



School of Education
College of Professional Studies
University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

Education 205: Pluralism for Educators

100% ONLINE

University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point
Spring 2021
January 25 – May 14
(finals week May 17 – May 21)

Instructor:

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Virtual Office Hours (Zoom in Canvas): Thursdays 5:00 – 5:30 pm weekly and by appointment

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Course Structure

This course will be delivered entirely online through the course management system Canvas. You will use your UWSP account to login to the course from the [Canvas Login Page](#). If you have not activated your UWSP account, please visit the [Manage Your Account](#) page to do so.

Required Textbook

Cushner, K., McClelland, A. & Safford, P. (9th edition). *Human Diversity in Education: An Intercultural Approach*. McGraw Hill.

Any additional material will be available in Canvas.

Course Description

This course introduces students to concepts and relevance of diversity in education and other human service fields. Activities and assignments in this course intend to help students gain a broad understanding of issues that affect the personal and school lives of school-age students from a variety of backgrounds. Most of the examples used in this course gear towards educators, but the issues and concepts are applicable to almost all areas of work and study. Students are encouraged to share examples and experiences in class that help them better understand and connect with the course content. A level 1, which is 12 hours of practicum experience, is required.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO's)

Students are able to...

- Demonstrate an understanding of the history, culture, and tribal sovereignty of American Indian tribes and bands located in Wisconsin.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the history, culture, and contributions of women and various racial, cultural, language, and economic groups in the United States.
- Articulate his/her own culture, both objectively and subjectively.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the psychological and social implications of discrimination, especially racism and sexism in American society.

Topic Outline/Schedule Course and Points

Important Note: Refer to the Canvas course home page for pertinent information. Activity and assignment details will be explained in detail within each week's corresponding Module. As tasks come due, they will appear in your "to do" list. If you have any questions, please contact your instructor

1. **Project 1:** Introduction to Pluralism **25 points**
2. **Project 2:** Equity in Education **25 points**
3. **Project 3:** Cultural Competence **25 points**
4. **Project 4:** Pluralism in Practice **25 points**

***100 total points possible**

Your final grades will be based upon the following:

• 93-100% = A • 90-92.9% = A- • 87-89.9% = B+ • 83-86.9% = B • 80-82.9% = B- • 77-79.9% = C+ • 73-76.9% = C • 70-72.9% = C- • 60-69.9% = D

Students must receive a C- or better in all education, early childhood, and physical education courses required for teacher certification. Failure to earn a C- or higher will result in the student needing to repeat the course."

Communication

Expected Instructor Response Times

- I will attempt to respond to student emails within 24 hours. If you have not received a reply from me within 24 hours please resend your email.
- I will attempt to reply to and assess student discussion posts within 48 hours of discussions closing.
- I will attempt to grade written work within 72 hours, however longer written assignments may take me longer to read and assess.

Communicate with your Instructor

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution.

Student Expectations

In this course you will be expected to complete the following types of tasks.

- Students are expected to participate in online activities as listed in the projects.
- communicate via email and/or Canvas Q and A
- complete basic internet searches
- download and upload documents to the LMS
- read documents online
- view online videos
- participate in online discussions
- complete project and associated components online
- upload documents to Canvas to submit an assignment
- documents are required to be in PDF or Word DOCX only. If

Policies

Completing Assignments, Grading Policies, and Late Work

All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Canvas unless otherwise instructed. Documents must be in PDF, photo image or Word DOCX only. Project assignments must be submitted by the given due date. Special permission must be requested from instructor before the due date

unless under extreme circumstances for work late work and not marked late.

All discussion assignments must be completed by the assignment due date and time. Late or missing discussion assignments will affect the student's grade.

If the assignment link is closed, you can email and request me to re-open. Do not assume that I will not accept your late work just because the assignment date is past due or closed. It closes because I have it set on a schedule to keep the course flowing. I honor late work within reason: that it not a habit and is more of an exception, and that you communicate to me within a timely manner prior that you will be late. Unexcused late work will be marked late with a deduction of points. Give that we are in very difficult times with COVID and health concerns, I will be empathetic in these times. I just ask that you please do not make late work a habit and please do ensure that if it is a group assignment or discussion that only has value if there are participants, you prioritize timely work with your classmates as assigned. You do not want to hold up your classmate's work because you are late to post your requirement. Thanks 😊

Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to Grades. Click on the Grades link to view your points. Projects are typically graded, within 1-2 weeks after due date.

