

George Mason University
Graduate School of Education
EDCI 667.001, Fall 2015
Teaching Social Studies in the Secondary School (3cr.)

College of
EDUCATION HUMAN DEVELOPMENT 



Promoting Learning & Development Across the Lifespan

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Class Meetings: Tuesday 4:30 -7:10 pm, West 1008

Course Description: This course provides pre-service teachers with a comprehensive overview of effective approaches to planning, implementing, managing, and assessing successful social studies learning experiences for students. Emphasis will be placed on exploring the relationship between educational theory and the development of practical teaching techniques for everyday use in the secondary social studies classroom. This is the second semester of a yearlong methods course. This semester we will examine the following areas of social studies education through the lens of historical content: standards & accountability, curriculum/unit/lesson planning, engaging approaches for teaching social studies, assessment in the social studies, and multiculturalism.

Two main strands drive the course's curriculum. First is an exploration of what history/social studies is and why it is important to teach. This forms the basis and rationale for everything you do in the classroom. The second strand examines how students learn and come to understand history/social studies so that you can develop effective lesson plans in your classrooms.

Our essential questions and learning goals will frame and guide this class. You will have a chance to uncover, examine and revise your rationale for teaching this subject matter while

reading and discussing varying perspectives on the nature of history/social studies and its value.

Course Objectives:

Students will understand:

- That effective social studies teaching requires knowing your subject matter and understanding how to connect your content to students; knowing different teaching and assessment approaches; knowing the school culture and understanding how to make space for yourself in that culture; knowing students, engaging students in critical and higher-order thinking, teaching students “life- long learner” skills, and presenting students with multiple perspectives. (ethical leadership, collaboration, content – NCSS – I, II, III, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X)
- That learning to teach is a complex process involving continuous reflection.

Students will know:

- Content related to standards & accountability, engaging teaching approaches, assessment in the social studies, epistemology of and approaches to teaching history, and the theories behind multiculturalism. (innovation, NCSS I, II, IX)

Students will be able to:

- Engage in critical, reflective discussions of research and practitioner readings (research based practice).
- Develop lesson and unit plans, develop assessment tools, reflect on teaching practice and focus on practical investigation and modeling of student-centered and activity-based methods designed to meet the individual needs of a diverse student population (ethical leadership, research based practice, innovation, collaboration, NCSS I, IV).

Dispositions

Students are expected to exhibit professional behavior and dispositions. See gse.gmu.edu for a listing of these dispositions. The Virginia Department of Education and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education promote standards of professional competence and dispositions. Dispositions are values, commitments, and professional ethics that influence behaviors toward students, families, colleagues, and all members of the learning community. The Graduate School of Education expects students, faculty, and staff to exhibit professional dispositions through

Commitment to the profession

- Promoting exemplary practice
- Excellence in teaching and learning
- Advancing the profession
- Engagement in partnerships

Commitment to honoring professional ethical standards

Fairness

Honesty

Integrity

Trustworthiness

Confidentiality

Respect for colleagues and students

Commitment to key elements of professional practice

Belief that all individuals have the potential for growth and learning

Persistence in helping individual's succeed

High standards

Safe and supportive learning environments

Systematic planning

Intrinsic motivation

Reciprocal, active learning

Continuous, integrated assessment

Critical thinking

Thoughtful, responsive listening

Active, supportive interactions

Technology-supported learning

Research-based practice

Respect for diverse talents, abilities, and perspectives

Authentic and relevant learning

Commitment to being a member of a learning community

Professional dialogue

Self-improvement

Collective improvement

Reflective practice
Responsibility
Flexibility
Collaboration
Continuous, lifelong learning

Commitment to democratic values and social justice

Understanding systemic issues that prevent full participation
Awareness of practices that sustain unequal treatment or unequal voice
Advocate for practices that promote equity and access
Respects the opinion and dignity of others
Sensitive to community and cultural norms
Appreciates and integrates multiple perspectives

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS:

All students must abide by the following:

Professional Dispositions: Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

- Students are expected to exhibit professional behavior and dispositions. See <http://gse.gmu.edu/facultystaffres/profdisp.htm> for a listing of these dispositions.
- Students must follow the guidelines of the University Honor Code. See <http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/><<http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code>> for the full honor code.

Please note that

- “Plagiarism encompasses the following:
 1. Presenting as one's own the words, the work, or the opinions of someone else without proper acknowledgment.
 2. Borrowing the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of material, or the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgment.”

(from Mason Honor Code online at <http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/plagiarism.htm>)

- Paraphrasing involves taking someone else's ideas and putting them in your own words. When you paraphrase, you need to cite the source using APA format.
- When material is copied word for word from a source, it is a direct quotation. You must use quotation marks (or block indent the text) and cite the source.
- Electronic tools (e.g., SafeAssign) may be used to detect plagiarism if necessary.
- Plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct are treated seriously and may result in disciplinary actions.

No Textbooks are required; however, students are required to purchase Edthena.

Articles and Text Excerpts: Posted on black board or provided in hard copy in class

Banks, J. (1994). Transforming the mainstream curriculum. *Educational Leadership*, 51(8), 4-8.

Banks, J. (2002). Goals and misconceptions. In Banks, *An Introduction to Multicultural Education*. 3rd Edition. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Barton, K. & Levstik, L. (2004). *Teaching history for the common good*. Lawrence Erlbaum Publishers: Mahwah, NJ.

Beyer, B.K. (1980). "Using Writing to Learn in History." *The History Teacher*, 13(2), 167-178.

Beyer, B.K. & Brostoff, A. (1979). The time it takes: Managing/evaluating writing and social Studies. *Social Education*, March, 194-197.

Brophy, J. (1999). Teaching. Educational Practices series UNESCO with the International Academy of Education and the International Bureau of Education.

