A&M COMMERCE

HIED 542 – Analysis of Teaching in Higher Education
COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer 2025 (June 2, 2025 – July 3, 2025)

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dimitra Smith, Ph.D.
Office Hours: Please contact me via email to schedule an appointment
University Email Address: dimitra.smith@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: I strive to respond to any email or message within (2) business days, excluding weekends and holidays.

Please feel free to reach out to me via email with any questions or concerns, or to schedule a meeting. I am here to support your learning journey and am committed to timely and effective communication.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials—Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook Required:

McKeachie, W. J., & Svinicki, M. (2014). *McKeachie's teaching tips: Strategies, research, and theory for college and university teachers* (14th ed.). Independence, KY: Cengage Learning

Optional and Supplementary resources:

Brookfield, S. D. (2015). *The skillful teacher: On techniques, trust, and responsiveness in the classroom* (3rd ed.). San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Menges, R. J., Weimer, M., & associates. (1996). *Teaching on solid ground: Using scholarship to improve practice*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Nilson, L. B. (2010). *Teaching at its best: A research-based resource for college instructors* (3rd ed.). San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Shulman, L. S. (2004). *The wisdom of practice: Essays on teaching, learning, and learning to teach*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Course Description

This graduate-level online course delves into the intricacies of effective teaching methodologies across community college and university settings. Through a blend of theory and practical application, students will explore various teaching models and assessment strategies aimed at enhancing instructional quality. Emphasis will be placed on fostering an enlightened perspective on college teaching andragogy, grounded in contemporary literature and research. This course offers a comprehensive analysis, comparison, and contrast of various teaching models aimed at enhancing the quality of instruction in both community college and university settings. Emphasis will be placed on developing students' mastery of specific assessment skills essential for analyzing teaching effectiveness.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be proficient in the following areas:

1. Enlightened Attitude Toward College Teaching Andragogy:
   - Discuss the evolving role of the college professor in modern academia, drawing from relevant literature.
2. Theoretical Basis of Learning:
   - Discuss the contributions of Maslow and Bloom to instructional theory.
   - Describe the unique characteristics of adult learners.
   - Identify and discuss research on learning styles and multiple intelligences.
3. Theoretical Basis of Instruction:
   - Describe the components of instructional planning.
   - Explain the elements of instructional objectives.
4. Teaching Methodology:
   - Identify, describe, and demonstrate various teaching methods, including:
     - Peer learning and mentoring.
     - Small group techniques.
     - Case method.
     - Simulations, games, and role-playing.
     - Individualized instruction.
     - Independent study/projects and writing.
     - Field work/experiential learning.
     - Seminar.
     - Panel discussion.
     - Laboratory/workshop.
     - Discussion/question & answer.
     - Various lecture methods.
5. Student Assessment:
   - Identify and discuss options for assessing students in higher education.
6. Use of Available Models for Instructional Improvement:
   - Identify and describe the Cross/Angelo Classroom Assessment model.
   - Describe Weimer's Five-Step Process for Improving Teaching.

- Explain the Instructional Skills Workshop.
- Describe the Great Teaching Seminar.
- Discuss Chickering & Gamson's Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education.

Through these outcomes, students will develop a comprehensive understanding of teaching andragogy, instructional theory, methodology, assessment, and instructional improvement models, preparing them to excel as educators in diverse higher education contexts.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Research and Reading Expectations

To fully engage with each week's topics, students are expected to delve into both the course text and supplementary resources. While the internet may offer valuable insights, it should not be the sole source of information. Your commitment to thorough research will enhance your understanding and research skills.

Participation in Online Threaded Discussions

Active participation in online threaded discussions is essential. Initial responses to discussion questions are due by Wednesday each week, with responses to peers due by Saturday. Merely regurgitating lecture content or textbook material will not suffice; substantive engagement and citing appropriate references are crucial. Failure to complete both components of the discussion will result in no credit being awarded.

Final Assignments

All students must submit a paper focusing on one of the major student learning outcomes outlined in the course. Late submissions will not be accepted. Papers must be meticulously edited and adhere to APA Style Manual guidelines. Writing quality, including grammar, punctuation, and spelling, will be rigorously assessed alongside content. Any instance of academic dishonesty will result in appropriate penalties.

As you navigate this course, remember that effective communication through writing is a vital skill in this program. Strive for clarity, accuracy, and adherence to academic standards in all your written work.

Student Responsibilities and Tips for Success in the Course

Scholarly Expectations

At Texas A&M University-Commerce, we prioritize academic integrity and hold a zero-tolerance policy towards plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Such behavior includes but is not limited to plagiarism, auto-plagiarism, cheating, collusion, and abuse of resource

materials. All submitted work must be original and uniquely created for this course. Works will be screened for plagiarism using TurnItIn or similar services. Consequences for academic dishonesty may range from reduced credit on assignments to potential removal from the academic program or institution, with an automatic F in the course being a standard outcome. Proper citation in APA 6th edition style is required for any referenced works.

Students should demonstrate proficiency in resolving technical issues, problem-solving skills, and the ability to embrace challenges as opportunities for learning and growth. As future educational technology professionals, collaboration and cooperation are essential skills that students are expected to practice throughout this course. It is encouraged to seek assistance when needed and offer support to peers.

Timeliness

Assignments must be submitted by the designated due dates to receive full credit. Late or incomplete submissions may result in deductions of up to 10% of the assignment's value per day, with assignments losing all value if submitted 10 days past due. Ample notification and time will be provided for completing course assignments. Students are encouraged to plan ahead for any anticipated absences or technical difficulties and have contingency plans in place.

Time Commitment

To succeed in this course, students should be aware of the time commitment required. Refer to the bullets below for an estimate of the average expected time spent on class-related work:

-Outside class per class week: 9 hours (minimum), 12 hours (maximum)
-Total Term Expectation: 144 hours (minimum), 192 hours (maximum)

Your commitment to these requirements and policies will contribute to a successful and enriching academic experience. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out for assistance.

GRADING

Module	Assignment Type	Points
Module 1	Forum Discussion	20
	Forum Discussion	20
Module 2	Forum Discussion	20
	Forum Discussion	20
Module 3	Forum Discussion	20

Module	Assignment Type	Points
	Forum Discussion	20
Module 4	Forum Discussion	20
	Forum Discussion	20
Module 5	Forum Discussion	20
	Forum Discussion	20
	Improving College Teaching Plan	100
	Trends, Issues, Future Applications	100

Grading Scale:
- A: 270-300 points
- B: 240-269 points
- C: 210-239 points
- D: 180-209 points
- F: Below 180 points

Please ensure adherence to APA and university standards for all submissions, including proper citation of references. Failure to complete discussion components will result in no points awarded for that module. Deviation from standards may result in a reduced grade.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS
All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:
https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements

LMS Browser Support:
https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool
https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu**.**

Note**:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support
If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport
Interaction with Instructor Statement

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy
The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct
All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook
http://www.tamuc.edu/student_guidebook/Student_Guidebook.pdf

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette
TAMUC Attendance
For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedures 13.99.99.R0.01
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

Academic Integrity
Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03
Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu
Website: Student Disability Services

https://www.tamuc.edu/student-disability-services/

Nondiscrimination Notice
Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit **www.tamuc.edu/counsel**

AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course. Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors 'guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonest