

## + EDCI 385 Computers for Teachers | Fall 2005

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Curriculum and Instruction

### **Contact Information:**

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### **Course Description:**

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with a variety of the computer technology available and help students to formulate new ideas about how to utilize this computer technology in teaching environments not only in the context of being a student teacher but also in their classrooms when they become certified teachers. Students will discuss issues related to the use of computer technology in schools, explore and produce a variety of computer technology projects and will prepare appropriate instructional materials for classroom contexts.

### **Course Overview:**

The course is based around three main concepts and their interconnectedness: computers, teaching, and learning and will follow the Maryland Teacher Technology Standards (MTTS) established by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and the PT3 initiative. The lectures, reading assignments and projects are based on the technology standards established by MSDE.

### **Objectives:**

The course will follow the Maryland Teacher Technology Standards established by the Maryland Department of Education and the PT3 initiative. The state technology standards have played an important role in forming the course objectives for this course. The necessity and importance of linking university course objectives to the standards set up by state departments of education is crucial in the process of preparing the future teachers for the real world of teaching.

The course objectives, teaching strategies and methods, classroom activities and materials are carefully designed to enhance the students' perspectives on learning and teaching computer technology.

### The Maryland Teacher Technology Standards:

1. Information, Access, Evaluation, Processing and Application: Access, evaluate, process and apply information efficiently and effectively.
2. Communication
  - a. Use technology effectively and appropriately to interact electronically.
  - b. Use technology to communicate information in variety of formats
3. Legal, Social and Ethical Issues: demonstrate an understanding of the legal, social and ethical issues related to technology use.
4. Assessment for Administration and Instruction; use technology to analyse problems and develop data-driven solutions for instructional and school improvement.
5. Integrating Technology into the Curriculum and Instruction: Design, Implement and assess learning experiences that incorporate use of technology in a curriculum-related instructional activity to support understanding, inquiry, problem solving, communication and/or collaboration.
6. Assistive Technology; understand human, equity and developmental issues surrounding the use of assistive technology to enhance student learning performance and apply that understanding to practice.
7. Professional Growth: Develop professional practices that support continual learning and professional in technology.

### **Method:**

The significance of computer technology in teaching contexts is central to our ever-changing teaching profession. The essential issue is how can we learn this technology and help students acquire specific knowledge? What would be the advantages or disadvantages of using computers in classroom? Do we have to use it in every lesson that we teach? Should technology itself be viewed as an instructional strategy? What are the legal and ethical issues surrounds the use of computers in schools/ classrooms? What is assistive technology?

In order to formulate some thoughts for the above questions this course will follow project-based methodology by using Internet resources, software applications and products available in computer labs. The objectives of this course, aligned with the Maryland Teacher Technology Standards, clearly address the issue of what teachers should know and be able to do with computer technology and each project is specifically designed to address the exact same objectives clearly described in the standards. Students are encouraged to be active learners by participating in every aspect of this course during and after the classroom sessions.

Students will read course related articles, explore and produce a variety of computer technology projects and will prepare appropriate instructional materials.

#### **Materials:**

In order to fully participate in all the activities in this course, students are advised to have an active WAM account and password as soon as possible.

Online resources on the Internet and software available in the computer labs on campus are two focal sources of materials to be utilised in the course.

#### Important:

**During the semester you will be completing a number of assignments. Please remember, you will present all your reading assignments and projects on your website. You will be completing your website in the lab and will need all your work in electronic format.** The MAC computers we have in the lab do not have built in floppy drives so transferring files can be a little frustrating at times. I advised you to purchase Flash Drive to transfer files from your home computer/ or another computer in campus and the computers in the lab.

Lexar and Scandisk make very reliable flash drives with different memory options. 64 /128/ 256 MB Flash Drive (any one of them) would be more than enough for you to use it in this course and other courses that require some level of use of computers.

**Attendance and Participation:** Students' participation in this course is vital, therefore students are advised to attend every class session and fully engage in classroom projects and activities with their fellow classmates. **The issue of absenteeism will be taken seriously and will result in the loss of grades: -3 points for each unexcused absence, - 1 points for late arrivals and early departures. Students are advised to contact the instructor in advance should they intend to be absent. Late submissions will result in the loss of grades: -2 points for each day you fail to submit your assignments / projects.**

**It is the student's responsibility to make necessary arrangements to make up the missing assignments/work.**

#### **Accommodations**

Students with documented disabilities who would like accommodations should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements.

Students will not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs. Whenever possible, students will be given reasonable time to make up any academic assignment that is missed due to participation in a religious observance. Please let the instructor know as soon as possible (during the first week of classes if possible) about any intended absences for religious observances.

**Classroom Activities and Projects:** The activities are organized around the concept of the use of computer technology in educational contexts.

