

Conceptual Framework: Education for Transformation

***The central tenets of our conceptual framework are
Excellence, Equity, Inquiry and Collaboration***

In this course, Education for Transformation includes the goal excellence in teaching, which includes both formal and informal knowledge of teaching. Formal knowledge of teaching is derived from both educational research and direct classroom observations, and informal knowledge of teaching is derived from experience in classroom teaching, from teachers and their understanding of teaching. In The Skillful Teacher course we combine these approaches to knowledge in a form of inquiry. Teachers and administrators are asked to read apply their knowledge of teaching in direct classroom observations and in the analysis of video tapes of classroom teaching. Teachers are asked to reflect on their teaching experiences and to experiment with them. Since online teachers are from around the world, the inquiry into teaching is collaborative and open and responsive to different views and perspectives on teaching. Our task is to better understand how teaching is situational and contextual, at the same time, we look for common characteristics in teaching performances.

Course: 04.643 The Skillful Teacher

Start Here

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5/27-6/2 Week One: Orientation to Study of Teaching Chapters 1-3

- What should you be working on this week?
- Attention Parameter
- PowerPoint Overview: Momentum
- Momentum

Assignment: One of our primary goals this semester is a solid understanding of teaching. This week we will read these two chapters from The Skillful

Teacher book, Attention and Momentum, and you are asked to analyze Marianne's teaching by identifying how she employs these skills in her teaching.

Post your findings on her teaching skills on the **Discussion Board**. You are required to make two entries on the discussion board each week.

6/3-6/9 Week Two: Expectations Chapter 11 and Personal Relationship Building Chapters 12

What should you be thinking about this week?

PowerPoint Presentation: Expectations

Communicating Expectations: Teacher Brochure

Pygmalion Effects

Assignment: There are three tasks.

For the first task, review specific expectations you might have for your students. I want you to think about a brochure similar to the one I included in the lecture notes this week. This brochure could be with your students and parents to inform them of your expectations in each of the four areas of expectations, quality and quantity of work, work habits, business and housekeeping, and personal relations. You are not required to do this task.

For the second task, "how you and other teachers impress students by subtle and indirect messages", I want you to make one posting highlighting a specific aspect of the "ten arenas" and offering your insightful comments. You are limited to one paragraph.

*Write me a one-page e-mail telling me what Marianne's expectations are for her students, referencing specific statements from Marianne or specific actions that took place during the lesson or something that you observed. **Due date 6/9/08***

Personal Relationship Building

What should you be working on this week?

Ways of Relating

Helping students feel accepted

Personal Studies of Teaching

Conduct a "Personal Study" of your own Relation Building practices

Assignment: First, observe Marianne's lesson and look for the teacher traits: fairness, appearance, humor, courtesy, respect, realness, re-establish contact, and active listening. You will find concrete examples of these traits, and you will use the examples from the video clip as evidence to support your claims

regarding Marianne's teaching and relationship building. Second, in one posting make claims about Marianne's Personal Relationship Building, but be sure to support your claims with material from the videotape. Use the discussion board to share your thinking.

6/10-6/16 Week Three: Classroom Climate Chapter 13

What should you be working on this week?

Classroom Climate: Power Point Presentation

Classroom Climate Highlights

Classroom Climate: Survey Introduction

Assignment: Your assignment for this week is to conduct a survey of an actual classroom and to summarize your results. When you have summarized your findings, use this opportunity to post a paragraph highlighting the "positive" aspects of your observation and another paragraph making your recommendations for improving the classroom climate. Confine your postings to two single-spaced paragraphs.

6/17-6-23 Week Four: Clarity and Peer Coaching Chapter 8

What should you be working on this week?

Clarity: PowerPoint Presentation

Observation Assignment

Preposition Lesson Video

Preposition Lesson Script

Teacher Talk and Peer Coaching

Assignment: Label and analyze the clarity moves in the "Preposition" lesson. Send me your labeled script and one or two-page analysis. **Paper due 6/23/08**

6/24-6/30 Week Five: Principles of Learning Chapter 9 and Learning Experiences Chapter 15

What should you be working on this week?