Delpit, L. (1995). Education in a Multicultural Society: Our Future's Greatest Challenge. In L. Delpit's *Other People's Children: Cultural Conflict in the Classroom*. (pp. 168-183). New York: The New Press.

Doty, J.K., Cameron, G.N. & Barton, M. (2003). *Teaching Reading in Social Studies*. McRel Press: Aurora, CO.

Drake, F.D. and Nelson, L.R. (2005), Creating historical understanding and communication through performance assessment, In Drake & Nelson *Engagement in teaching history. Theory and practices for middle and secondary teacher*. NJ: Merrill-Prentice Hall.

Drake, F.D. and Nelson, L.R. (2005), Using writing to engage your students in the past, In Drake & Nelson *Engagement in teaching history. Theory and practices for middle and secondary teacher*. NJ: Merrill-Prentice Hall.

Drake, F.D. and Nelson, L.R. (2005), Lesson and unit planning, In Drake & Nelson *Engagement in teaching history. Theory and practices for middle and secondary teacher*. NJ: Merrill-

- Prentice Hall.
- Gay, G. (2001). Effective Multicultural Teaching Practices. In C.F. Diaz (Ed). *Multicultural education for the 21st century*, (pp. 23-41). New York: Longman Publishers.
- Hess, D.E. (2005). "How do Teacher's Political Views Influence Teaching About Controversial Issues?" *Social Education*, 69(1), 47-52.
- Kohn, A. (2011). Ten Obvious Truths that We Shouldn't Be Ignoring. *Education Digest*, September (p. 11- 16).
- Parker, W.C. (2006). Public Discourses in Schools: Purposes, Problems, Possibilities. *Educational Researcher*, 35(8).
- Percoco, J.A. (2001). *Divided we stand: Teaching about conflict in U.S. history*. Portsmouth: Heinemann.
- Risinger, C.F. (1987). Improving writing skills through social studies. Bloomington IN: ERIC Clearinghouse for Social Studies/Social Science Education.
- Schoenbach, T., et al. (1999). *Reading for understanding: A guide to improving reading in the Middle and high school classrooms*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers.
- Segall, A. (2003). Maps as Stories about the World. *Social Studies and the Young Learner*, 16(1), 21-25.
- Silverman, F. (2003). Hot Button Handling. *District Administration*, 24-27.
- Weinstein, C. (2007). Establishing norms and behavior, In Carol Weinstein, *Middle and secondary classroom management: Lessons from research and Practice*, 3rd Ed. Heinemann Press.
- Weinstein, C. (2007). Managing group work. In Carol Weinstein, *Middle and secondary classroom management: Lessons from research and Practice*, 3rd Ed. Heinemann Press.
- Westheimer, J. & Kahne, J. (2004, Summer). "What Kind of Citizen? The Politics of Educating for Democracy." *American Educational Research Journal* 41(2), 237- 269.
- Wiggins, G. & McTighe, J. (1998). *Understanding by Design*. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
- Youniss, J. & Yates, M. (1997). *Community Service and Social Responsibility in Youth*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press

General Internet Resources:

- Advanced Placement Central <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/Controller.jpf>
- National Writing Project <http://www.nwp.org/cs/public/print/resource/922>
- Free teaching resources http://www.free.ed.gov/subjects.cfm?subject_id=19
<http://www.tolerance.org/teach/index.jsp>

National Archives <http://www.archives.gov/index.html>

Library of Congress <http://www.loc.gov/index.html>

Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History <http://www.gilderlehrman.org/>

Center for History and New Media <http://chnm.gmu.edu/> (also see <http://historymatters.gmu.edu/>)

Historical Thinking Matters <http://historicalthinkingmatters.org/>

National Council for the Social Studies <http://www.socialstudies.org/>

National Council for History Education <http://www.nche.net/>

ALSO:

Please consider joining the National Council for the Social Studies as a student member. Go to www.socialstudies.org/membership. Fill in and submit the on-line form. If the form asks you to “Choose a Journal,” please select the option that offers *Social Education*.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Student Expectations

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [http:// oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/](http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/)
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>].
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.....**Please turn cell phones off and stay off the computers except when we are using them for a class activity**
- **Attendance at all class sessions is assumed and students are expected to be on time.**
- **Assignments are due at the beginning of class periods indicated. Assignments will be penalized one full letter grade for each day they are late and will not be accepted more than three days after the due date without previous instructor permission. Please do not e-mail assignments, but turn them in hard copy form at the beginning of the class period for which they are due.** All written work is evaluated for clarity of expression, content, and mechanics of correct English. Assignments must be typed, double spaced, printed in 12-point font, with 1-inch margins on standard (8 1/2 X 11) white paper.

Campus Resources

- The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students’ personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].
- The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, Graduate School of Education, please visit our website [See <http://gse.gmu.edu>]

Emergency Procedures

- You are encouraged to sign up for emergency alerts by visiting the website <https://alert.gmu.edu>. There are emergency posters in each classroom explaining what to do in the event of crises. Further information about emergency procedures exists on <http://www.gmu.edu/service/cert>

Course Requirements:

Assignment	Value	Date Due
Class Participation/Attendance	10%	Ongoing
1. Partner Assignment – micro-teaching episode 2. Lesson/Discussion/Debate Lead	20%	1. Oct. 6 2. Nov. 3
Web Quest Activity (NCSS 8 and 9)	15%	Sept. 22
Reading reflections and Field Experience reflections 5 Reflections	25%	Oct. 6 (micro-teaching 1) Oct. 20 (Classroom observation/Teacher) Nov. 3 (micro-teaching 2) Nov. 17 (Classroom observation/ student) Dec. 15 (Final Unit)
Unit Plan NCSS 1 and 5	30%	Dec. 1- Dec. 8

* See Course Outline below: All assignments are italicized and in bold font.

