I. DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

A. Course Number and Title: EDTE 522-Integrated Curriculum at the Middle Level

B. Catalog Description: Constructing, teaching, and assessing an integrated curriculum for students in middle schools.

C. Course Credit: Three (3) credit hours

D. Audience/Prerequisites: Upper level undergraduate students exploring middle level education or other students with permission of instructor.

E. Instructor: Dr. David C. Virtue
   E-mail: virtue@mailbox.sc.edu  office phone: (803) 777-6234
   Office fax: (803) 777-3193  dept. phone: (803) 777-8185
   Office location: 228 Wardlaw College
   Office hours: Tu. and Th. 2:00 – 4:30, and by appointment

F. Scheduled Course Meetings
   Regular meetings (Wardlaw 122)  Th. 4:30 – 7:15
   Online discussion (Blackboard) :30 min./week

II. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Participants in this course will:

1. develop a professional belief system regarding curriculum development at the middle school level;
2. read and critique current literature relevant to designing and implementing an integrated middle level curriculum;
3. explore both the theoretical and practical aspects of traditional teaching and mastery learning;
4. explore both the theoretical and practical aspects of constructivism, the inquiry approach, and problem solving;
5. develop, implement, and evaluate alternative teaching/learning and assessment strategies;
6. use multiple strategies that effectively measure student mastery of the curriculum;
7. provide young adolescents with multiple opportunities to learn in integrated ways;
8. teach curriculum in ways that encourage all young adolescents to observe, question, and interpret knowledge and ideas from diverse perspectives.
III. COURSE TEXTS AND READINGS


HTTP://ED.SC.GOV/AGENCY/STANDARDS-AND-LEARNING/ACADEMIC-STANDARDS/OLD/CSO/INDEX.HTML (Required)

Other print and online readings as assigned by instructor. (Required)

IV. ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION

A. Daily class assignments, presentations, and participation (20% UG, 10% G)

B. Synthesis papers (2) (20% UG, 20% G)

C. Team Integrated Curriculum Plan (50% UG, 50% G)
   • Teams will develop an integrated unit of instruction. (Due 12/3)

D. Take-home Final (10% UG, 10% G) (Due on scheduled exam date – 12/10, 8:00 PM)

E. Integrated Curriculum Paper (10% G)
   • Write a 5-8 page paper on curriculum integration in/with your subject area.
     Include at least 8 references. (Due 12/10)

GRADES:

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ATTENDANCE:
Students are allowed one absence for professional or personal reasons if they inform the instructor in advance. Twenty (20) points will be deducted for additional unexcused absences.

V. SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

August 20: COURSE INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW
- Reading for next meeting: Powell (2005), pp.; Caskey (2006); Kay (2009)

August 27: FOUNDATIONS OF MIDDLE LEVEL CURRICULUM
- Guest Speaker: Cindy Saylor, Consultant
- Reading for next meeting: Strahan (2009); Powell (2005), pp.; Vars (2001); Delaney & Shafer (2007)

September 3: STATE POLICY AND THE MIDDLE LEVEL CURRICULUM
- Complete EEDA modules

September 10: A RATIONALE FOR CURRICULAR COHERENCE
- Reading for next meeting: Beane (n.d.); Bernt, Turner, & Bernt (2005); Bolak, Bialach, & Dunphy (2005); Brown & Canniff (2007); Vega & Schnackenberg (2006); Virtue, Wilson, & Ingram (2009)

September 17: WHAT DOES INTEGRATED CURRICULUM LOOK LIKE?
- Reading for next meeting: Student-oriented Curriculum (Alexander)
- Synthesis paper 1 due

September 24: WHAT DOES INTEGRATED CURRICULUM LOOK LIKE?
- Guest Speaker: Ed Falco, SC Department of Education
- Bintz, Moore, Hayhurst, Jones, & Tuttle (2006); Johnson (2005); Kilgore, Griffin, Sindelar, & Webb (2002)

October 1: DESIGNING INTEGRATED CURRICULA
- Reading for next meeting: Reed & Groth (2009)

October 8: FALL BREAK

October 15: PROFESSIONAL TEACHING TEAMS
- Synthesis paper 2 due

October 22: PROJECT TEAM PLANNING WORKSHOP
- Guest speaker: Brack Clemons, ETV
October 29: MATERIALS AND RESOURCES FOR MIDDLE LEVEL CURRICULUM
- Meet at Thomas Cooper Library

November 5: TEAMS MEET AT SITES (TBA)

November 12: PROJECT TEAM PLANNING WORKSHOP

November 19: PROJECT TEAM PLANNING WORKSHOP

November 26: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

December 3: PROJECT PRESENTATIONS
- Unit Plans Due

December 10: FINAL ESSAY DUE BY 5:00 PM
- Send to Digital Dropbox or Email to virtue@mailbox.sc.edu

VI. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Course Bibliography**


National Middle School Association Research Committee. (2003) *School-wide efforts and policies that foster health, wellness, and safety*. In Research and resources in support of This We Believe (pp. 41-47). Westerville, OH: National Middle School Association.

National Middle School Association. (2003) School-wide efforts and policies that foster health, wellness, and safety. In *This we believe — Successful schools for young
adolescents (pp. 31-32). Westerville, OH: Author.


**Readings may be added at the discretion of the instructor.**