

## Teaching Social Studies in the Middle and High School (MGE & SEC 481)

Content Methods- Social Studies- Fall, 2013

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Office Hours: M 3:00pm-4:30 pm , and by appointment  
W 11:30am-12:30pm, 3:00pm-4:00pm, and by appointment  
Tues 11:10am-12:30pm, 2:20pm-4:40pm, and by appointment  
Thurs 11:10am-12:30pm, 2:20pm-3:40pm, and by appointment

**Course Description:** This course develops skills, procedures, and strategies for teaching social studies in middle level and secondary schools. Field experiences in public schools are required in this course. Students are responsible for arranging their own transportation to designated or assigned sites.

**Course Rationale:** This course prepares and continues to develop teachers whose primary role is to facilitate high level learning of the social studies among all middle and high school students.

**Prerequisite(s) SEC 481:**EDU 250, SEC 351, 352, PSY 310

**Prerequisite(s) MGE 481:**MGE 275, PSY 310,

### Required Texts:

1. National Council for the Social Studies (2010). National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies: A Framework for Teaching Learning, and Assessment. Washington DC: NCSS.
2. Teachers' Curriculum Institute (2010). Bring Learning Alive! Palo Alto, CA: TCI

### Supplemental but not Required Text:

Monk, L. (2003). Ordinary Americans. Alexandria, VA: Close Up Publishing.

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Publications: Please visit *the socialstudies.org* website for Student Membership information (\$47.00) . This one year membership will allow you access to *SOCIAL EDUCATION* and *MIDDLE LEVEL LEARNING*- You will need these two resources to complete the required **SEC/MGE 481 annotated bibliography assignment.** Membership at the \$47.00 rate will also provide you three free books published by NCSS and monthly issues of **SOCIAL EDUCATION** and **MIDDLE LEVEL LEARNING!**

**Go to the next page for  
Spring- 2014 Student Teaching information!**

# Attention:

## **SPRING 2014 Student Teachers**

TEACHER ADMISSION FILES *MUST BE COMPLETED* BY SEPT. 16, 2013 TO BE ELIGIBLE TO STUDENT TEACH IN THE SPRING.

**STUDENT TEACHING APPLICATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE AUGUST 28, 2013 ON LINE AT**

**[http://www.wku.edu/teacherservices/student\\_teaching/index.php](http://www.wku.edu/teacherservices/student_teaching/index.php)**

***UNTIL SEPTEMBER 16, 2013***

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2013, BY 4:30 P.M. CDT**

**NOTE:** *Completed Student Teaching Applications are processed in the order that they are returned to the Student Teaching Office in GRH 2052 (located on the second floor in the Dean's Office).*

**MEDICAL EXAM FORMS ARE DUE  
BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2013**

Medical & TB forms must be dated after JUNE 1, 2013.

**GO to the next page for MGE/SEC 481 Course Grading/Evaluation Information!**

## **MGE/SEC 481 Course Grading/Evaluation:**

1. **Regular attendance and participation.** In class activities will be randomly conducted throughout the semester. Pre-service teachers who attend class and participate will earn at least 10 points for each activity. Those who fail to attend class will receive a zero for the missed activity, which cannot be made up. **100**
2. **Summary and reflection** (theory and practice) of clinical and **field experiences**. More information is forthcoming. **100 \*\*\***
3. **Annotated Bibliography** of related social studies education articles. More information is forthcoming. **100 \*\*\***
4. Preparation of a unit (two weeks) teaching plan. This is a simulation of the **TEACHER WORK SAMPLE**. **All WKU teacher education students are required to submit a TWS during their student teaching semester.** Components of this assignment include. **100\*\*\***
  - A) Contextual Factors 25
  - B) Learning Goals 25
  - C) Assessment Plan 25
  - D) Design for Instruction 25

These four components will also be viewed as your **critical performances** for your **electronic portfolio**. **A grade on X (INCOMPLETE) will be given if the MGE/SEC 481 critical performances are not properly uploaded onto the WKU Electronic Portfolio System. Students may not student teach with an incomplete grade in teacher education courses.**

5. The development of a **Resource Unit**. This is a simulation of what it will probably be like when you are informed that the Board of Education has elected you for a teaching position. More information is forthcoming. **100 \*\*\***

6. Cooperative **group presentation** on one of the six social studies teaching strategies in Bring Learning Alive. **100**

7. \*\*\* =**Portfolio Items**- Portfolios provide information about one's experiences, abilities, and knowledge about specific tasks. They are used to monitor K-12 students' progress levels throughout Kentucky and are effective resources for educators throughout our nation. In MGE/SEC 481 (**Teaching Social Studies**), pre-service teachers will have the opportunity to compile a portfolio on social studies teaching and learning. **Please submit marked (\*\*\*) assignments in your portfolio when they are due. 50**

8. Please word process 2,3,4, 5 ,and 6. Otherwise, you will earn half credit.

650-585=A  
584-520=B  
519-455=C  
454-390=D

**Plagiarism Policy:** Page 25 of the 2007-2008 WKU undergraduate catalog states the following. "To represent written work taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The academic work of a student must be his/her own. One must give any author credit for source material borrowed from him/her. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage without reference to the source after having changed a few words is also plagiarism".

**Student Disability Services:** In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for



## ***Some Suggestions for Successfully Passing the Social Studies PRAXIS II Exam***

1. visit [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis) -- Search your way to the "test at a glance" section for **middle level or high school social studies**. That location gives you an overview of the different types of tasks you will be given, and sample test questions with examples of acceptable responses and written explanations as to why the responses are acceptable.

2. Some of the PRAXIS II (content) exam focuses on the analysis of case studies that are aligned with national content standards. Thus, NCSS's *Expectations of Excellence* book (MGE/SEC 481 required text) offers various grade social studies case studies for you to analyze as the case studies relate to NCSS content standards. You should already have a copy of *Expectations of Excellence* from your MGE/SEC 481 class.

3. Review middle level/high school content social studies textbooks that represent various grade levels. For example review texts for ...

**State History and/or State Geography/and/or American History** (5th grade)

**World Geography and/or World Studies** (6th grade)

**World History -early civilizations to the middle ages** (7th grade)

**American History- exploration to the civil war** (8th grade)

**Civics/Government** (9th grade)

**World History – 1600-present** (10<sup>th</sup> grade)

**American History- 1865-present** (11<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Psychology, Government, Sociology, Economics, Anthropology, etc** (12<sup>th</sup> grade)

For each book you review, simply look in the table of contents and identify topics that you are not very knowledgeable about. Then read about those topics in the middle level or high school textbook so that you may gain/digest concrete knowledge in an expeditious manner, particularly since the texts are written at a basic middle school or high school level. **Many of my former MGE/SEC 481 students tell me that this has helped them tremendously.** A textbook for each of the aforementioned middle/high school grade levels should be available at your student teaching site. If not, you may check out middle level/high school social studies textbooks in the Education Resource Center (ERC) in Tate Page Hall.

4. Review notes/assignments/exams from all of your WKU undergraduate content courses that focused on the social sciences (eg., HIST 119, 240, GEOG, ECON, upper level content courses, etc.).

5. Take PRAXIS exams during student teaching semester.

6. **MGE- Middle Grades Teacher Education Students:** Review your notes and critical performances (CP) from MGE 275 and MGE 485. According to several of my former MGE students, the MGE 275 CP entitled **The Nature of Early Adolescence and Implications for the Middle Level Educator** has proven to be very helpful for the PRAXIS exam. Moreover, all of MGE 485 CPs and work dealing with **Interdisciplinary Teaming** have proven to be helpful.

**NOTES:**