

Common Course Outline

EDTR 241 Methods of Teaching for Elementary Teachers
3 semester hours (3 classroom hours per week)

Community College of Baltimore County

Overall Course Description:

Methods of Teaching for Elementary Teachers introduces students to the methods, curriculum patterns, and trends in elementary education. The competencies required of teachers in elementary schools are employed in order to develop effective lesson plans. The course addresses differentiation of instruction in order to meet the needs of diverse populations, including students with special needs. Emphasis is placed on following the INTASC (Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium) standards. Students participate in a 15-hour guided observation in an elementary school. *NOTE: This course is approved by the Maryland State Department of Education for individuals seeking certification or recertification in elementary education.*

Prerequisites: ACLT 052

Overall Course Objectives:

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- Discuss and distinguish between the cognitive processes involved in learning information, understanding, and critical thinking.
- Discuss the benefits of making the learning of new material an extension and expansion of previous experience.
- Discuss the benefits of putting new learning into the context of answering questions and solving problems.
- List the facets of learning to be developed in the elementary years.
- Describe how each of the major teaching methods: lecturing, coaching, discussion, hands-on activities, and cooperative learning is best suited for imparting these facets of learning.
- Discuss the educational advantage of thematic education versus individual units.
- Discuss and demonstrate how individual lessons may be organized and integrated into a larger body of knowledge.
- Produce a lesson plan demonstrating how several facets of learning calling for different teaching strategies may be integrated into a single lesson, and how single lessons may be integrated into a larger body of knowledge.

Major Topics:

Teaching models and learning styles

Facets of learning in the elementary years: engendering knowledge, understanding, reading, writing, numerical skills and thinking skills

Development of thematic education

Curriculum design in thematic areas

Lesson planning

Culture of the classroom, school, community

Classroom management

Assessment: MSDE Core Learning Goals

Inclusion of special needs populations

Diversity

Requirements:

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but may include quizzes, exams, and/or performance-based project. Students will be required to maintain a reflective journal throughout the course and to demonstrate mastery of the lesson planning process.