Course Disposition Policy

I align my policies and choices with my department's expectations. The School of Education has adopted [a model of the dispositions](#) 📎 we expect from our students and graduates. I don't expect you to be at the final "Mastering" level in your dispositions. Instead, I offer this model for your own self-evaluation and goal-setting.

Appropriate dispositions should be demonstrated throughout the course. One of the most valuable dispositions in this course is professionalism. It is expected that students approach this course as if it were the beginning of his or her career. This includes being prepared for every class period, turning in assignments on time, attending every class unless there is a documented emergency or illness.

Very important is to be professional in the classroom and with your practicum teacher. Be on time, communicate with them, wear appropriate attire for the school standards. This is not only a disposition expectation; it is also critical for future relations with you and the university as a future professional in the community.

Video Recordings Policy

Lecture materials and recordings for EDUS 205 are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

Plagiarism Policy

Cheating and plagiarism is not tolerated. Assignments that are plagiarized will be considered unacceptable and major consequences may follow. If anyone is unsure of whether something is plagiarized, please consult a reference or myself. Assignments submitted to Canvas may be randomly scanned using Turnitin software.

The rights and responsibilities document also includes the policies regarding academic misconduct, which can be found in Chapter 14. A direct link can be found here:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SSR-2010/rightsChapter14.pdf>

I do however encourage working together to learn from each other as long as your work submitted is your own. In Canvas you have a space called Conversation Cafe and this is your place to work together to gather data or discuss work as a collaborative.

Writing Policy

It is expected that all pieces of writing submitted for this course be proofread for conventional errors. This includes grammatical errors and incorrect sentence structures. Points may be deducted for conventional errors. In text citation for quotes and paraphrasing of an author is required followed with full citation. APA or MLA is acceptable.

Example of an in text quote:

According to Jones (1998), "Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time" (p. 199).

Example of a paraphrased reference:

According to Jones (1998), APA style is a difficult citation format for first-time learners.

Example of full citation:

Author, A. A. (Year of publication). *Title of work: Capital letter also for subtitle*. Location: Publisher.

Calfee, R. C., & Valencia, R. R. (1991). *APA guide to preparing manuscripts for journal publication*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Attendance and Participation Policy

Attendance and participation is essential in this course. For online, your attendance for the first week will be an introduction discussion post. Attendance thereafter is timely completion of your assigned work in Canvas.

Exceptional Needs Policy and American with Disabilities Act

If you're unfamiliar or uneasy with this process, please contact me anyways and we'll work through it together. I'm dedicated to accommodating the needs of my students. I don't believe that equal treatment is the same as fair treatment. A course requirement like a deadline may be unfair to you, based on a life event or a disability. If I agree that the requirement is unfair, then I'm happy to make an accommodation. Here are some exceptional needs I have accommodated in the past: learning disability, physical disability, chronic illness, death in the family, car accident, sick child.

The American Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal law requiring educational institutions to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information about UWSP's policies, check here:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/ADAPolicyinfo.pdf>

If you have a disability and require classroom and/or exam accommodations, please register with the Disability and Assistive Technology Center. For more information, please visit the Disability and Assistive Technology Center located on the 6th floor of the Learning Resource Center (Library).

Below is a link to more information: <http://www.4.uwsp.edu/special/disability/>

Absences due to Military Service Policy

As stated in the UWSP Catalog, you will not be penalized for class absence due to unavoidable or legitimate required military obligations, or medical appointments at a VA facility, not to exceed two (2) weeks unless special permission is granted by the instructor. You are responsible for notifying faculty members of such circumstances as far in advance as possible and for providing documentation to the Office of the Dean of Students to verify the reason for the absence. The faculty member is responsible to provide reasonable accommodations or opportunities to make up exams or other course assignments that have an impact on the course grade. For absences due to being deployed for active duty, please refer to the [Military Call-Up Instructions for Students](#).