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Scale
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	83-86

B-	80-82
Below 80	unsatisfactory

Course Outline:

Assignment	Topic	Readings/Assignments Due
1.) Sept. 1	<p>Introductions</p> <p>Overview of Syllabus - Assignments</p> <p>What Makes Good Teaching?</p>	<p>https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/uk/14/11/what-makes-good-teaching</p> <p>In class discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good teaching • Edthena • Group assignments
2.) Sept. 8	<p>Virginia Standards of Learning (VSOL) and Ambitious Teaching 2</p> <p>Planning for Instruction:</p> <p>How do I prepare my students to do well on standardized tests of accountability and still teach a dynamic, engaging class that helps them develops broader analytical, critical thinking, and social skills?</p> <p>Backwards Design</p>	<p>Readings for Today:</p> <p>1.) Brophy, "Teaching"</p> <p>2.) Wiggins Ch. 1</p> <p>3.) Explore different grade levels. Look through the materials available for history and social studies at the VA Dept. of Ed Website (VSOLs): http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/history_socialscience/index.shtml</p> <p>4.) Look through the NCSS Standards http://www.socialstudies.org/standards/execsummary</p>
3.) Sept. 15	<p>Teaching Controversial Topics and Current Events</p> <p>Why and how do we incorporate current events and controversial issues in the curriculum?</p> <p>How do I produce, lead, and manage classroom debate and discussion?</p>	<p>Readings for today:</p> <p>1.) Hess, "How do teacher's political views..."</p> <p>2.) Parker, "Public Discourses in Schools..."</p> <p>3.) Silverman, "Hot Button Handling..."</p> <p>Webquest Prep and discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View Webquest folder on BB
4.) Sept. 22	<p>Maps/Geography</p> <p>How do I infuse geography into history?</p>	<p>Web Quest Due – be prepared to share in class</p> <p>Readings for today:</p> <p>1.) Segall, "Maps as stories"</p> <p>2.) Gritzner, "Why Geography?"</p>
5.) Sept. 29	<p>Museums, Memorials, Historic Sites and</p>	<p>Visit these websites and be prepared to discuss:</p>

	History Through a Student's Eyes	http://teachinghistory.org/history-content/historical-places http://teachinghistory.org/teaching-materials/teaching-guides/23480 http://teachinghistory.org/best-practices/using-primary-sources/24079 In Class: We will view VA monuments and consider how to develop a mini lesson. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Comparison of 911 memorials on BB as an example • Work Session
6.) October 6	Partner Presentations	Assignment on BB: You will be assigned to a partner group. Your task is to develop a mini-lesson from one of the previous course topics: controversial, geography, museums. You will be required to teach this mini-lesson to the class. This will constitute one of your micro-teaching episode.
7. October 13	Columbus Day (Monday) but no class for Tuesday courses	No class
8.) Oct. 20	Character Education, Community Service and Service Learning What is the relationship between social studies and character education/service learning? How can I incorporate character education and service learning into my social studies classes?	First Classroom Observation Reflection Due – The Teacher and Instructional Design. See BB Readings for Today: 1.) Wade –“quality Community Service Learning Projects” 2.) Youniss and Yates, “Ten Ideas for Designing and Implementing Community Service Programs”
9.) Oct. 27	Assessment and Grading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I find out about my students as learners? • What is assessment and how do I effectively do it? • How do I establish a fair grading policy? • How do I ultimately prepare students for SOL and AP testing? 	Readings for Today: 1.) Travis, Meaningful Assessment 2.) Drake and Nelson, Ch. 6, “Creating Historical Understanding and Communication Through Performance Assessment”
10.) Nov. 3	Reading and Writing in Social Studies	Due: Second Micro-teaching episode_ Edthena Second teaching reflection due

	<p>What is the role of Social Studies in developing reading and writing skills?</p> <p>What pedagogical strategies best support reading and writing in social studies?</p> <p>How can I infuse reading and writing into my teaching?</p>	<p>Reading for Today:</p> <p>1.) Beyer, “Using Writing to Learn in History”</p> <p>2.) Risinger, “Improving Writing Skills Through Social Studies”</p> <p>3.) Kohn, “How to create nonreaders..”</p> <p>4.) Drake and Nelson, Ch. 10, “Using Writing to Engage Your Students in the Past”</p>
11.) Nov. 10	<p>Classroom Management How do I set a tone of good behavior so learning can take place?</p> <p>Politics of Education –Relationship with Parents and Administrators</p>	<p>Reading for Today:</p> <p>1.) Weinstein, Chapter 4 & 9. Establishing norms and behavior, and Managing group work</p>
12.) Nov. 17	<p>Multicultural Education What is multicultural education and how do I establish it in my curriculum?</p>	<p><i>Second Classroom Observation Reflection Due –The Students</i></p> <p>Readings for today:</p> <p>1.) Delpit, “Education in a Multicultural Society: Our Future’s Greatest Challenge”</p> <p>2.) Banks, “Transforming the Mainstream</p>
13.) Nov. 24	No class	Work session – unit plans
14.) Dec. 1	In Class individual conferences	<p><i>Group one: Unit Plan presentations –see Drake and Nelson Ch. 5 Lesson and Unit Planning</i></p> <p>Work Session – Unit Plans</p>
15.) Dec. 8	Unit Plan Presentations	<p><i>Group two: Unit Plan presentations</i></p> <p>Final Due date: Unit Plans - in hard copy, uploaded to blackboard.</p>
13.) Dec. 15	<p>Wrap Up – Citizenship Education What does an educated citizen need to know</p>	<p>Readings for Today:</p> <p>1.) Westheimer and Kahne, “What Kind of Citizen?”</p> <p>2.) Kohn, Ten Obvious Truths</p> <p>Field Experience Hours/Activities Log due.</p>

* This outline may change as the semester progresses.

ASSIGNMENTS

WEBQUEST

A webquest is an inquiry-based learning activity in which students utilize electronic resources to discover and interact with information. In social studies, the explosion of digital media over the last decade has allowed teachers to use this instructional strategy in various ways to foster research and analytical skills and engage students in higher-order thinking. Teachers, for example might ask that students navigate a searchable database to discern immigration patterns for a particular population. Other teachers might ask that students formulate questions regarding causes of the French Revolution and seek relevant sources that advocate particular viewpoints. Further, teachers may combine multiple webquest strategies to allow students opportunities to engage with original and secondary electronic sources in any way that fosters the aforementioned objectives.

For this assignment, you are charged with **developing a webquest** for secondary history/social studies students. Your webquest will focus on the overarching theme of **social justice** while incorporating NCSS themes of **technology and innovation** (NCSS theme 8) and **global connections** (NCSS theme 9). This will be a web-based platform that allows students to navigate particular electronic sources from your webquest activity page. This activity page should be in the form of a webpage/wiki you design and launch if at all possible, but may be a more simplistic web-based document with appropriate questions and navigation links for students to follow. You must also **write a 2-page narrative** (synthesis paper #4), which chronicles the webquest development, specific learning objectives of the webquest and how you believe your webquest activities help students meet your objectives.

As you think creatively about how to weave together these aforementioned themes, consider the following:

1. Find a social justice topic/issue for your webquest that will continue to have an impact on society & culture in 2025 (use NCSS themes 8 and 9 as the foundation). Be able to answer this question: Why should this issue be featured in your webquest?
2. What student knowledge, skills, behavior, and attitudes does the webquest emphasize? How do you know?
3. What would you like to teach about the past related to the topic/issue that will help your students understand the content and be more relevant in 2025?

To appropriately address the requisite NCSS themes in this webquest, refer to the following explanations:

NCSS 8: The webquest requires students to think analytically about the consequences of change and how we can manage science and technology to address the social justice issue you've chosen as a theme for your webquest. Students may, for example, gain the knowledge to analyze issues such as the protection of privacy in the age of the Internet; electronic surveillance; the opportunities and challenges of genetic engineering; artificial intelligence; and other findings and technologies with implications for beliefs, longevity, and the quality of life and the environment. [For you, does the webquest address candidates' understanding of the concept that changes in science and technology have

impacted humans? If it only addresses candidates' capability to utilize technology in the assignment that would not be sufficient to meet the needs of the standard.]

NCSS 9: The webquest task requires students to think systematically about personal, national, and global decisions, and to analyze policies and actions, and their consequences. Students also develop skills in addressing and evaluating critical issues such as peace, conflict, poverty, disease, human rights, trade, or global ecology. [For you, how does the webquest indicate candidates' understanding of the concept that changes in communication, transportation, or trade have more closely tied the interests of humans around the world?]

Webquest - Wiki Evaluation Rubric

Name: _____

Date: _____

	3 - Exceptional	2 - Mastery	1 – Below Expectations
Overall Visual Appeal & Ease of Use	*Appealing graphic elements included appropriately *The wiki is easy to navigate	*Few graphic elements *The wiki layout is manageable	*Poor use of graphic elements *No variation in wiki layout or typography
Introduction	*Engagingly describes a social issue/problem *Builds on learner's prior knowledge and relates to learner's interests *Prepares learner for lesson by foreshadowing new concepts and principles	*Relates somewhat to the learner's interests *Describes a compelling issue/problem *Makes some reference to learner's prior knowledge	*Purely factual, with no appeal to relevance or social importance *Doesn't prepare the reader for what is to come *Doesn't build on prior knowledge
Webquest Content (x4)	*Webquest requires students to interpret how science and technologies influence beliefs, knowledge, and their daily lives. * Webquest requires students to think systematically about personal, national, and global decisions, and to evaluate policies and actions, and their consequences.	*Directly relates to the content of NCSS Themes 8 and 9.	*Does not relate to the content of both NCSS standard 8 and 9.
Webquest Task	*Requires synthesis of multiple sources of information *Requires students to solve a problem or take action on a social issue. *Requires use of a variety of media [integrates NETS-S]	*Requires analysis of information and/or putting together information from several sources *requires word processing and simple presentation software	*Requires low level thinking to process info and answer questions *requires simple verbal or written response

Webquest Process	*Procedures clearly stated *Activities are age appropriate *Activities meet a range of multiple intelligences, learning styles, and personality types *Different roles and perspectives are required	*Activities may not be age appropriate or meet a range of learning styles. *Some directions given, but missing information *Some separate tasks or roles assigned	*Age and developmental appropriateness is not evident *Steps not clearly stated *No separate roles assigned
Resources	*A variety of resources are provided for student access *Links make excellent use of different modes of information available	*Moderate number of resources used *Some links to information not ordinarily found with a search engine	*Few online resources used *Links leading only to information that could be found in Wikipedia
Evaluation	*Criteria for gradations of success are clearly stated in the form of a rubric *Individual and/or group evaluation is clearly described	*Criteria for success is partially described *Individual and/or group grades are not clearly delineated	*No clarity about how students will be judged

Total Points: /30

MINI LESSON

Micro-teaching

1. Micro-teaching episode 1, Oct. 6. See BB.

- The purpose of this activity is to “teach” your peers. You are responsible for performing a 15-20 minute mini-lessons on the readings from class. Rubric is available on BB. This lesson will be videotaped and uploaded to Edthena for further review. Based on this teaching, you are to select a maximum of three practices or strategies to address, re-teach and re-record. A follow-up reflection/self-assessment on the addressed practices will also be submitted as a new assignment.
- Micro-teaching episode 2 (Edthena) Nov. 3. Done independently. Teaching is to focus on practices and strategies selected from micro-teaching episode 1. This lesson is to be uploaded to Edthena. A follow-up reflection/self-assessment on the addressed practices will also be submitted as a new assignment.

