



The University of South Dakota

School of Education

Division of Curriculum and
Instruction

EDFN 101: Aspiration, Dedication,
Inspiration: An Introduction to Education
Fall 2021

Instructor: Sara Kraft	Class Dates: August 23-December 5, 2021
Office: Online	Class Hours: Online
Email: sara.kraft@k12.sd.us	Office hours: by appointment through email

Course Description

Inspiring and Leading through Excellence in Education is the shared vision of the USD School of Education for all of its programs. The underlying intent of the vision requires that students be exposed to learning experiences that will enhance their ability to engage in life-long learning and leadership roles anchored in reflective practice. This first year seminar for high school juniors and seniors is designed to help students prepare for the college experience both academically and personally. The course aids students as they acquire and develop skills necessary to reach their educational objectives. The seminar will encourage students to explore the field of education, identify practices and experiences to help them be successful in their college and professional careers, and to demonstrate proficiency in discussion, reflection, writing, and the use of technology.

Attendance/Participation

This course is independent learning based. Completing weekly reading, assignments and other activities are necessary for success in this class. All students are expected to attend each scheduled class meeting. Students who fall behind due to illness or emergency should contact the instructor sara.kraft@k12.sd.us.

Required Text:

(Participants will read the following)

Brain Rules

by John Medina

Course Objectives:

- Understand and analyze the roles, responsibilities, and daily experiences of teachers
- Analyze significant historical developments in education in the United States
- Observe and reflect on a variety of educational experiences

Grading Scale:

90 – 100%.....A
80 – 89%.....B
70 – 79%.....C
60 – 69%.....D
Below 60%F

Instructional Methods and Activities

1. Online
2. Independent Learning

Course Schedules

Tentative Course Schedule

COURSE OUTLINE		
Date	Topic	Delivery Format
Week of August 23	Introduction to Course	Mix – Online and independent
Week of August 30	Setting SMART Goals	Mix – Online and independent

Week of September 6	What Makes a Great Teacher?	Mix – Online and independent
Week of September 13	The Teaching Profession: Interview a Teacher	Mix – Online and independent
Week of September 20	History of Education in the U.S.	Mix – Online and independent
Week of September 27	School Law: The Supreme Court and American Education	Mix – Online and independent
Week of October 4	Virtual College Visit to USD	Mix – Online and independent
Week of October 11	College and Teaching Program Exploration	Mix – Online and independent
Week of October 18	Teacher Code of Ethics	Mix – Online and independent
Week of October 25	Virtual Guest Speaker: South Dakota Teacher of the Year	Mix – Online and independent
Week of November 1	Native American Education in South Dakota	Mix – Online and independent
Week of November 8	Professional Writing: Resumes	Mix – Online and independent
Week of November 15	In-Class Observation	Mix – Online and independent
Week of November 22	Research Project: Creating Lesson Plans	Mix – Online and independent
Week of November 29	Contemporary Views of Education: TED Talks	Mix – Online and independent

Academic Integrity

No credit can be given for a dishonest assignment. A student found to have engaged in any form of academic dishonesty may, at the discretion of the instructor, be:

- a. Given a zero for that assignment.
- b. Allowed to rewrite and resubmit the assignment for credit.
- c. Assigned a reduced grade for the course.
- d. Dropped from the course.
- e. Failed in the course.

Freedom in Learning

Under Board of Regents and University policy, student academic performance may be evaluated solely on an academic basis, not on opinions or conduct in matters unrelated to academic standards. Students should be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled. Students who believe that an academic evaluation reflects prejudiced or capricious consideration of student opinions or conduct unrelated to academic standards should contact the dean of the college or school that offers the class to initiate a review of the evaluation.

Disability Accommodation

The University of South Dakota strives to ensure that physical resources, as well as information and communication technologies, are reasonably accessible to users in order to provide equal access to all. Any student who feels s/he may need academic accommodations or access accommodations based on the impact of a documented disability should contact and register with Disability Services during the first week of class or as soon as possible after the diagnosis of a disability. Disability Services is the official office to assist students through the process of disability verification and coordination of appropriate and reasonable accommodations. Students currently registered with Disability Services must obtain a new accommodation memo each semester.

Please note: if your home institution is not the University of South Dakota but one of the other South Dakota Board of Regents institutions (e.g., SDSU, SDSMT, BHSU, NSU, DSU), you should work with the disability services coordinator at your home institution.

Disability Services, The Commons Room 116

(605) 658-3745

Web Site:

www.usd.edu/ds

Email: disabilityservices@usd.edu

Diversity and Inclusive Excellence

The University of South Dakota strives to foster a globally inclusive learning environment where opportunities are provided for diversity to be recognized and respected. To learn more about USD's diversity and inclusiveness initiatives, please visit the website for the Office of Diversity.