Commit to Integrity

As a student in this course (and at this university) you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class and also integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom.

Confidentiality

Learning requires risk-taking and sharing ideas. Please keep your classmates' ideas and experiences confidential outside the classroom unless permission has been granted to share them.

Copyright infringement

This is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act. Each year students violate these laws and campus policies, putting themselves at risk of federal prosecution. For more information about what to expect if you are caught, or to take preventive measures to keep your computing device clean, visit our [copyright page](#).

Dropping UWSP Courses

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](#) for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student's family.

Drug Free Schools and Communities Act

The Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) requires institutions of higher education to establish policies that address unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and illicit drugs. The DFSCA also requires the establishment of a drug and alcohol prevention program. The Center for Prevention lists information about alcohol and drugs, their effects, and the legal consequences if found in possession of these substances. [Center for Prevention – DFSCA](#)

Emergency Procedures

- In the event of a **medical emergency call 9-1-1** or use campus phone **[list location in room or nearest your classroom]**. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim.
- In the event of a **tornado warning, proceed to the lowest level interior room** without window exposure at **[list primary location for shelter closest to classroom,]**. See www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans.aspx for floor plans showing severe weather shelters on campus. Avoid wide-span structures (gyms, pools or large classrooms).
- In the event of a **fire alarm, evacuate the building** in a calm manner. Meet at **[state logical location to meet 200 yards away from building]**. Notify instructor or emergency response personnel of any missing individuals.
- **Active Shooter – RUN. HIDE. FIGHT.** If trapped, hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Call 9-1-1 when it is safe to do so. Follow instructions of emergency responders.
- See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Procedures at www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point.”

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Class Climate & Honoring Difference

The School of Education strives to honor the uniqueness of all learners. I'm dedicated to creating safe, inclusive, welcoming experiences in which all students can succeed. I mindfully plan and teach this course in ways that promote and embody pluralism: celebrating the coexistence of multiple identities, cultures, and belief systems.

If you feel unwelcome or unsafe in this course, or you have any concerns about your ability to succeed, please let me know. We can address the issue together, confidentially.

As a teacher, I align my policies with the university's guidance, including the [UWSP Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities](#) [🔗](#).

SOE Standards and Assessments

Experiential Education General Education and Teacher Education Requirement Performance Tasks

- Your completed Personal Cultural Exploration Project and your Final Synthesis Paper of the practicum observation are the experiential education performance tasks for this class.

- *For education prospective students: Every School of Education (SOE) student MUST maintain a portfolio of artifacts from EVERY SOE course in order to receive a teaching license.
- Keep these two projects in a VERY safe place until you take the portfolio class.
- It is required to complete these two projects to complete this course.
- It is strongly recommended that you save all important documents on your UWSP One Drive

InTASC Core Teaching Standards

The InTASC Core Teaching Standards have been adopted by the UWSP School of Education. The standards have been grouped into four general categories (The Learner and Learning, Content, Instructional Practice, and Professional Responsibility) to help users organize thinking about the standards.

The Learner and Learning

Teaching begins with the learner. To ensure that each student learns new knowledge and skills, teachers must understand that learning and developmental patterns vary among individuals, that learners bring unique individual differences to the learning process, and that learners need supportive and safe learning environments to thrive. Effective teachers have high expectations for each and every learner and implement developmentally appropriate, challenging learning experiences within a variety of learning environments that help all learners meet high standards and reach their full potential. Teachers do this by combining a base of professional knowledge, including an understanding of how cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical development occurs, with the recognition that learners are individuals who bring differing personal and family backgrounds, skills, abilities, perspectives, talents and interests. Teachers collaborate with learners, colleagues, school leaders, families, members of the learners' communities, and community organizations to better understand their students and maximize their learning. Teachers promote learners' acceptance of responsibility for their own learning and collaborate with them to ensure the effective design and implementation of both self-directed and collaborative learning.

Standard #1: Learner Development. The teacher understands how learners grow and develop, recognizing that patterns of learning and development vary individually within and across the cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical areas, and designs and implements developmentally appropriate and challenging learning experiences.