READING REFLECTIONS

See BB for rubric.

1. Papers are required to meet the following criteria in order to receive a grade of a B or B+:

- Be received **on time**;
- Ideas and comments are offered **in depth**;
- Relate **directly** to course topics;
- Demonstrate mastery of NCSS Themes;

- Demonstrate an **understanding** between past/current/future teaching methods and course readings.

2. Papers which go beyond the demands of the assignment will be graded with an **A+, A, or A-**. These papers will include all of the requirements for a B or B+. In addition, **A** level entries:

- Demonstrate **insightful understandings**;
- Offer comments that reflect how your ideas relate to **NCSS themes**
- Include **reflection/transfer**; i.e., “How will this affect me and/or my students when I teach in the future?”

3. Papers, which do not meet the demands of the assignment, will be graded with a **B-, C+, C**. It is likely that these papers will:

- Arrive **late**;
- Contain **insufficient details**;
- Be **unclear** or not understandable;
- Not demonstrate mastery of NCSS Themes;
- Contain only detailed **description** of an issue with no evidence of reflection, synthesis, and/or transfer;
- **Misrepresent** the course readings.

UNIT PLAN ASSIGNMENT

A significant part of this course includes learning to develop effective instructional unit plans covering a sequence of lessons targeted around a topic fitting a secondary history/social studies course. In a previous assignment for EDCI 567 (Methods I) you developed a lesson plan focused on INTASC Standards as well NCSS Theme/Standard 7, (Production, Distribution and Consumption. **For this assignment, you will develop a unit plan focused on NCSS Themes/Standards 1 (Culture) and 5 (Individuals, Groups and Institutions)**. You will also continue to include INTASC Standards and relevant Virginia Standards of Learning. Along with the development of this unit plan, you will also prepare a brief summary/micro-teaching episode similar to the one from the lesson plan. This teaching episode will be limited to ten minutes in length.

As noted in the syllabus, this unit plan assignment is valued at forty percent (30%) of your grade in total. Twenty-five percent (25%) of your grade will come from the unit plan development and five percent (5%) for the brief summary/micro-teaching episode highlighting your unit. Due Dec. 8, 2015 on blackboard.

Below you will find a bulleted summary of the expectations for this assignment, the unit plan template to guide you in further lesson/unit development and finally, two detailed rubrics outlining the criteria for assessment. The first is a General Evaluation Unit Plan Rubric (INTASC) and the second focuses on history/social studies content; specifically Themes/Standards 1 and 5. **You must earn a score of two (2) or three (3) for Themes/Standards 1 (Culture) and 5 (Individuals, Groups and Institutions) as these are the foci of your unit plan.** Any other NCSS Standards/Themes expected to be included in your assessment will be addressed explicitly by your instructor.

Unit Plan Assignment Summary

- This unit plan must cover approximately 5-8 coherently connected lessons of instruction (90 minute classes)
- An introductory narrative (1-2 pages) addressing the following must be included:
 - Unit context including general description of students and prior content covered (fictitious, but reasonable – What class? What grade? What unite? What has already been covered? , etc.)
 - Specific unit goals and rationale (what do you hope to accomplish and why should students know this?)
 - explanation of how this sequence of lessons addresses each of the targeted NCSS Themes/Standards (Specifically 1 and 5) as well as connection to the VA SOLs.
 - explanation of how the lessons will promote student learning
 - rationale and relevant research addressing how lesson activities adhere to effective history/social studies instruction as addressed in course.
 - Rational explaining inclusion of technology, differentiation, etc.
- A detailed calendar summary of lessons must be included – i.e. describe your specific plan for each day? Include time parameters. Be specific.
- An assessment plan (including formative and summative assessments) must be included (1-2 pages). Describe all of the assessments you plan to use, how you will grade them, and the grade weight. Explain your rationale for the assessment plan you selected.
- A reflective summary (1 page) at the conclusion of the unit plan which addresses the challenges and successes you had in developing this unit of instruction must be included
- Candidates must also prepare a brief (8-10 minute) summary presentation of the unit to share with classmates

CULTURE

Social studies programs should include experiences that provide for the study of culture and cultural diversity.

Human beings create, learn, share, and adapt to culture. The study of culture examines the socially transmitted beliefs, values, institutions, behaviors, traditions and way of life of a group of people; it also encompasses other cultural attributes and products, such as language, literature, music, arts and artifacts, and foods. Students come to understand that human cultures exhibit both similarities and differences, and they learn to see themselves both as individuals and as members of a particular culture that shares similarities with other cultural groups, but is also distinctive. In a multicultural, democratic society and globally connected world, students need to understand the multiple perspectives that derive from different cultural vantage points.

Cultures are dynamic and change over time. The study of culture prepares students to ask and answer questions such as: What is culture? What roles does culture play in human and societal development? What are the common characteristics across cultures? How is unity developed within and among cultures? What is the role of diversity and how is it maintained within a culture? How do various aspects of culture such as belief systems, religious faith, or political ideals, influence other parts of a culture such as its institutions or literature, music, and art? How does culture change over time to accommodate different ideas, and beliefs? How does cultural diffusion occur within and across communities, regions, and nations?

Through experience, observation, and reflection, students will identify elements of culture as well as similarities and differences among cultural groups across time and place. They will acquire knowledge and understanding of culture through multiple modes, including fiction and non-fiction, data analysis, meeting and conversing with peoples of divergent backgrounds, and completing research into the complexity of various cultural systems.

