



Northern Illinois University

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Transition to the Professional Science Teacher (BIOS 486, CHEM 496, GEOL 482, PHYS 496)

Instructor: Dr. Jon S. Miller
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Text: No textbook is required for this course. Readings are provided on Blackboard

Course Description: A transitioning experience in which the licensure candidate achieves closure on the initial phase of the professional preparation and upon that foundation, charts a path for continuing profession growth as a practicing teacher. The candidate will reflect on the preparatory experience and complete documentation demonstrating ability to perform as a qualified science teacher. Such documentation will include, but is not be limited to completion and submission of the edTPA, completing the necessary step to apply for teacher licensure, apply for secondary and middle school endorsements (if applicable) and set up a credential file at Career Services.

Class Meeting Schedule: The class will meet in Montgomery Hall 443, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
January 25
February 8
February 22
March 7

NOTE: There will be one additional class meeting after student teaching is concluded. This meeting will be sometime in mid-April. Date and time is yet to be determined.

Course Expectations:

1. Complete and submit an edTPA during student teaching. *The edTPA will be evaluated using the official edTPA rubrics 1-15. A score average of 3 or above will be considered proficient for each of the tasks. Candidates must receive a score of proficient for Tasks 1-3 and the Academic Language component.*
2. Completing the Teacher Licensure Process. *Final Steps in the Licensure Process: As you are completing your Student Teaching experience, you must complete the necessary steps to apply for your Teaching Licensure, apply for Secondary and Middle School Endorsements, and set up your Credential File at Career Services.*

Attendance: You are expected to attend every class, arrive to class on time, and remain for the duration. In case of emergency, please notify the instructor in writing (email is fine) with as much advance notice as possible. Failure to notify the instructor in writing of an absence will be regarded as an unexcused absence and there will be no make-up.

Need for Accommodation: If you need an accommodation for this class, please contact the Disability Resource Center as soon as possible. The DRC coordinates accommodations for students with disabilities. It is located on the 4th floor of the Health Services Building, and can be reached at 815-753-1303 (V) or drc@niu.edu.

Also, please contact me privately as soon as possible so we can discuss your accommodations. The sooner you let me know your needs, the sooner I can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Class Schedule:

January 25

- I. Discussion of student teaching activities
- II. Discussion of edTPA Task 1: Planning for Instruction and Assessment
 - a. Planning Commentary and Rubrics
 - b. Instruction Commentary and Rubrics
 - c. Planning Assessments

February 8

- I. Discussion of student teaching activities
- II. Discussion of edTPA Task 2: Instructing and Engaging Students in Learning
 - a. Video Recording
 - b. Learning Environment and Rubrics
 - c. Engaging Students in Learning and Rubrics
 - d. Deepening Student Learning and Rubrics
 - e. Subject Specific Pedagogy: Analyzing Data and Rubrics
 - f. Analyzing Teaching and Effectiveness and Rubrics

February 22

- I. Discussion of student teaching activities
- II. Discussion of edTPA Task 3: Assessing Student Learning
 - a. Analyzing Student Learning and Rubrics
 - b. Providing Feedback to Guide Learning and Rubrics
 - c. Analyzing Students Academic Language Understanding and Rubrics
 - d. Use of Assessment to Inform Instruction and Rubrics

March 7

- I. Artifacts and Commentary
 - a. Student Work Samples
 - b. Evidence of Feedback
 - c. Getting Ready to Upload the edTPA

April 18 - TBA