Standard #2: Learning Differences. The teacher uses understanding of individual differences and diverse cultures and communities to ensure inclusive learning environments that enable each learner to meet high standards.

Standard #3: Learning Environments. The teacher works with others to create environments that support individual and collaborative learning, and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

Content

Teachers must have a deep and flexible understanding of their content areas and be able to draw upon content knowledge as they work with learners to access information, apply knowledge in real world settings, and address meaningful issues to assure learner mastery of the content. Today's teachers make content knowledge accessible to learners by using multiple means of communication, including digital media and information technology. They integrate cross-disciplinary skills (e.g., critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, communication) to help learners use content to propose solutions, forge new understandings, solve problems, and imagine possibilities. Finally, teachers make content knowledge relevant to learners by connecting it to local, state, national, and global issues.

Standard #4: Content Knowledge. The teacher understands the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches and creates learning experiences that make the discipline accessible and meaningful for learners to assure mastery of the content.

Standard #5: Application of Content. The teacher understands how to connect concepts and use differing perspectives to engage learners in critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.

Instructional Practice

Effective instructional practice requires that teachers understand and integrate assessment, planning, and instructional strategies in coordinated and engaging ways. Beginning with their end or goal, teachers first identify student learning objectives and content standards and align assessments to those objectives. Teachers understand how to design, implement and interpret results from a range of formative and summative assessments. This knowledge is integrated into instructional practice so that teachers have access to information that can be used to provide immediate feedback to reinforce student learning and to modify instruction. Planning focuses on using a variety of appropriate and targeted instructional strategies to address diverse ways of learning, to incorporate new technologies to maximize and individualize learning, and to allow learners to take charge of their own learning and do it in creative ways.

Standard #6: Assessment. The teacher understands and uses multiple methods of assessment to engage learners in their own growth, to monitor learner progress, and to guide the teacher's and learner's decision making.

Standard #7: Planning for Instruction. The teacher plans instruction that supports every student in meeting rigorous learning goals by drawing upon knowledge of content areas, curriculum, cross-disciplinary skills, and pedagogy, as well as knowledge of learners and the community context.

Standard #8: Instructional Strategies. The teacher understands and uses a variety of instructional strategies to encourage learners to develop deep understanding of content areas and their connections, and to build skills to apply knowledge in meaningful ways.

Professional Responsibility

Creating and supporting safe, productive learning environments that result in learners achieving at the highest levels is a teacher's primary responsibility. To do this well, teachers must engage in meaningful and intensive professional learning and self-renewal by regularly examining practice through ongoing study, self-reflection, and collaboration. A cycle of continuous self-improvement is enhanced by leadership, collegial support, and collaboration. Active engagement in professional learning and collaboration results in the discovery and implementation of better practice for the purpose of improved teaching and learning. Teachers also contribute to improving instructional practices that meet learners' needs and accomplish their school's mission and goals. Teachers benefit from and participate in collaboration with learners, families, colleagues, other school professionals, and community members. Teachers demonstrate leadership by modeling ethical behavior, contributing to positive changes in practice, and advancing their profession.

Standard #9: Professional Learning and Ethical Practice. The teacher engages in ongoing professional learning and uses evidence to continually evaluate his/her practice, particularly the effects of his/her choices and actions on others (learners, families, other professionals, and the community), and adapts practice to meet the needs of each learner.

Standard #10: Leadership and Collaboration. The teacher seeks appropriate leadership roles and opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with learners, families, colleagues, other school professionals, and community members to ensure learner growth, and to advance the profession.

*Adapted from the INTASC - Interstate New Teachers Assessment and Support Consortium, a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers. This document is available at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/tepd/standards.html>

Common Core Standards and Rtl

Wisconsin has adopted the common core standards as a means of defining how and what instruction is taught at each grade level. Please refer to the link attached if you want to find the common core standards in a curricular area. http://standards.dpi.wi.gov/stn_ccss Wisconsin has a unique vision for the implementation of the framework for Rtl. The attached link provides you that framework as well as additional links to PBIS and SIMS. You are strongly encouraged to use this framework when thinking about instructional design. There is also a wealth of resources for understanding Wisconsin Rtl located at the Wisconsin Rtl Center website that is also included.