In schools, this theme typically appears in units and courses dealing with geography, history, sociology, and anthropology, as well as multicultural topics across the curriculum.

Young learners can explore concepts of likenesses and differences among cultural groups through school subjects such as language arts, mathematics, science, music, and art. In social studies, learners interact with class members and discover culturally -based likenesses and differences. They begin to identify the cultural basis for some celebrations and ways of life in their community and in examples from across the world. In the middle grades, students begin to explore and ask questions about the nature of various cultures, and the development of cultures across time and place. They learn to analyze specific aspects of culture, such as language and beliefs, and the influence of culture on human behavior. As students progress through high school, they can understand and use complex cultural concepts such as adaptation, assimilation, acculturation, diffusion, and dissonance that are drawn from anthropology, sociology, and other disciplines to explain how culture and cultural systems function.

INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS

Social studies programs should include experiences that provide for the study of interactions among individuals, groups, and institutions.

Institutions are the formal and informal political, economic, and social organizations that help us carry out, organize, and manage our daily affairs. Schools, religious institutions, families, government agencies, and the courts all play an integral role in our lives. They are organizational embodiments of the core social values of those who comprise them, and play a variety of important roles in socializing individuals and meeting their needs, as well as in the promotion of societal continuity, the mediation of conflict, and the consideration of public issues.

It is important that students know how institutions are formed, what controls and influences them, how they control and influence individuals and culture, and how institutions can be maintained or changed. The study of individuals, groups, and institutions, drawing upon sociology, anthropology, and other disciplines, prepares students to ask and answer questions such as: What is the role of institutions in this and other societies? How do institutions influence me? How do institutions change? What is my role in institutional change?

Students identify those institutions that they encounter. They analyze how the institutions operate and find ways that will help them participate more effectively in their relationships with these institutions. Finally, students examine the foundations of the institutions that affect their lives, and determine how they can contribute to the shared goals and desires of society.

In schools, this theme typically appears in units and courses dealing with sociology, anthropology, psychology, political science, and history. Young children should be given the opportunity to examine various institutions that affect their lives and influence their thinking. They should be assisted in recognizing the tensions that occur when the goals, values, and principles of two or more institutions or groups conflict—for example, the school board removing playground equipment for safety reasons vs. the same equipment being used in a city park playground (i.e., swings, monkey bars, or sliding boards). They should also have opportunities to explore ways in which institutions (such as voluntary associations, or organizations like health care networks) are created to respond to changing individual and group needs. Middle school learners will benefit from varied experiences through which they examine the ways in which institutions change over time, promote social conformity, and influence culture. They should be encouraged to use this understanding to suggest ways to work through institutional change for the common good. High school students must understand the paradigms and traditions that undergird

social and political institutions. They should be provided opportunities to examine, use, and add to the body of knowledge offered by the behavioral sciences and social theory in relation to the ways people and groups organize themselves around common needs, beliefs, and interests.

LESSON PLAN TEMPLATE
SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM

Teacher's Name _____ Grade Level _____

Lesson Title _____ Date _____

I. NCSS Themes and State Standards Addressed

- NCSS
- VASOL

II. Objectives

- State what students will be able to do as a result of this experience.
- List national, state, or local objectives, if possible.

III. *Materials for Learning Activities*

- *List the texts, equipment, and other materials to be used by the students.*
- *List the materials, including equipment or technology used by the teacher in presenting the experiences.*

IV. Procedures for Learning Activities

- Introduction—outline procedures for activating prior knowledge and student interest.
- Instructional strategies— outline what the teachers and students will do.
- Summary—outline how you will close.
- Give estimated time for each phase of the experience (introduction, instruction, summary).
- Describe extensions or connections to other lessons.

V. *Assessment*

- *Outline the procedures and criteria that will be used to assess each of the stated objectives.*
- *Attach copies of any written assessments (tests, rubrics, observational checklists, format for anecdotal records).*

VI. *Differentiation*

- *List adaptations that will be made for individual learners.*

Checklist for Unit Plan Components

<i>Components</i>	Missing	Partially included	Satisfactorily included
General Planning			
2-4 week unit plan (20 student hours)			
Evidence of Interactive, Inquiry, Problem-based instruction/learning			
Overview			
Description of Students			
Theme			
Questions/Goals			
Rationale/Research/Theory			
Standards - SOL			
Standards - National			
Assessment Plan overview			
Schedule/Calendar			
Daily Calendar of Lesson Sequence			
Daily Lesson Plans (2 weeks fully developed)			
Daily Question(s)/Objective (2)			
List of Daily Materials			
Estimated Time for Each Activity			
Assessments (formative & summative)			
Include all actual support materials needed by the teacher and students to implement the lesson (e.g. worksheets, samples of presentation slides etc.)			
Unit Plan Reflection			
Reflective Summary (approximately 1 pg.)			

SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM
Performance Based Assessment
Complete Lesson Plan

Student Name: _____ Grade Level: _____

Title of Class: _____ Class Level: _____

I. Objectives

- State what students will know and be able to do as a result of this lesson.
 - Include cognitive and affective objectives

II. Standards

- List national theme(s) covered in the lesson
 - NCSS Theme 1: **Culture**
 - NCSS Theme 5: **Individuals, Groups and Institutions**
- List state standards covered in the lesson

III. Resources and Materials

- List the texts, equipment, resources, and other materials to be used by the students, including primary source materials and artifacts.
- List the materials, including equipment or tools, used by the teacher in presenting the lesson. Notes about assembling materials, contacting outside guests, or locating additional resources are included.
- Include all relevant supporting materials and student handouts.