1. A web site design and E-Portfolio: The students will create a personal website and utilize it as an e-portfolio to showcase their finished site projects and assignments they completed in this course.
2. On-line educational project evaluation: There are thousands of educational sites available on the Internet. This activity is based on locating some of these sites and evaluating their content and the way the content is presented. Students will locate an educational website, describe **what** is presented, and analyse **how** it is presented (evaluation). **MSDE Standard V**
3. Web Quest: Students will choose an educational topic of their choice and develop a Web Quest for a specific grade level. **MSDE Standard II (B)**
4. Power-point presentation design: Students will create a power point presentation that addresses educational topic related to the computer technology. **MSDE Standard I**

5. Creating a data-driven Spreadsheet by using the Microsoft Excel software program. Students will use Excel to analyse set of school data to instructional and school improvement. The data will come from the MSDE PT3 website. **MSDE Standard IV**
6. Legal, Social and Ethical Issues: The legal, social and ethical issues related to technology use will be explored through assigned readings and classroom discussions. **MSDE Standard III**
7. Assistive Technology and Teachers Responsibilities: One of the objectives of this class is to understand human equity and developmental issues surrounding the use of assistive technology to enhance student learning performance and to apply that understanding to practice. By using the Internet resources available we will seek resources that will give us better understanding of assistive technology. **MSDE Standard VI**

**Grading:**

➤ Web Page/ E-Portfolio	25 points
➤ On-line Educational Project Evaluation	10 points
➤ Web Quest	15 points
➤ Power Point presentation	15 points
➤ Spreadsheet	15 points
➤ Paper on Legal, Social and Ethical issues of computer use classrooms	5 points
➤ Assistive Technology and Teachers Responsibilities	5 points
➤ Reflection Papers (2)	10 points
<b>A+</b>	98-100%
<b>A</b>	90-97%
<b>B+</b>	87-89%
<b>B</b>	80-86%
<b>C+</b>	77-79%
<b>C</b>	70-76%
<b>D</b>	60-69%
<b>F</b>	59% or less

**Honor Code:** The University has a nationally recognized Honor Code, administered by the Student Honor Council. The Student honor Council proposed and the University Senate approved an Honor Pledge. The University of Maryland Honor Pledge reads:

***"I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on the assignment/examination."***

The Pledge statement will be handwritten and signed on the front cover of the assignments/examinations submitted for evaluation in this course. Plagiarism can also be interpreted as a form of dishonesty, you are advised to take this issue seriously during the course of your study at UMCP. For more information please visit: <http://www.jpo.umd.edu/SHC/students.html>

**12 September 2005**

- WAM Account
- Syllabus and Introduction to the Course
- Introducing ourselves
- MSDE PT3 Standards
- Prior Computer Skills and Interest Activity
- Getting to know the CCS Lab
- How to upload your work to your WAM Account

**Assignment:**

Visit the following web site and read the article.  
<http://www.usask.ca/education/coursework/802papers/bokcaille/bokcaille.htm>  
 Highlight **5 important** points from the article and write a reflection paper.

**DUE: 19 September 2005**

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**19 September 2005**

Classroom discussion on reading assignment  
How to work with folders  
Web Page Design/ E-Portfolio  
Netscape Composer: Instructions  
Site Structure

**Assignment:**

Visit the following web site and check out the links.  
<http://privacy.getnetwise.org/>  
Highlight **5 important** points from the article and write a reflection paper.

**DUE: 26 September 2005**

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**26 September 2005**

Classroom discussion on reading assignment  
Web Page Design/ E-Portfolio  
Netscape Composer: Instructions Continues  
Site Structure/ Layout Design

**Assignment:**

Visit the following web site and check out the links.  
<http://www.netsmartz.org/>  
Highlight **5 important** points from the article and write a reflection paper.

**DUE: 03 October 2005**

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**03 October 2005**

Classroom discussion on reading assignment  
On-line Educational Project Evaluation (in class)  
Web page update / upload

**Assignment:**

Visit the following web site and carry out a background research on WebQuest. Locate **5 important** points related to WebQuest and write a reflection paper.  
[http://webquest.sdsu.edu/about\\_webquests.html](http://webquest.sdsu.edu/about_webquests.html)

**DUE: 10 October 2005**

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**10 October 2005**

What is WebQuest?  
Examples of WebQuest  
WebQuest Template

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**17 October 2005**

WebQuest  
Lab Time

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**24 October 2005**

PowerPoint Presentation Design  
Examples and tips  
Instruction  
Collecting information on the Internet  
Organizing the information  
Lab Time / Group Work

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**31 October 2005**

Power Point Presentation Design  
Lab Time  
Visit the following web site and carry out a background research on Legal and Ethical Issues / /Assistive Technology:

<http://www.computerlearning.org/articles/respmyth.htm>  
[http://www.idonline.org/id\\_indepth/technology/tfl\\_mystery.html](http://www.idonline.org/id_indepth/technology/tfl_mystery.html)

Highlight **5 important** points from each reading (10 total) and write a reflection paper.

**DUE: November 28, 2005**

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**07 November 2005**

Power Point Presentations  
Introduction to Spreadsheet  
Using Excel  
Collecting Data

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**14 November 2005**

Using Excel  
Lab Time

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**21 November 2005**

Using Excel  
Lab Time

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**28 November 2005**

Legal, Social and Ethical Issues  
Assistive Technology and Teachers Responsibilities  
E-Portfolio-Lab Time  
Web-Quest Projects-Lab Time

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**05 December 2005**

E-Portfolio-Lab Time  
Web-Quest Projects-Lab Time

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**12 December 2005**

**Final Presentations**  
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