<http://rti.dpi.wi.gov/>

<http://www.wisconsinrticenter.org/>

Guidance Regarding Face Coverings in the Classroom

Our course is fully online but we are required to add this next section to our syllabus, so I want to ensure you have this for your use for any courses in the classroom/campus.

Face Coverings:

- At all UW-Stevens Point campus locations, the wearing of face coverings is mandatory in all buildings, including classrooms, laboratories, studios, and other instructional spaces. Any student with a condition that impacts their use of a face covering should contact the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center](#) to discuss accommodations in classes. Please note that unless everyone is wearing a face covering, in-person classes cannot take place. This is university policy and not up to the discretion of individual instructors. Failure to adhere to this requirement could result in formal withdrawal from the course.

Other Guidance:

- Please monitor your own health each day using [this screening tool](#). If you are not feeling well or believe you have been exposed to COVID-19, do not come to class; email your instructor and contact Student Health Service (715-346-4646).
 - As with any type of absence, students are expected to communicate their need to be absent and complete the course requirements as outlined in the syllabus.
- Maintain a minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from others whenever possible.
- Do not congregate in groups before or after class; stagger your arrival and departure from the classroom, lab, or meeting room.
- Wash your hands or use appropriate hand sanitizer regularly and avoid touching your face.
- Please maintain these same healthy practices outside the classroom.

Enforcement – Suggested Language for Discussing Requirement with Students

- Day 1/Week 1: Review language in syllabus. Remind students that face coverings have been required by the university's administration in all classrooms and buildings. They are mandatory based on the advice of medical professionals because, combined with physical distancing and other measures, they help protect both the health of others and the person wearing the face covering. Remind students that if they cannot wear a face covering due to their own health concerns, they should contact UWSP's Disability and Assistive Technology Center to seek a formal accommodation.
 - Flexibility may be required in the early days of the semester as the campus community adjusts to this requirement.

- After Day 1:
 - As necessary or when it feels appropriate, continue to remind students that we are all in this together and that face coverings are required in all buildings, classrooms, labs, and meeting spaces; physical distancing, hand washing, etc. are important for everyone to do. Don't shy away from mentioning how weird this experience is for everyone and thank them for helping to keep us all safe and healthy, at school and in the classroom.
 - If a student is not wearing a face covering, it would be best to quietly check to see if they forgot it or whether there is a health-related concern preventing them from wearing a face covering. If so, refer them to UWSP's Disability and Assistive Technology Center to seek a formal accommodation.
 - If a student forgets a face covering: "In this building you can go to [see office list for each building/campus location] to pick up a disposable single-use face covering. Please do so now before class starts" OR "Feel free to return to your room/car/apartment to get yours. They are mandatory in all classrooms."
 - If a student refuses to wear a face covering: "You have the option to participate in class remotely/online. I will need you to please leave the classroom. By university policy, I'm not allowed to begin class unless everyone is wearing a face covering. You are welcome to return when you're willing to wear a face covering."
 - If a student then refuses to leave, consider taking a 5-10 minute break so that the instructor and student can speak privately, and hopefully deescalate the situation: "Unfortunately, if you refuse to wear a face covering and you refuse to leave class, my only option is to cancel today's class for everyone and report this to the Dean of Students. This will begin a disciplinary process, one result of which may be that you are officially withdrawn from this course. At a minimum, the university will not allow you to attend future classes in person if you are not wearing a face covering." [Faculty/Instructor should report this to the Department Chair, Registrar, and the Dean of Students ([General Incident Report form](#))]
 - At this point, the Dean of Students office will contact the student for a conversation.
 - If the student is willing to wear a face covering, he/she will be permitted to return to class. If not, he/she will either attend online or be withdrawn from the class depending on the circumstances and the result of the disciplinary process.
 - If a student, having been instructed not to attend the next class in person still comes to the classroom, the faculty/instructor should consider repeating the steps above, including canceling the class again.

I reserve the right to modify this syllabus at any time. If I do so, you will be informed.