.

Additionally, each week there is a Technology showcase you must respond to one presentation with two unique ways to use the technology in your classroom/subject area.

Reponses are due by Thursday, 11:59am on the week assigned. Earlier responses are encouraged to facilitate discussion amongst your classmates and I expect comments to be rolling throughout the week. This is a student driven discussion and I will not be posting regularly. The week when you make your virtual Technology Showcase presentation you will not be required to participate in the discussion board.

APA Citation Guidelines

Knowing when and how to cite your sources properly is an important skill to know for this course. Combined with the ability to evaluate sources, it represents an important component of academic integrity. In this course you will be required to use APA citation for the Discussion Board, assignments, and projects. APA style provides a standard system for giving credit to others for their contribution to your work

Using APA Format (Purdue University). This webpage explains and illustrates proper citation both within the text of a paper and in the reference section at the end.

Weekly Activities: Each week you will be given an activity to complete pertaining to the topics covered. The instructions for the assignment can be found in course wiki. http://potosnakedcomp.wikispaces.com/

Virtual Synchronous Class Sessions: We will have three synchronous class sessions using Adobe Connect which will allow each of us to come together in a virtual classroom online. You will need a computer with a working microphone. It would be best if you were at a computer with a WebCam. There will be no additional Weekly Activity for the weeks we come together online. If there is absolutely no way you can attend at the specified times please let me know. The Dates and times are as follows:

1. Thursday, September 29th from 8-9pm
2. Thursday, October 20th from 8-9pm
3. Tuesday (Thursday Class Day) November 22nd from 8-9pm

Project Assignments:

Technology Showcase: In this project you will use PowerPoint to create an online "virtual" presentation showcasing a current, emerging, technology that can be used in the classroom. It is designed so you can learn how to publish to the web for learning and teaching with the added benefit of creating an online resource that can be used in a future job search. You will be assigned a week to make your presentation online and will not be required to post to the discussion board they week your presentation goes live. A calendar will be established and your presentation must go "live" online by 11:59pm on Thursday the week you are assigned. Presentation feedback to your partner is required by the following Sunday after your presentation is due.

Paired Analysis (with Partner): For this project you will review an educational website and a web-based lesson found on it in an area that interests you and your partner. Ex. http://www.edutopia.org/ Spend some time exploring websites to find one catering to teachers in your interest area. You will collaborate with one another using GoogleDocs.

Group Wiki (Group of 4): For this project you will be working in groups of four "chaperones" responsible for a trip to Washington, D.C. You will create a four page wiki website for parents and students to disseminate information about the trip (logistics like cost, dates, etc…) and prepare them for their visit (education resources about how government works, art, culture, etc...). Work must be divided equally among the team members of your group.

Final Project Website: This project is a unique opportunity to design a Website that meets your individual, 21st Century interests and needs. The project is a culminating demonstration of your knowledge of topics in each of the six modules. It also provides you with an opportunity to create a Website on a topic of interest that will be of use beyond this course. Some examples of Web site projects include the creation of an online professional portfolio, teacher Web site, reflective blog, virtual field trip, and Cyber Pal portal. Other projects can also be proposed by you or your classmates.

Grading:

Discussion Board: **45 Points**

Weekly Activities: **30 Points**

Technology Showcase: **45 Points**

Paired Website Analysis: **40 Points**

Group Wiki: **40 Points**

Final Web Project: **100 Points**

TOTAL: **Approximately, 300 Points**

Grading is on a percentage scale:

A	90 - 100 %
B+	85 - 89 %
B	80 - 84 %
C+	75 - 79 %
C	70 - 74 %
D	60 - 69 %

Late Policy:

Projects in this course will be accepted late with a penalty of 3 points per day the project is late. The Final Project will lose 15 points per day it is late.

Academic Integrity:

All issues of academic integrity are referred to the Rutgers University policy on academic integrity. This policy can be found in detail on the University website at: http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html.

Class, Reading, and Project Schedule:

NOTE: Please mark these dates in whatever planner you use to keep track of deadlines and due dates for your other courses.

Week 1: Module 1, Why use technology in classrooms? *9/8*

Readings

Lever-Duffy & McDonald Chapters 1-3

Week 2: Module 1, Why use technology in classrooms? *9/15*

Readings

Richardson Chapter 1 & 3

Week 3: Module 1, Why use technology in classrooms? *9/22*

Readings

Lever-Duffy & McDonald Chapters 4-6

FINAL PROJECT Proposal
DUE September 22nd, by 11:59PM

Week 4: Module 2, Technology tools for the classroom. *9/29*

Virtual Class using Adobe Connect, Thursday, September 29th from 8-9pm.

Readings

Lever-Duffy & McDonald Chapters 7
Richardson Chapter 4

Technology Showcase Group A

Week 5: Module 2, Technology tools for the classroom. *10/6*

Readings

Lever-Duffy & McDonald Chapters 8
Richardson Chapter 5

FINAL PROJECT Assessment Design
DUE October 6th, by 11:59PM

Technology Showcase Group B

Week 6: Module 3, The Internet for Learning and Teaching *10/13*

Readings

Lever-Duffy & McDonald Chapters 9 & 10

Paired Analysis DUE October 13th by 11:59PM.

Technology Showcase Group C

Week 7: Module 3, The Internet for Learning and Teaching *10/20*

Virtual Class using Adobe Connect, Thursday, October 20th from 8-9pm.

Readings

Richardson Chapter 2

Technology Showcase Group D

Week 8: Module 4, Using Technology for Communication and Collaboration *10/27*

Readings

Lever-Duffy & McDonald Chapters 11

FINAL PROJECT Internet-based Tool
DUE October 27th, by 11:59PM

Technology Showcase Group E

Week 9: Module 4, Using Technology for Communication and Collaboration *11/3*

Readings

Richardson Chapter 6 & 7

Technology Showcase Group F

Week 10: Module 5, Multimedia Tools for Learning 11/10

Readings

Richardson Chapter 8

FINAL PROJECT Interactive Component Addition
DUE November 10th, by 11:59PM

Technology Showcase Group G

Week 11: Module 5, Multimedia Tools for Learning *11/17*

Readings

Lever-Duffy & McDonald Chapters 12 &13

Group Wiki DUE November 17th by 11:59PM.

Technology Showcase Group H

Week 12: Module 6, Integrating technology into the classroom TUESDAY *11/22*

Virtual Class using Adobe Connect, Tuesday,
November 22nd from 8-9pm.

Readings

Lever-Duffy & McDonald Chapter 14
Richardson Chapter 10

Technology Showcase Group I

Week 13: Module 6, Integrating technology into the classroom *12/1*

Readings

Richardson Chapter 9

Technology Showcase Group J

FINAL PROJECT Multimedia Component due December 1st by 11:59PM.

Week 14: Module 6, Integrating technology into the classroom. *12/8*

Week 15: Final Project Due *12/13*

FINAL PROJECT DUE Tuesday, December 13th by 11:59PM.