Dakota College at Bottineau Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title: RLS 210 Environmental Education

Course Description: The course will provide an introduction into the field of environmental education; facilitate methods to teach environmental educational and environmental literacy.

Course Objectives:
It is expected that students will be able to:

- Students will develop a working knowledge of basic principles and philosophy of environmental education.
- Students will understand different teaching and learning styles
- Students will understand how develop an environmental education program both in classroom and field settings
- Students will understand how to evaluate the effectiveness of environmental education programs

Instructor: Sherry Niesar

Office: Online

Office Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3:15-6:00 pm

Phone: 701-222-8940

Email: Sherry.Niesar@dakotacollege.edu

Lecture/Lab Schedule: Online

Textbook(s): *Conservation Education and Outreach Techniques,* Author: Jacobson, McDuff, and Monroe, Publisher: Oxford Publishing, ISBN: 0-19-8567772-3

Course Requirements:

- Regular participation in the class is expected.
- Graded assignments: Assignments are given to reinforce chapter content. They are practical in nature and require the student to apply new knowledge of chapters.
- Graded quizzes/tests: 2 one-hour exams of approximately 30 questions will be given. Quizzes follow each chapter with the exception of chapter 1 where no quiz is given.
- Grades: Grades are based on total points earned and include the points earned on practice exercises.

Tentative Course Outline:

Designing Successful Conservation Education & Outreach
·   An introduction into environmental education

Learning & Teaching Adults & Youth
·   Pedogogy
·   Learning styles
·   Teaching styles

Changing Conservation Behaviors
·   Motivational theories
·   Environmental responsibility
·   Stages of change

Conservation Education in Schools
·   Communicating with schools
·   Academic standards and environmental education
·   Integrating environmental education into school curriculum

Making Conservation Come Alive
·   Hands on activities
·   Games
·   Role-playing
·   Field trips

Conservation and the Arts
·   Using visual arts to teach environmental education

Connecting Classes and Communities with Conservation
·   Service learning
·   Community based research
·   Citizen science

Networking for Conservation
·   Workshops
·   Public presentations
·   Special events
·   Partnerships

The Written Word
·   News releases
·   Brochures & Flyers
·   Guidebooks

On Site Activities
·   Exhibits
·   Guided walk
·   Demonstration

General Education Goals/Objectives: Not a General Education Course

Relationship to Campus Theme:

Environmental Education provides the opportunity for students to learn to teach effectively about nature and to use technology to further their knowledege in the field.

Classroom Policies:

Reading the assigned text is the student's responsibility, and is essential to success in this course Any late work will not be accepted for full credit.

This academic environment is an open and harassment free one. Participation within the online classroom is highly encouraged and is an integral part of the higher education experience. Ask questions – comment on discussions.

Academic Integrity:

Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary defines plagiarism as: "The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work." There will be *zero tolerance* of any form of academic dishonesty. If any evidence appears of students not doing their own work, plagiarism, or outright cheating on quizzes/exams, the matter will be investigated. If it is concluded that such dishonesty occurred, the student in question will receive an automatic "F" for the course. Furthermore, the matter will be reported to the appropriate university office and the instructor will participate in any proceedings against the guilty party.

Disabilities and Special Needs:

Please inform the instructor within the first week of classes if any assistance is required due to disabilities or special needs.