

EDUC_1301_2A1_Introduction to Education

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Carolyn Heflin

Email: cheflin1@lit.edu

Office Phone: 409-257-0059

Office Location: TC Room 218

Office Hours: MWF 8:00-9:00

TWTHF 12:00-2:00

Additional times available by appointment.



CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Online

PREREQUISITE/COREQUISITE:

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An enriched, integrated pre-service course and content experience that provides active recruitment and institutional support of students interested in a teaching career, especially in high need fields. The course provides students with opportunities to participate in early field observations at all levels of P-12 schools with varied and diverse student populations and provides students with support from college and school faculty, preferably in small cohort groups, for the purpose of introduction to and analysis of the culture of schooling and classrooms. Course content should be aligned as applicable with the State Board for Educator Certification Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities standards. Course must include a minimum of 16 contact hours of field experience in P-12 classrooms.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Identify current issues influencing the field of education and teacher professional development.
2. Analyze the culture of schooling and classrooms from the perspectives of language, gender, socioeconomic, ethnic, and disability-based academic diversity and equity.
3. Provide examples from classroom observations and course activities that demonstrate understanding of educational pedagogy and professional responsibilities of teachers.
4. Evaluate personal motivations, educational philosophies, and factors related to educational career decision making.
5. Recognize the various multiple intelligences/learning styles in order to be able to implement instructional practices that meet the needs of all students

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

- Teaching Methods & Practices Open Education Resource (OER), professional articles and videos provided on Blackboard
- Computer
- Internet connection
- MS PowerPoint (students are provided with free Office 365 access)
- MS Word or compatible word processor (students are provided with free Office 365 access)
- MS Outlook Email (students are provided with free Office 365 access)
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ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance will be noted based on your submitting assignments weekly and interactions with Blackboard. You should access Blackboard at least once a week to complete assignments.

DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the [Academic Calendar](#). If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT

For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16- week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

COURSE CALENDAR

Module	Course Content and Activities	Assignments Due	Date Due
Welcome		Student Introductions PPR Preview	8/31/25
Module 1	Classroom Norms and Procedures	Video/Discussion Reading/Assessment	9/7/25
Module 2	Teacher Voice	Video/Discussion Reading/Assessment	9/14/25
Module 3	Classroom Layout & Teacher Radar	Video/Discussion Reading/Assessment	9/21/25
Module 4	Individual Student Corrections	Video/Discussion Reading/Assessment	9/28/25
Module 5	Using Questions to Engage & Assess	Video/Discussion Reading/Assessment	10/5/25
Module 6	Cooperative Learning	Video/Discussion Reading/Assessment	10/12/25
Module 7	Identifying Learner Outcomes	Video/Discussion Reading/Assessment	10/19/25
Module 8	Planning Assessments	Video/Discussion Reading/Assessment	10/26/25
Field Observation Capstone Project	2 hours of classroom observation in the above modules for a total of 16 hours	Background Check Form Certification Form Summary Form	10/26/25 11/30/25 11/30/25

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

Videos/ Discussion Board Questions 30%

Readings/Assessments 50%

Field Observation Capstone Project 20%

Total 100%

GRADE SCALE

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-0 F

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Field Observation Information:

1. Students must successfully pass a background check to complete the field observations.
2. All students must successfully complete 16-hours of field experience to pass this course.
3. Students will be able to select the K-12 school/teachers that they would like to observe. Students are encouraged to observe in grades and content areas that they would like to become a certified teacher in.
4. While completing field observations, LIT students need to practice the following:
 - a. Respect other students, faculty, staff of LIT, and all who you encounter during observations on P-12 campuses. Please see [LIT student code of conduct and disciplinary policy](#).
 - b. Follow P-12 campus rules in areas such as food/beverage, technology use and dress code.
5. Students will submit a certification form and observation summary to receive credit for field observations.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at <http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty>.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at <https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements>. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](#).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

- Grading
 - I have set up your Blackboard course to automatically assign a zero on assignments submitted after the due date, however that does not mean that you cannot submit assignments late. Once I grade the assignment, that grade will replace the zero.
 - All assignments are due every Sunday night at midnight. I will have submitted assignments graded no later than the following Friday at 2:00.
 - Please review any comments that I make on your graded assignment. If I deduct points, I always give recommendations on how to improve the next time.
 - Please note on the syllabus that the entire month of November is dedicated to completing field observations and turning in your certification form and field observation summary.
- Communication
 - Please feel free to address me as Ms. Heflin or Instructor Heflin. I often sign off on my messages informally as Carolyn.
 - I answer Blackboard messages or emails within 24 hours. The exception is on the weekends or holidays, so please contact me by Friday 2:00 or you may not receive a response until Monday morning.
 - Please contact me if you need any help. You will not bother me. It is my job to support you!