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| Course Title ( Credits ) | SSI 203: Issues in Education (4 credits) |
| Course Designation for TC | Teacher certification-related course |
| Content Teacher | |
| Instructor(s) | Rebecca Schimidt |
| E-mail address | rschmidt@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp |
| Office/Ext | 401 Ext. 3726 |
| Office hours | Monday & Wednesdays 2:30-4:00, or by appointment- email the exact date and time. |
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Miyazaki International College

Spring 2020

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| Course Description: | | |
| Using experiential and interdisciplinary approaches, students will be introduced to the basic philosophies, theories and history of education. Students will explore the origin and development of educational thought and institutions in Japan and selected countries in the world. They will also investigate the relationship between education and the changing socio-cultural trends in Japan. | | |
| Course Goals/Objectives: | | |
| **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**  Content Goals   * Students will be able to explain and use basic terminology and concepts in the study of education. * Students will be able to explain Communicative Language Teaching, and state its advantages and disadvantages. * Students will be able to make some activities and a lesson plan, using the MEXT course of study and the ideas of Communicative Language Teaching. * Students will be able to teach two lessons according to the lesson plans they have made. The lessons will reflect the ideas of Communicative Language Teaching and active learning that we have studied in class. * Students will be able to present, discuss and write about the history and philosophy of English language teaching in Japan, English in elementary school, and some social, systemic, and managerial issues of education in Japan.   Critical thinking goals   * Students will be able to look at social issues in education from a number of different viewpoints. * Students will be able to find alternative solutions for educational problems or issues.   Language goals   * Students will be able to present information in front of the class in a clear and professional manner. * Students will be able to research various issues and explain the research to their classmates through speaking or writing. * Students will be able to write a short paper expressing an opinion. | | |
| Course Schedule (Subject to change) | | |
| Day | Topic | Content |
| 1 | Introduction | Discussion: Goals for the class, what is microteaching, Accuracy and fluency |
| 2 | History and philosophy of English language teaching in Japan | Discussion: Why is English taught in Japan? |
| 3 | History of English language teaching in Japan | Read and prepare micro-teaching on the history of English language teaching in Japan |
| 4 | History of English language teaching in Japan | Watch micro-teaching, peer review |
| 5 | English language teaching outside Japan | Discussion of emphases on accuracy and/or fluency through Japanese history |
| 6 | English language teaching outside Japan | Brainstorm and discussion of how to compare English language education |
| 7 | English language teaching outside Japan | Research and prepare micro-teaching on English language education in another country |
| 8 | English language teaching outside Japan | Micro-teaching and discussion |
| 9 | English language teaching in Japan | Lecture and discussion: Communicative Language Teaching |
| 10 | English language teaching in Japan | Lecture and discussion: The MEXT course of study and CLT |
| 11 | Practice teaching | Discussion and practice: making goals, making a lesson plan |
| 12 | Practice teaching | Watch model activities and discuss; Active Learning |
| 13 | Practice teaching | Make own goals and lesson plan |
| 14 | Practice teaching | Revise lesson plan |
| 15 | Practice teaching | Two groups teach |
| 16 | Practice teaching | Two groups teach |
| 17 | Practice teaching | Two groups teach |
| 18 | Teaching issue: English in elementary school | Reading and discussion: difficulties of complying with the MEXT Course of Study for English in elementary school |
| 19 | Teaching issue: English in elementary school | Research and prepare micro-teaching |
| 20 | Teaching issue: English in elementary school | Micro-teaching and discussion |
| 21 | Teaching issue: English in elementary school | Micro-teaching and discussion |
| 22 | Teaching issues: English in elementary school | Micro-teaching and discussion |
| 23 | Social, systematic, and managerial issues in Japanese education | Select a topic and begin to research an educational or social issue |
| 24 | Social, systemic, and managerial issues | Practice teaching: preliminary lesson plan |
| 25 | Social, systemic, and managerial issues | Practice teaching: revise lesson plan |
| 26 | Social, systemic, and managerial issues | Practice teaching: second revision if necessary |
| 27 | Social, systemic, and managerial issues | Practice teaching: second revision if necessary |
| 28 | Social, systemic, and managerial issues | Teach lesson to classmates about a social or educational issue in Japan |
| 29 | Social, systemic, and managerial issues | Continue lesson, discussion |
| 30 | Social, systemic, and managerial issues | Continue lessons, discussion |
| Required Materials:  Ring-binder, Readings and handouts will be provided by instructors. Students will be required to find some material. | | |
| Course Policies (Attendance, etc.) | | |
| As a student in this course, you have the following responsibilities:   1. To attend all classes and arrive on time 2. To participate actively as a member of the class 3. To complete and hand in all assigned work on time. Late assignments will be accepted **for only two** **weeks** after the deadline with a **20% reduction** in points earned. 4. To organize class handouts in a binder 5. **Three unexcused absences** will lead to our recommendation for your withdrawal from the course. 6. Coming to class **late three times** will be counted as **one unexcused absence**. Unexcused absences result in a **1% reduction per missed class** of your final grade. 7. Please tell us in advance if you have to miss a class, and make sure that you check Moodle for missed assignments. If you do not understand, **please come to see one of us before the next scheduled class**. Being absent is not an excuse for failing to turn in assignments on time**.** | | |
| Preparation and Review | | |
| Students are expected to spend on hour on preparation and one hour on review for each class period. Go over your notes and restate them in your own words. Mark any vocabulary you don’t know and make a list, if that helps you. Note any questions you have and ask us in the next class period. | | |
| Grades and Grading | | |
| GRADING  Participation 10%  First practice teaching and reflection paper 20%  Class exercises and activities; quizzes, essays, micro-teaching 35%  Second practice teaching and reflection paper 35%  Total 100% | | |
| Methods of Feedback: | | |
| Written feedback on micro-teaching and model lessons will, in principle, be given within one week. In principle, written work will be returned within one week of submission. | | |
| Diploma Policy Objectives: | | |
| Work completed in this course helps students achieve the following Diploma Policy objective(s):  1. Advanced thinking skills (comparison, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation) based on critical thinking (critical and analytic thought)  2. The ability to understand and accept different cultures developed through acquisition of a broad knowledge and comparison of the cultures of Japan and other nations  3. The ability to identify and solve problems  4. Advanced communicative proficiency in both Japanese and English | | |
| Note: | | |
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Critical thinking

