UTEACH – LIBERAL ARTS
UTL101
Course Syllabus —Spring 2010

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Prerequisites: 2.5 grade point average; students must use a word processor, e-mail, and have access to a web browser.

Course Description: UTL101 provides students with early field experience in teaching and an introduction to the theory and practice that is necessary to design and deliver excellent instruction. Students attend a weekly seminar on the UT campus. **Students also attend *seven* observation periods of one hour each and teach *three* lessons to the elementary students they observe. Total observations and lessons should total at least 10 hours.** The elementary classrooms are selected both for the diversity of the student body and for the quality of the classroom teacher who serves as a cooperating teacher. The cooperating teachers will work with the UTeach-LA students to improve their teaching abilities as the semester progresses. The cooperating teacher will remain in the classroom at all times and will provide immediate feedback on the quality of the UTeach-LA student's instruction. **Additionally, this course begins the teacher preparation sequence and therefore, emphasizes quality, timeliness, dependability, and professional behavior.**

Course Objectives:
UTL101 students will

- assess whether they wish to pursue teaching as a profession.
- determine their own personality and learning style and relate the findings to the students they are and the teachers they may become.
- develop an awareness of diverse student populations.
- understand the concept of interactive lessons.
- distinguish between learner-centered and teacher-centered instructional strategies.
- discuss state and national standards and their value to curriculum issues.
- examine various methods of assessment.
- write performance objectives, lesson plans, and one assessment.
- follow the UTL101 lesson plan format and deliver three lessons.
- become reflective practitioners, using reflection to improve over time.
- utilize technology to communicate, collaborate, and instruct.
- understand and begin to practice the basic components of good classroom management.
- exhibit positive expectations for all students.
- serve as a role model by demonstrating clear communication, pleasant demeanor, interest in each individual student, and accurate content.
- become familiar with teacher certification requirements, including course sequence, UTeach-LA portfolio requirements, state certification exams, and minimum grade point average to be eligible for apprentice teaching.

Field Experience:

- **10 hours:** You are responsible for 7 hours of observation/participation and 3 lessons for a total of **10** hours. Specific guidelines for the fieldwork and the evaluation of your work will be provided by your seminar instructor. You will be given a schedule for observations and lessons.

- Observations

  The student will
  - document observed activities and procedures.
  - participate in classroom activities as suggested by cooperating teacher.
  - write reflections concerning pedagogical issues raised during the observations.
  - observe, reflect on, and research answers to specific questions concerning observations.
  - participate in class discussions concerning the observations and the various strategies and rationales used by the cooperating teacher, as well as alternate options.

- Lessons

  The student will
  - design and implement three lessons of approximately fifteen to forty-five minutes each based on the TEKS and strategies covered in the UT seminar.
  - provide lesson plans to the cooperating teacher, the UT instructor <u>before</u> the lesson.
  - receive evaluative, constructive, and specific feedback from the cooperating teacher over three lessons as well as an overall, final evaluation.
  - write reflections and participate in class discussions concerning positive and negative aspects of the lesson and changes that should result in future lessons.

- Make initial contact with your cooperating teacher.

- Know the check-in procedures for your assigned school. For security reasons most schools have a system that guests must follow.

- Have your cooperating teacher sign the observation and lesson verification form each time you observe or teach a lesson.

- Give your cooperating teacher a lesson evaluation form before each lesson and get the form back before you leave. Give a copy of the completed form to your instructor at the next seminar.

- Dress appropriately and professionally when going to schools. Ask your cooperating teacher what is acceptable.

- Report any problems to your seminar instructor immediately.

- **Be on time and prepared**. Your cooperating teacher, your students, and your instructor are counting on you! **Professional behavior** is a must!

- **Do not deviate from the schedule you and your cooperating teacher have set-up for observations and lessons.**

If an emergency arises and you have to miss your scheduled high school class, notify your cooperating teacher and your seminar instructor immediately. Do not miss your teaching assignment due to a transportation problem. Be sure to reschedule and complete the missed activity within one week. All fieldwork must be complete in order to receive credit for the course.

Seminar Expectations:

- **Regular class attendance** is important for success. I expect you to be in the seminar on the UT campus and to complete all field experience. **After the first absence from the seminar, 5 points will be deducted from your final grade for each additional absence. No absence from field experience will be allowed.**

- **Turn in assignments on time.** Completing your work in a timely fashion is an important professional attribute and extremely important in the teaching field. Therefore, all work must be turned in on time to receive full credit. Time due for any work that is e-mailed to me: **Midnight** of the date due. If you miss this time, then you have **48** hours to turn in for a maximum of **80**. **After 48 hours, you will receive a 0**. Check Blackboard for your grades at any time you wish.

- **The instructor maintains the right to change the syllabus and will inform you during class.** You are responsible for changes even if you are absent.

- **Technology:** You will be required to be computer literate in the workplace so UTL101 requires that you demonstrate basic skills. As you progress through the UTeach-LA program, you will acquire more advanced skills and learn more about how to integrate technology into instruction. These skills will be documented in your UTeach-LA file so that we can certify that you have completed the technology proficiencies required for teacher certification. UTL101 will address the following competencies:
    1. communications via e-mail, including attaching documents
    2. Word documents
    3. searching Web sites for new materials, educational resources, and school information

Grading System:

• **Field Experience** (Attendance, Cooperation, Lessons, Observations)	**25%**
• **Seminar** (Assignments, Attendance, Participation, Technology)	**50%**
• **Portfolio**	**25%**
Total	**100%**

- **A grade of A+ to B (minimum of 84) in UTL101 is required to go on to UTL202.**
- **All incompletes in UTL101 must be made up by the first day of class of UTL202.**

Any student who requires accommodation because of a disability may request it if appropriate documentation from the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is provided.