IV. Learning Activities

- Activities include introduction, strategies/procedures and closure.
 - Introduction – Procedures for activating prior knowledge and student interest.
 - Instructional strategies/Procedures – What the teachers and students will do.
 - Closure – Describe how the lesson will close.
- Give estimated time for each phase of the experience (introduction, instruction, closure).

V. Assessment

- The procedures and criteria that will be used to assess each of the stated objectives.
- Attach copies of any written assessments (tests, quizzes, homework, rubrics).

VI. Rationale for the Lesson: Describe how you have done the following:

- Technology integration
- Inherent interdisciplinary nature of the plan
- Describe extensions or connections to other lessons.
- Differentiation
 - List adaptations that will be made for individual learners (gifted and students with special needs).

- Include multiple learning modes and accessible to students with different learning strengths.
- Developmentally Appropriate
 - Objectives and activities are appropriate for the intended grade level.

**Performance Based Assessment Rubric–Lesson Plan
INTASC Standards and NCSS Theme 1 and 5**

	Distinguished 3	Proficient 2	Developing 1	Unacceptable 0	Score
Standard 7: Objectives	Objectives provide a clear sense of what students will know and be able to do as a result of the lesson. All objectives are clearly and closely related to standards.	Objectives provide some sense of what students will know and be able to do as a result of the lesson. Most of the objectives are related to standards.	Objectives do not provide a clear sense of what students will know and be able to do as a result of the lesson. Some of the objectives are related to standards.	Objectives are missing, unclear, or are unrelated to standards.	
Standard 7: Standards and Alignment	Key standards are referenced and integrated into the objectives, learning activities, and assessment(s). Lesson is guided by standards. Standards, objectives, procedures and assessment in lesson plan are completely consistent	Some relevant standards are referenced. Lesson is influenced by standards. Too many or too few standards are included. Lesson may name many standards instead of focusing on important, key standards. Standards, objectives, procedures and assessment in lesson plan are consistent	Standards are alluded to in lesson, and lesson is related to standards. Standards, objectives, procedures and assessment in lesson plan are somewhat consistent. Lesson may not name relevant key standards.	No standards are mentioned in lesson. Lesson is not related to standards. Standards, objectives, procedures and assessment in lesson plan are inconsistent	
Standards 5, 6 & 7: Resources & Teacher-Created Supporting Materials	Resources needed are included in plan, and notes about assembling materials, contacting outside guests, or locating additional resources are included, as well. Supporting materials and student handouts are clear, complete, and cogent.. Materials enhance lesson significantly.	Resources needed for this lesson are included in plan. Supporting materials and student handouts are clear and complete. Materials enhance lesson.	Some resources needed for this lesson are not included in plan. Supporting materials and student handouts are messy, incomplete, and/or unappealing to students. Materials do not enhance lesson.	Many resources needed for lesson are not included in plan. No supporting materials are included.	
Standards 4 & 5: Instructional Activities	Activities include introduction, strategies/procedures and closure, and provide a logical path to meeting objectives & standards. No	Activities include introduction, strategies/procedures and closure, and provide a logical path to meeting objectives & standards. A few activities may be	Activities include minimal introduction, strategies/ procedures and/or closure, and relate peripherally to objectives and standards. Some activities are	Activities do not include introduction, strategies/ procedures and closure, and are unrelated to objectives. Many activities are extraneous and	

	activities are extraneous or irrelevant. Plan is highly engaging and motivating.	extraneous or irrelevant. Plan is engaging and motivating.	extraneous or irrelevant. Plan is minimally engaging and motivating.	irrelevant. Plan is not engaging and motivating.	
Standard 8: Assessment	Assessment is directly related to objectives and standards. Assessment provides opportunities for students with varying learning styles and strengths to excel.	Assessment is related to objectives and standards. Assessment is less accessible for students with certain learning styles and strengths.	Assessment is somewhat related to objectives and standards. Assessment is not appropriate for all students' learning styles and strengths.	Assessment is unrelated to objectives and standards.	
Standards 4 & 6 Technology Integration	Technology is appropriately integrated, affordances and constraints of technology support learning outcomes.	Some technology is used; it has limited appropriateness for some learners; preview/preplanning is evident in limited manner.	Technology is not appropriately used; technology does not match goals of the lesson; preview/preplanning is not evident.	Use of technology is not evident in the lesson.	
Standard 3: Differentiated Instruction	Lesson clearly offers appropriate, creative, and well-integrated challenges for students of all levels, including gifted students and students with special needs. Includes multiple learning modes and accessible to students with different learning strengths.	Lesson includes some differentiated instruction for gifted students and students with special needs. Activities are accessible to students using multiple learning modes.	Lesson plan includes minimal differentiated instruction, limited to either gifted students OR students with special needs. Not accessible to different learning modes and strengths.	No differentiation of instruction is mentioned. No attempt is made to individualize activities for learning styles or strengths.	
Standard 2: Developmentally Appropriate	All objectives and activities are appropriate for the intended grade level.	Most objectives and activities are appropriate for the intended grade level	Some, but not all objectives and activities are appropriate for the intended grade level.	Objectives and activities are inappropriate for the intended grade level.	
NCSS Theme 1, culture*	Lesson enables students to develop a deep understanding of the common characteristics of different cultures. Students explore how individuals and members of a particular culture share similarities with other cultural groups, but are also distinctive. Students explore multiple	Lesson helps students to develop an understanding of the common characteristics of different cultures. Students explore how individuals and members of a particular culture share similarities with other cultural groups, but are also distinctive.	Lesson attempts to foster cultural perspectives, but does not lead to the understanding of key cultural concepts and processes.	Lesson does not foster cultural perspectives, and/or does not lead to the understanding of key concepts and processes.	

NCSS Theme 5, Individuals, groups and institutions.	<u>perspectives.</u>				
	Lesson enables students to develop a deep understanding of how institutions are formed, what controls and influences them, how they control and influence individuals and culture, and how institutions can be maintained or changed. Students analyze how institutions operate and explore the role ways to participate with institutions.	Lesson enables students to develop an understanding of how institutions are formed, what controls and influences them, how they control and influence individuals and culture, and how institutions can be maintained or changed. Students analyze how institutions operate.	Lesson attempts to foster perspectives on institutions, but does not lead to the understanding of key concepts and processes.	Lesson does not foster perspectives on institutions, and/or does not lead to the understanding of key concepts and processes.	
					Total

***You are required to demonstrate mastery of NCSS of Themes 1 and 5 with a score 2.0 or higher.**

Appendix A
Field Experience Hours/Activities Log

Deliver this log to your mentor teacher on the 1st day of your field experience. Your mentor will keep the log and daily track dates, activities, and hours. You must complete a minimum of 15 hours of field experience, all of which must involve classroom observations and may involve interactions with individual students and small and large groups of students. Hours will ideally begin prior to mid-semester, and observations should be spread across approximately 5 sessions, with no single session lasting longer than 4 hours. Submit this signed log at the end of the course to Professor Mann.

GMU Student: _____

Mentor Teacher/School: _____

Subject Area/Grades: _____

Dates	Activities with focus student(s)	Other activities	Hours
			Total:

GMU Student Name/Date _____

GMU Student Signature/Date _____

Mentor Teacher Name/Date _____

Mentor Teacher Signature/Date _____

Appendix B

Critical Incidents Reflection Form

Name _____

Date _____

<p><u>Critical Incidents</u> What were the highlights and lowlights of your recent work in schools? What student or students can you identify who are having success or struggling in your classes?</p>	
<p><u>Burning Issues/Questions</u> What issues or concerns can you identify from your recent work in schools?</p>	
<p><u>“Best Practice” Tips</u> What activities, assignments, or strategies from your recent work in schools have you identified as particularly effective?</p>	

Appendix C

Field Experience Guidelines

The following suggested field experience activities are designed to help you prepare for completing your Critical Incidents Reflection Form where you will be expected to analyze teaching styles and classroom management preferences.

- 1) Observe a discussion session for the kinds of student participation that occur. How often are students asked to participate in divergent thinking? How often are students asked to participate in convergent thinking?
- 2) Observe teaching techniques to determine which ones involve students in convergent thinking and which ones involve students in divergent thinking activities.
- 3) Observe a lesson and determine how many academic disciplines the teacher has decided to use in that lesson. How are these various disciplines integrated?
- 4) Observe a “discovery” lesson to determine the nature of the investigation and its outcome.
- 5) Observe an “inquiry” lesson to determine the nature of the investigation and its outcome.
- 6) Observe a lesson in which individualization of instruction is a major focus. How does the instructor plan for helping students at different skill levels improve their expertise?
- 7) Talk with the cooperating teacher about the kinds of controversial issues, which his/her students may be studying. Ask permission to observe a session in which a controversial issue is being examined so that you can determine what the issue is and its resolution(s).
- 8) Talk with the cooperating teacher to find out which method(s) he/she prefers to use and why: “discovery,” “inquiry,” problem-solving discussion, simulations, lectures, directed reading of primary sources, directed reading of secondary sources, “practice” exercises, learning centers, cooperative learning, individual research, group research/labs, activities using software and/or the internet, etc.
- 9) Observe rules and procedures to determine potential preferences for relationship/listening, confronting/contracting, or rules/consequences approaches to classroom management.

Notes: Please be sure to speak with your mentor teacher before you engage with individual or small groups of students in particular activities related to our class. All proper names should be omitted from your reflections and other documentation shared with our class.

Appendix D
Field Experience Letter



College of Education and Human Development

4400 University Drive, Robinson A 320, MS 4B3

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Phone: 703-993-5253

Dear Educator:

My name is Dr. Linda Mann. I am an adjunct professor at George Mason University, and I write as the instructor for EDCI 667: **Advanced Methods of Teaching History/Social Studies – Secondary**. This course is taken by future secondary (grades 6-12) teachers, and as a part of the course students are required to complete 15 hours of field experience in grades 6-12. Specifically, students are required to work with you and students in a school setting at a grade level/subject area of their choice. You have been identified as a teacher in a school where the Mason student bearing this letter might complete these 15 hours of field experience. With this letter I hope to provide some information about the expectations for you and this Mason student, and invite you to work with this future teacher.

EDCI 667 provides pre-service teachers with a comprehensive overview of effective approaches to planning, implementing, managing, and assessing successful social studies learning experiences for students. Emphasis is placed on exploring the relationship between educational theory and the development of practical teaching techniques for everyday use in the secondary social studies classroom. This is the second semester of a yearlong methods course.

Our expectations for this field experience includes the following:

- Mason students will complete a minimum of 15 hours of tutoring, observation, and general interaction with students in your classroom
- These 15 hours will ideally involve interaction with adolescents and young adults, with direct and indirect supervision by you or another licensed teacher
- The goal of this experience is for the Mason student to become familiar with the general day-to-day efforts of youth and teachers in secondary settings, including learning styles, curricula, teaching strategies, teaching and learning challenges, management strategies related to history/social studies instruction.
- In addition, the Mason student might observe your classroom instruction, work with an individual or small group of students, work with an individual student or small groups on assignments or projects, check papers or tests, and so on. The level of interaction is left up to you, the classroom teacher.

Please contact me with any questions you might have about this experience and also complete the agreement page attached to this letter. And thank you for your support of this Mason student and her/his development as a future teacher.

Sincerely,

Linda J. Mann, PhD

George Mason University

Email. lmann4@gmu.edu | **mobile: 703.593.2754**