Title

Enhancing Multicultural Education with Technology for Grades K-8

Target Audience

This course is designed for current and pre-service teachers of grades K-8.

Facilitator

TBA

Credit

To be determined by college or university

Course Description

Creating a culturally rich landscape and providing access to first-hand cultural experiences in a classroom can be challenging. In this course, learners will build a collection of resources and technologies that effectively unlock new worlds and provide students with an element of immersion. As a final task, learners will design a teaching unit that incorporates both community resources and the Internet to help advance multicultural studies in the classroom.

Standards

This course will help the teacher to meet National Education Technology Standards (NETS) standards 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6.

This course can help your students to meet NETS foundations 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Learning Outcomes

After completion of this course, the learner will be able to:
- Discuss relevant issues related to multicultural education in your classroom.
- Develop goals and student outcomes to support a multicultural teaching unit in your classroom.
- Identify quality community and internet resources to support your multicultural unit.
- Create activities and a plan for implementing a multicultural teaching unit in your classroom.

Course Outline

In each activity in this course, the learner will have access to numerous online resources from high quality sources. Throughout the course, learners will also have access to video vignettes showing "best practice" examples for technology integration.

Activity 1: Develop a list of goals for incorporating multicultural education into your curriculum

Learners will:

Read and explore
- "Defining Multicultural Education and the Multicultural Niche"
  Detailed and thorough definitions, goals, assumptions, and principles of multicultural education from three people in the field.
- "Steps toward Multicultural Curriculum Transformation"
  Describes five phases of curriculum transformation from a multicultural perspective.
- "A Question of Quality"
  A description and argument for multicultural education.
- "Teaching with a Multicultural Perspective"
  Describes appropriate practices necessary to implement an effective multicultural curriculum.

Complete activities
Submit a list of 3-6 goals for transforming your curriculum. For each goal include a description of why this goal is important for you and your students.

Participate in an online discussion
Describe an aspect of multicultural education or a culture related issue that you want your students to master. Present your initial ideas for implementing the concept and/or ask for suggestions. Respond to at least one other person's post.

Activity 2: Select a topic for your multicultural unit and define the student outcomes

Learners will:

Read and explore
- Multicultural Science Education: Myths, Legends, and Moon Phases
  Lesson plan that focuses on the phases of the moon.
- NCSS Multicultural Education Resources
  Listing of organizations, publications, and other resources for social studies disciplines.
- Multicultural Book Reviews
  List of reviews of multicultural literature for K-12 educators.
- Multicultural Math Fair
  Description of Frisbie Middle School and details of an annual multicultural math fair.

Complete activities
Submit a description of the multicultural topic you will explore. Include a brief explanation of why this topic was chosen. Also submit your list of 3-7 student outcomes.

Participate in an online discussion
Share any insights or questions you have about your topic and/or student outcomes. Respond to at least one other person's comments or questions.

Activity 3: Develop of list of community and Internet resources to support your multicultural unit

Learners will:

Read and explore
- "Beginning Library Research on Ethnic Identity in the United States"
  Online catalog, listing of resources, and links to ethnicity sites.
- "Family Tree Magazine"
  This site can be a great place to start to help your students research their family heritage.
- "The Oriental Institute Museum"
  A virtual museum displaying the history, art, and archeology of the ancient Near East.

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- "Virtual Museum of Holocaust Art"
  An online exhibit offering materials such as slides, film, video and audio tapes, and educational activities for use in Holocaust and genocide education.
- "Virtual Museum of New France"
  A virtual museum providing activities and projects focusing on the New France.
- "Liberty Bell Virtual Museum"
  A virtual gallery and exhibit containing a collection of hundreds of Liberty Bell memorabilia, relics, and souvenirs dating back to the 1800s.

Complete activities
> Submit a list of at least two community resources and at least three Internet resources. For each resource, provide the following: the title of the resource, the location (where it can be found), a brief description of the resource, and a brief description of how it can be used in your teaching unit.

Participate in an online discussion
> Describe a resource you found that will be particularly useful for your multicultural unit OR identify a difficulty you are having in locating a particular kind of resource. Respond to at least one other person's post.

Activity 4: Develop a sequence of activities for the unit

Complete the activities
> Submit a description of your culminating product or activity and an outline of your learning activities.

Activity 5: Devise a plan for incorporating the unit into your classroom

Complete the activities
> Submit the activities for your multicultural unit. For each activity submit the full content of the activity, including any resources that will be used.

Participate in an online discussion
> Ask for feedback on one (or more) of your implementation components. For example, if you decided to have students work in small groups, explain how that is going to work, and why you decided to group students in this manner. Or, if you are concerned with how to schedule computer time, ask your colleagues for advice. Respond to another person's comments or questions.

Final Project

Before you submit your final project, you should review your submissions. This will allow you to review the work you have done in order to complete your final project. You should make sure you are meeting each of the final project criteria. Review each section to ensure that all are complete and have been edited for content and grammar. You may want to submit your project draft to a peer or colleague to assist with editing. When you are ready to submit your final project, compile the following sections:
- Goals and student outcomes for the unit.
- A clearly defined multicultural topic.
- Three to five activities, supported by Internet and community resources
- A plan for implementing the unit into your classroom

Schedule

This course is scheduled to take approximately 30 hours to complete readings, activities, video, assignments, reflections and a final project.

Requirements

Learners are expected to:
- Complete all assignments
- Participate in all discussion boards
- Ask for assistance when needed

Evaluation

Pass/fail upon satisfactory completion of assignments and discussion board participation

Materials (hardware, software, plug-ins)

Technical Requirements
- Word processor
- Internet service provider
- E-mail

Academic Dishonesty Policy

To be inserted by university institution only

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