EDUC 616: Foundations of Teaching and Learning  
Fall 2017  
Professor Ryan Baker  

SYLLABUS

Instructor Info  
Email: rybaker@upenn.edu  
Office: GSE 439  
Office hours: Wednesday 3:30pm-4:20pm, or by appointment  
Course time: Wednesday, 4:30pm-6:20pm

Required Texts


Other course readings will be available in Canvas.

Course Goals

In this class, we explore key theoretical perspectives on teaching and learning. What is knowledge and knowing? What is learning? What is teaching? What are good teaching and learning? How do contexts influence teaching, knowing, and learning?

In the course, students will learn foundational theoretical perspectives on these questions, while being encouraged to develop answers for themselves, and develop an underpinning for the work that they will carry forward in their professional careers, whether in research or in practice.

Course Pre-requisites: None.

Assignments

A theoretical paper will be due on December 1. This theoretical paper will require the student to select a topic (in consultation with the instructor), and argue for a specific position for how the field of learning analytics must change to meet the needs of 21st century education or learning sciences. Students will be required to turn in a 1-page paper prospectus for the theoretical paper on October 20, which will be graded as well. Extensions for the paper and prospectus deadlines will only be available in case of instructor error or extreme circumstances (assignments in other classes, research studies, and so on do not count as extreme circumstances; serious injury, illness, or death in the family do count as extreme circumstances). Outside of these circumstances, late hand-ins will not be accepted (e.g. zero credit will be given).
All assignments should be sent to the instructor via email to penn.learninganalytics@gmail.com. The assignment title and email title should be 616-YOURLASTNAME-ASSIGNMENTNAME. Assignments can be submitted in Microsoft Word or PDF format.

Midterm and final exams will be given. Both exams are open-book; open-resource; open-web. However, collaborating on the exam with other students or anyone else at all is NOT ALLOWED. The exams will be made available on the course webpage 48 hours before the due date.

Class participation involves both attendance and active (and constructive) participation in classroom discussions. Simply attending class and sitting silently will not result in a high grade for class participation.

Eleven factual quizzes will be given at the beginning of class, without prior announcement. These quizzes will be based on the week’s reading. If a student misses a quiz due to an excused absence (email me), that quiz will not be averaged into their grade. Each student’s lowest quiz grade will be dropped from calculation.

Please note that assignment criteria and dates may be changed and/or further detailed during the term.

**Grading**

- Theoretical Paper Prospectus 5%
- Theoretical Paper 15%
- Midterm Exam 20%
- Final Exam 20%
- Class Participation 20%
- Quizzes 20%

**Course Schedule and Readings:**

PLAGIARISM and CHEATING

Don’t do it. If you are unsure whether an action involves plagiarism or cheating, please talk to me first.

Using CANVAS

1. Go to http://penngse.instructure.com
2. Click on Log in and enter your PennNet ID and password.
3. Click on EDUC616-001-2017 MASTERS FNDS TCH & LRN

Periodically, I will email the class via Canvas. To be sure that you receive these messages, please make sure that your contact information is up-to-date.

COURSE SCHEDULE

August 30 Introductions and Overview


September 6 Behaviorism


September 13 Cognitive Perspective/Classic Constructivism


**September 20** Constructionism


**September 27** Vygotsky


**October 4** Dewey


**October 11** Bloom


**October 18** Education, Social Change, and Responsiveness

Freire, P. (1973). *Education: The Practice of Freedom*. Ch.5 Education and Conscientização (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site. (Becoming aware of one's self).


**October 20 Theoretical Paper Prospectus Due noon**

**October 25 Community of Learners and Practice**


**Midterm handed out in class**

**October 27 Midterm due 1159pm**

**November 1 Identity and Diversity**


**November 8 Motivation**


**November 15** Robust Learning and Engagement


**November 22 – No class – University Holiday**

**November 29** Architectures and Frameworks


December 1 Theoretical paper due 1159pm

December 6 Emerging Methods: EDM and Automated Experimentation


December 13 Emerging Methods: Design Experiments


Final Exam handed out in class

December 15 1159pm Final Exam due