ESCI 4100/6100: Laboratory Teaching Internship

Spring 2009

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Office hours: by appointment

Day & Time: Wed 4:40-5:30
Location: 211 Aderhold

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Course description

The purpose of this seminar is to assist students in developing knowledge of the craft of teaching during an internship in the teaching laboratory. This experience was created to assist science students in gaining teaching experience during their undergraduate careers. Additionally, teaching interns play an important role in supporting the learning of the undergraduate students in the laboratories.

Overview of expectations

1. Each week you are to attend the laboratory to which you are assigned. You will prepare for your activities in the teaching laboratory in consultation with the assigned TA and other staff. You should only prepare the teaching activities that you are directed to prepare after consulting with the TA or other staff.
2. When assigned to do so, you will take the primary responsibility for teaching the laboratory section. In some cases you will be observed and evaluated by the TA, professors in the course, and other staff/faculty.
3. You will be expected to attend weekly preparatory session for the laboratories.
4. You will be expected to attend the weekly reflection seminar.
5. Write 2 reflection papers that describe your experiences in the laboratories.
6. Participate in a final evaluation session with the professors of the course.

Reflection papers

Reflection #1
The first reflection paper is one in which you will describe:

- the activities in which you have been engaged as a Laboratory Teaching Intern,
- your perceptions of the laboratory experience,
- your ideas about how laboratory experiences are beneficial for students, and
- your plans for the future.

This reflection should be at least 3-4 pages in length. You should be prepared to discuss this work in class. This assignment is due February 25.

Reflection #2
We will discuss options for this assignment.
This assignment is due on the last day of class.

Course Policies

Regular and punctual attendance is an important part of this course. Missing more than two class sessions will result in an unsatisfactory grade. Exemptions may be granted in cases of serious illness, death in the family, religious observance, and other events that fall under the guidelines for an excused absence. Please inform me *in advance* if you are going to be absent from class.

All assignments must be handed in on or before the day they are due. Late assignments will result in an unsatisfactory grade.

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work (http://www.uga.edu/~ovpi/honesty/ah.pdf).

Please turn off your cell phone prior to coming to class (i.e., no phone calls and no text messaging).

Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignments due
Jan 14	Introduction to course	
Jan 21	What is the purpose of laboratory experiences?	
Jan 28	Scientists' use of laboratory experiences	
Feb 4	How do laboratory experiences support science learning?	
Feb 11	Elements of effective laboratory experiences	
Feb 18	Examining laboratory experiences in college science classes	
Feb 25	Discussing lab experiences	Reflection 1
March 4	Discussing lab experiences	
Spring Break March 9-13		
March 18	Discussing lab experiences	
March 25	Discussing lab experiences	
April 1	Discussing lab experiences	
April 8	Discussing lab experiences	
April 15	Discussing lab experiences	
April 22	Discussing lab experiences	
April 29	Last day of class	Reflection 2