Theories of College Student Development & Peer Education

EPE 374: 3 credits

Sample Syllabus

Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:30 pm - 4:45 pm
Classroom: TBD

859-257-1356 (office)

Instructor Office Hours:
in The Study, 306b Complex Commons
By appointment

The prerequisite for students to enroll in this course is sophomore status or higher. This course will explore the research regarding college student development, behavior, relationship of student personnel to the total college experience, organization and administration of co-curricular academic support, program evaluation and assessment models, and research of models for co-curricular academic support. Ultimately students who successfully complete this course will have understanding of the theories and models for student development, cognitive development, and mentoring college students effectively through academic transitions, as well as developmental perspectives of the students, faculty and professional staff. Students will demonstrate an appreciation of the forces that influence human diversity and issues impacting college student behavior.

Course Learning Outcomes: EPE 374

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the theories associated with student development in higher education contexts as applied to historical, developmental and socio-cultural perspectives of mentoring college students
2. Identify methods and demonstrate ethics of inquiry that lead to social scientific knowledge in student development and cognitive development.
3. Develop a well-formulated research question pertinent to student development and mentoring and to employ the discipline’s conceptual and methodological approaches in identifying reasonable research strategies that could speak to the question
4. Discuss the structure and organization of higher education and student development theories in general and the influences of mentoring on student transitions to college
5. Express knowledge/understanding of contemporary issues facing college students. Identify and use appropriate information resources to substantiate evidence-based claims
6. Demonstrate the ability to reflect on and learn from classroom instruction and activities, reading materials, including texts and journal articles, fellow students, community members, and demonstrate a clear understanding of how the social science discipline of student development influences college student success and ultimately society as a whole
Required Texts & Materials EPE 374

- Various assigned research articles.
- Active UK email account and the ability to use it regularly
- Course management system access for obtaining pertinent course documents and information

Course Structure

- Class meets twice weekly for 75 minutes each time.
- Students are also required to regularly participate in the class online discussion.
- Some assignments require attendance at out of class events; plan accordingly.
- Students are encouraged to meet in small groups to research and review outside of class time.
- Cell phones need to be off or on silent mode during class, and use during class is prohibited.
- Students are responsible for their own learning. *Learning requires repeated exposures over time. Therefore, students should plan to spend at least one hour every day reading, researching, and writing outside of class time. Complete sections of the assigned work over the course of the week (daily) not just the night before class.*

Attendance

Attendance is essential to learning. Regular attendance will be taken and more than 3 absences will result in a deduction from the final grade (see Student Rights and Responsibilities guidelines http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/). If you have more than 3 absences please consider withdrawing from the course to take it at a better time when you are able to commit to coming to class.

- Attendance in class and on line discussions participation is expected. Course success is dependent upon participation and completion of in-class activities, projects, and on line discussions.
- If a student has a university accepted reason for an absence (see http://www.uky.edu/USC/agenda/20040209/5.2.4.2 Excused Absences.pdf), to be excused from class, the student must notify the course instructor in advance.

Excused Absences

Students need to notify the professor of absences prior to class when possible. S.R. 5.2.4.2 defines the following as acceptable reasons for excused absences: (a) serious illness, (b) illness or death of family member, (c) University-related trips, (d) major religious holidays, and (e) other circumstances found to fit “reasonable cause for nonattendance” by the professor.

Students anticipating an absence for a major religious holiday are responsible for notifying the instructor in writing of anticipated absences due to their observance of such holidays no later than the last day in the semester to add a class. Information regarding dates of major religious holidays may be obtained through the religious liaison, Mr. Jake Karnes (859-257-2754).

Students are expected to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the classes scheduled for the semester are missed (excused or unexcused) per university policy.
Class Policies & Expectations

1. Students are expected to arrive to class on time. Excessive tardiness will lead to the equivalent of an unexcused absence.

2. All cell phones should be turned off at the beginning of each class period. Ringing phones and text messaging are disruptive and rude. If your cell phone rings or you are text messaging during class, you will be asked to leave and counted absent.

3. As a responsible adult, you are expected to give your full, respectful attention to the instructor, guest-speakers, and/or classmates at all times during the class period. Any display of disrespectful and/or disruptive behavior and you will be warned once, and then asked to leave. If asked to leave, you will be considered absent for the day.

4. Assignments are due on the date indicated by the instructor in the syllabus. Any modifications to the syllabus will be provided in advance, and in writing. All assignments must be completed in order to receive a final grade in the course.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism/cheating: Plagiarism is attempting to pass off others’ work as your own, e.g. not citing information that is others’ words, thoughts, or ideas – even if you paraphrase you need to note the source; not giving credit to sources in oral presentations; and/or handing in a paper you completed for another class for a grade in this course (self-plagiarizing). Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated in this course. You are expected to do your own work. For a more thorough definition and/or additional information regarding plagiarism, see the following website: http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/Plagiarism.pdf

Part II of Student Rights and Responsibilities (available online http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html) states that all academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about the question of plagiarism involving their own work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording or anything else from another source without appropriate acknowledgement of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else’s work, whether it be a published article, chapter of a book, a paper from a friend or some file, or something similar to this. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work which a student submits as his/her own, whoever that other person may be.

Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by the student, and the student alone. When a student’s assignment involves research in outside sources of information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she employed them. If the words of someone else
are used, the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content and phraseology intact is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these Rules shall apply to those ideas which are so generally and freely circulated as to be a part of the public domain (Section 6.3.1).

Please note: Any assignment you turn in may be submitted to an electronic database to check for plagiarism.

Assignments

During the semester, students’ performance will be graded on in-class participation, on line discussion participation, research projects, written assignments, progress towards authentic capstone research project and in class presentation. Being present for all class activities is vital to student academic success. Students are expected to:

1.) Turn in all assignments on time
2.) Type all written assignments in the appropriate format as stated in assignment guidelines
3.) Cite sources using APA style, where appropriate, within written assignments and presentations

In general, extensions for assignments will NOT be given other than for rare, extenuating circumstances. However, for excused absences (as per UK policy), missed work may be made-up, as long as a student notifies the instructor in advance of the absence and provides documentation of an acceptable excuse for the day(s) in question. The extension will equal the duration of time the student was absent (ex: if absent one day, then the extension is one day).

Disabilities

Any student with a disability, who is taking this course and needs classroom or exam accommodations, should contact the Disability Resource Center, 257-2754, room 2 Alumni Gym, jkarnes@uky.edu. All students must provide proof of the disability and the need for accommodations before services are rendered. This will usually be in the form of a psychological report or medical statement and the documentation must be signed by a qualified licensed psychiatrist, neuropsychologist, or relevantly trained medical physician.

Required Assignments:

On Line Discussion Postings:

While learning, it is important to process information through discussion in and outside of class. Time limits may not allow sufficient discussion in class; therefore discussion postings are the venue we will use to discuss what you are reading, researching and learning in class. Parameters for discussion responses are as follows:

• Post your responses on time (due by 3:00 pm, start of class time, each Thursday)
• Express your thoughts in complete sentences using standard English grammar and punctuation
• Reference your comments in the text (cite pages from reading assignments that you refer to)
• Respond to others respectfully (you must converse to discuss-so chat with each other, not just to the instructor)
• Provide genuine reflective comments and insights, thoughtful responses to readings, and contribute meaningful questions, impressions, or observations.

Film Review Assignment:
• Select one of the films on the list made available by the instructor (see Course Documents)
• View the film (may do this with others from the class)
• Write a reflective review of the film (individual assignment-not group)
  o Focus on student development issues observed & identify barriers and attitudes related to
cognitive development. Cite relevant research articles that relate to the issues in the film.
  o Specific connections to class reading assignments and class discussion will improve your grade
  on the assignment
  o Minimum 5 pages, typed, 12 point font, double spaced (must submit with cover page-not
  included in the 5 page minimum)
  o Appropriate form and use of Standard English expected (complete sentences, accurate
  punctuation and grammar, etc.).
  o Submit as a PDF document posted by 3:00pm on date due

**Capstone Research Paper & Class Presentation Assignment:** *Due on your pre-selected due

Research a topic of your choice related to student development, mentoring and your particular major field of
study. Using APA citation style, conduct a literature review and write your analysis of the issues as an article or
poster presentation that may be submitted for publication in an appropriate peer reviewed journal or
proposed for a presentation at a professional conference. Present your paper to the class.

Present both of the following for full credit:

• Present on a topic you have researched that addresses societal or cultural change over time, cross-
national comparisons, or power and resistance issues as they relate to the Deaf
• Post your research paper/article and Power Point to Blackboard prior to class presentation

Your Class Presentation must be well planned and rehearsed, adhere to the time limit (15 minutes) and will be
assessed according to a rubric with feedback from all class members. Class evaluations of the presentations
will be factored into the instructor’s grading process. **Presentations will be video recorded.**

Class members may earn extra credit by submitting the paper or poster to a relevant professional conference
or peer-reviewed publication.

**Mid-term grades:** Mid-term grades will be posted in myUK by the deadline established in the Academic
Calendar [http://www.uky.edu/Registrar/AcademicCalendar.htm](http://www.uky.edu/Registrar/AcademicCalendar.htm)

**Grading Scale:**

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<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 points</td>
<td>30 class meetings-attendance required, *participation during class required</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 points</td>
<td>Pop quizzes</td>
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<td>150 points</td>
<td>15 active and insightful discussion responses on line</td>
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<tr>
<td>150 points</td>
<td>1 Mid-Term Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>200 points</td>
<td>Film Review written assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>300 points</td>
<td>Showcase Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>400 points</td>
<td>Research Paper and class presentation</td>
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<td>200 points</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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**Total: 1500 points possible**

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<th>Minimum Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>[1350-1500 points]</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>[1200-1349 points]</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>[1050-1199 points]</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>[900-1049 points]</td>
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