CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES
College of Natural and Social Sciences
Department of Biological Sciences
Winter 2010

Biology 181: Life Science Seminar for Elementary Teachers (2 Units)

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Class Location: KH B3018
Time: Th 8:00- 9:40 AM (Seminar)

1. Catalog Description:

BIOL 181: Life Science Seminar for Elementary Teachers (2). Co-requisite: BIOL 180. Primarily for students preparing for a multiple subject teaching credential, activities conducted in the course correlate with content/concepts from BIOL 180 and the California State Science Standards.

2. Professional Statements:

A. Vision, Mission and Conceptual Framework For Professional Preparation:

The Department of Biological Sciences is dedicated to providing a high caliber education in the disciplines of chemistry and biochemistry in an environment that encourages hands-on research participation by students. The Department of Biological Sciences offers programs leading to Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Biology, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Microbiology.

B. Statement of Reasonable Accommodation

The Department of Biological Sciences faculty members fully support the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The members of the faculty will provide reasonable accommodation to any student with a disability who is registered with the Office of Students with Disabilities (OSD) who needs and requests accommodation. The faculty may wish to contact the OSD to verify the presence of a disability and confirm that accommodation is necessary. The OSD will arrange and provide for the accommodation.

Reasonable accommodation may involve allowing a student to use an interpreter, note taker, or reader; accommodation may be needed during class sessions and for administration of examinations.

The intent of the ADA in requiring consideration of reasonable accommodation is not to give a particular student an unfair advantage over other students, but simply to allow a student with a disability an equal opportunity to be successful.

C. Student Conduct

Student conduct is viewed as a serious matter by the faculty members of the Department of Biological Sciences. The faculty members assume that all students will conduct themselves as mature citizens of the campus community and will conduct themselves in a manner congruent with university policies and

regulations. Inappropriate conduct is subject to discipline as provided for in Title 5, California Code of Regulations (see student conduct: rights and responsibilities, and student discipline, CSULA General Catalog). Academic honesty is expected of all students in the department, in accordance with University policy. There are established university reporting procedures if a student is suspected of committing an academically dishonest act.

Students are required to conduct themselves in a professional manner during class. Cell phones, pagers and other electronic devices must be turned off during lecture. Late arrivals, side- discussions and other unprofessional behavior will be addressed at the instructor's discretion. Attendance will be recorded. Students returning from absences are advised to copy lecture notes from students in their study group.

D. Technology

Each student must:

1. Own or have ample access to a computer (ex. in CSULA computer labs, or at home or work)
2. Have general knowledge of operation and care of a computer, computer hardware/software, and be able to implement some basic troubleshooting techniques (ex. check connections, restart the computer, etc.)
3. Have an email account (available free of charge to all CSULA students)
4. Have a basic understanding of how to use the internet.

Students should anticipate that use of these skills will be integrated within courses in their programs. Students who fail to meet any of the above expectations are strongly advised to take an introductory computers course.

BLACKBOARD / WEB-CT:

All students in the course need to establish their WebCT 6.2 userid during the first week of the quarter. Your WebCT 6.2 userid is the same as your NIS userid. If you do not have an NIS userid or don't remember your password, you need to visit the ITS Help Desk on first floor of the Library South. All PowerPoint lecture slides will be posted on the course homepage and all course communications will be done via WebCT 6.2. Therefore it is important that you PROPERLY establish your WebCT 6.2 userid and that you be registered for the course. Students who are not registered for the course will not have access to the course homepage beginning in week two.

Student Outcomes – Content Standards and Performance Standards

This course provides an overview of real-world examples, demonstrations, animations, still graphics, and interviews with scientists and science educators that are intertwined with in-depth interviews with children that uncover their ideas about the topic at hand. Activities also feature an elementary school teacher and his or her students exploring the topic using exemplary science curricula. of the history and diversity of life on Earth from an ecological and evolutionary perspective. By the end of the course, students will be familiar with historical and current science education concepts, representative examples of inquiry-based learning and teaching, science assessment, and unit and lesson planning strategies.

Performance Standards

Exams: The midterm and final (worth a total of 75 points) will include short answer and essay questions. Exam questions will be based on material covered in the seminars/lectures, online material, and course readings. Missed exams will require prior approval by the instructor or an official excuse (i.e., doctor's note) or no make-up exam will be given. If you miss an exam, you must notify Dr. Narguizian within 48 hr or you will be given an incomplete. Policy Regarding Correction of Errors in the Grading of Exams: You have one

week from the time that exams are returned to report errors in grading or discuss possible alternative answers.

Independent Writing Assignments (IWA): IWA's (worth a total of 25 points) will be graded all or nothing (5 or 0 points); if they are incomplete or obvious rush jobs, they will receive no credit.

8 Hours of Field Observations: (40 points) This course also involves observing life science instruction in a K-8 classroom setting.

Assessment Procedures

Your final class grade will be based on your total score out of 100 possible points. Grades will not be assigned until after the final exam, when all scores are available. You may estimate your grade at any time by calculating a percentage based on all possible points.

Grade	Minimum Percent
A	92
A-	90
B+	88
B	82
B-	80
C+	78
C	72
C-	70
D+	68
D	62
D-	60
F	<60

Point assignment:

Midterm	25
Final Exam	50
IWA	30
8 hrs. Observation	40
Total	**140 points**

Required Textbook/Articles:

- All required reading materials such as articles, online videos, book chapters, etc. will be sent to students via blackboard/webct.

Required Notebook:

- Please have a journal/notebook for notes/lecture notes.

Drop Policy:

Please see the schedule of classes for information. No exceptions will be made to the established University deadlines.

Other requirements:

Attendance - Regular attendance in lecture are required. Note that missed lectures cannot be repeated, and that missed exams and written assignments cannot be made up at a later date. If you anticipate missing a class, inform your instructor in advance.

Web and email - Students will be expected to have web and email access. Weekly assignments, articles, lecture notes, activities, lecture outlines, and course announcements will be sent via blackboard/webct/email and/or may be posted online.

Seminar Schedule

Date	Seminar Topic	Meeting Location
January 07	Course Introduction	**CSULA**
January 14	Inquiry-Based Science I	**CSULA**
January 21	Inquiry-Based Science II	
January 28	Creating a Learning Community	
February 04	Launching the Inquiry Exploration	**CSULA**
February 11	Focus the Inquiry: Designing the Exploration	
February 18	**MID-TERM EXAM**	**CSULA**
February 25	Collecting Data & Drawing Upon Resources	
March 04	Assessing Inquiry	
March 11	Connecting Other Subjects to Inquiry	**CSULA**
March 16	**FINAL EXAM / Classroom Observation Hours Verification**	**CSULA**

NOTE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! FINAL EXAM: TUESDAY, March 16 8:00 - 10:30 AM, KH B3018

Academic Honesty:
Students are expected to read and abide by the University's Academic Honesty Policy, which can be found on the course website. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, and may receive a failing grade in the course for a single violation. It is a serious violation of the university's policies to plagiarize, or copy directly, from any source. You must rewrite all information in your own words, and cite the sources from which you base your report. Just because you cite a source, it is NOT OK to copy directly from it; you must still phrase everything in your own words.