

**SEMESTER HOURS**

3 semester hours

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Online courses, and the colleges, universities, and businesses that offer them, are continuing to rise steadily. This is due, in part, to the opportunity online education presents for global competition, an important topic in times of shrinking budgets. This can also be attributed to a new type of student and consumer who wants learning on his or her own time and schedule. Finally, this increase coincides with the growth of research supporting the notion that technology can help teachers teach and students learn.

Unfortunately, this increased interest in teaching and learning online does not necessarily mean teachers or instructors are equipped with the knowledge and skills to teach online. Many teachers have no experience with teaching or learning online. Simply digitizing material does not result in a course that facilitates student participation and interaction. In this course, you will explore and reflect on different aspects of online teaching through interaction & feedback with the instructor and your colleagues. You will also begin to think critically about developing online content to best fit the needs a particular audience and learn tools and learning theories that help you design online content. You will leave this course with one completed online course module and the macro structure for a course in development.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of this course students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of teaching and learning online
- Articulate their online teaching philosophy
- Define online course goals, identify and audience and develop a course development plan
- Critically evaluate and use existing online resources (e.g. blogs, videos) in an online or blended course
- Use current tools to design online content and activities that integrates student-content, student-student, and student-instructor interaction
- Integrate asynchronous discussion into an online course and provide feedback online
- Evaluate online content based on identified criteria

## COURSE TEXTBOOK

There are no required texts for this class. Web-based readings and recommended tools will be listed within each week in our Moodle-based class.

## COURSE GRADING

Course Projects, Assignments, & Grades: The assignments for this class, the grade weights, and due dates are detailed in the **Course Schedule** document. Please print it or make notes of the dates for your reference.

Your main project constitutes creating an online course, and you will work on different aspects of that course each week. The discussion forums will be graded for timeliness, relevance and thoughtfulness of responses, citations, and grammar/appropriate use of language. **All initial posts to the discussion forums are due on Thursday by 11:59pm – not exceptions.** Please plan your time accordingly. There are a total of 175 points to earn within this course.

Letter Grade	Points
A	> 157
B	140 - 157
C	123 – 139
D	105 – 122
E	< 104

## COURSE POLICIES

Attendance is expected and excessive absences (or long periods of time not accessing the online course), though not anticipated in a graduate level course, will adversely influence final grades.

Late work is not accepted except in extremely unusual circumstances. Extremely unusual circumstances must be communicated to the instructor PRIOR. If you are planning to graduate at the end of this semester, please ensure that all your work is turned in on time. If you are late with assignments, the instructor will not be responsible for timely grades.

Incomplete grades are not given. Please plan accordingly and finish all work during the scope of this course.

Assignments should be presented in a neat and concise manner. Consider what you expect in terms of quality from your students when you are teaching. Students are expected to conform to all policies of the University of Florida and work within the honor code. Please read the University of Florida honor code ([http://www.reg.ufl.edu/98-99catalog/student\\_life.htm](http://www.reg.ufl.edu/98-99catalog/student_life.htm)). (Scroll down to the section on Academic Honesty.) Please also read the University of Florida's Acceptable Use Policy (<http://www.cio.ufl.edu/aupolicy.htm>).

ADA Statement: "Students with disabilities, who need reasonable modifications to complete assignments successfully and otherwise satisfy course criteria, are encouraged to meet with the instructor as early in the course as possible to identify and plan specific accommodations. Students WILL be asked to supply a letter from the [Office for Students with Disabilities] to assist in planning accommodations."