PowerPoint Presentation: Principles of Learning

Degree of Guidance

Breaking Down Complex Tasks

Summary

Paragraph Lesson

Applying Principles of Learning

Assignment: Briefly describe a lesson you plan to teach. As a second step, explain how you would employ specific principles of learning to make the lesson more effective and efficient. Your assignment is to make a posting on the results of your application of the principles of learning to a lesson you might teach.

Learning Experiences Chapter 15

What should you be working on this week?

Student learning styles

How can I adjust for different students learning styles?

Observing and characterizing learning experiences

Assignment: Learning Experiences provide insights into the activities we provide for our students. You are asked to characterize your own lesson. Post the result on the discussion board.

7/1-7/7 Week Six: Models of Teaching Chapter 10

What should you be working on this week?

PowerPoint Presentation: Models of Teaching

Introduction to Models of Teaching

Models of Teaching Experience

The Families of Different Models

Advance Organizer Model

Acculturation: a model of teaching exercise

Direct Instruction Model

Inductive Thinking Model

Adapting Models of teaching to student differences.

Assignment: In your two postings explain the way you think about the Models of Teaching in our text. How do these models of teaching relate to your own teaching?

Beth's Mid-term examination: You are asked to analyze Beth's language arts lesson. Submit a two-page single spaced document Due 7/14/08

7/8-7/14 Week Seven: Space, Time, and Routines Chapters 4, 5, & 6

What should you be working on this week?

Space

Time

Routines

Student Thought Processes

Assignment: You are asked this week to develop a case study of another teacher's use of space, time, and routines. You can use direct observation, interview, and possibly some graphic organizers (pictures or photographs) to develop your case study. You are asked to share your case study with other class members through your postings on the discussion board. Your two postings might focus on any one of these three parameters or on some combination of the three.

7/15-7/21 Week Eight: Discipline I Chapter 7

What should you be working on this week?

PowerPoint Presentation: Discipline
Web of Expectations and Consequences

Assignment: Your assignment is to assess the situation in your own classroom/school situation, to conduct a self-study or case study of the foundations of discipline. You can use the weekly postings to share your findings.

Discipline II

What should you be working on this week?
PowerPoint presentation: Discipline II
Six approaches to discipline in the Classroom
Discipline Case Study Form

Assignment: This week you are asked to conduct a case study of a student, preferably someone you have contact with during the school year. The case study form is shown in the lecture notes. Briefly describe the behavior of the student in the "Case Study". As you examine your own description of the behavioral problem isolate the psychological need of the student and write your prescription for a "Treatment". Please don't interpret what we're about here as some mechanical approach to discipline. We all know better that. Instead look at this task as a practice session, as a way practicing an analytic approach to understanding discipline problems and dealing with them.

In this assignment, you are asked to send me a copy of the your case study as an email. **Assignment Due 7/21/08**

7/22-7/29 Week Nine: Objectives Chapter 14 and Assessment Chapter 16

What should you be working on this week?
Five Steps in Curriculum Development
Planning Implementation Teaching Skills

Assignment: Your assignment this week is to prepare a statement that you would present to your students and/or that you would present to your supervisor on intended learning outcomes. Your statement should be short enough to post on the discussion board, but adequate enough to include guidelines from the text.

You are asked to analyze the U.S. History script and submit a two-page analysis. Due 7/29/08

Assessment

What should you be working on this week?
Purposes of Assessment
Characteristics of Good Assessment
Rubrics: what they are and what they look like

Multiple means of gathering data
Portfolios

Assignment: Your assignment this week is to identify a rubric that you could use to assess an intended learning outcome for one of your courses or units of study. You may choose to construct a rubric, but you need to be mindful that there are rubrics available on the Internet and through other source that you could adapt to your teaching. Post your rubric on the discussion board.

7/29-7/31 Week Ten: Pulling It All Together

What should you be working on this week?

Assignment: Your assignment this week on the discussion board is to post your thinking on your experiences this semester with the knowledge base of teaching, The Skillful Teacher book and with the study of teaching. I will be the direct beneficiary of your postings. Also, I think other students will benefit from your remarks, and they will offer their comments.