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| Advanced | Student is able to apply the concepts taught in class to actual educational situations, question her or his previous ideas about education, look at educational issues from more than one perspective, contribute insightfully to class discussion, and display creativity in lesson plans and microteaching. |
| Proficient | Student is able to understand the concepts taught in class and sometimes apply them to actual educational situations. Student contributes to class discussion. |
| Developing | Student is able to understand the concepts taught in class. |
| Emerging | Student does not understand the concepts taught in class. |

Teaching

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| Exemplary | Student is able to apply the concepts learned in class to make a creative and engaging lesson using original ideas. Student demonstrates a deep understanding of the content they are to teach. All materials are well-made and proofread and the lesson seems to be well-rehearsed. |
| Good | Student is able to apply the concepts learned in class to make a lesson. Student demonstrates understanding of the content. All materials are well-made and the lesson seems to be well-rehearsed. |
| Acceptable | Student demonstrates understanding of the content and is adequately prepared for the lesson. |
| Unacceptable | Student does not understand the content OR lesson is very short OR lesson seems inadequately prepared. |

English

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| Exemplary | Student’s oral and written English shows signs of risk-taking and is relatively free of careless errors. |
| Good | Student’s oral and written English is relatively free of careless errors. |
| Acceptable | Student makes many errors in writing OR minimal contributions to class discussion. |
| Unacceptable | Student makes many errors in writing AND minimal contributions to class discussion. |