

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **EDUC 390**

#### **CURRENT ISSUES IN EDUCATION**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An examination of current issues in the field of education with classroom implications and case study.

#### **RATIONALE**

Field experiences in specific areas of academic interests are necessary for professional growth and development. This course is for candidates who are not pursuing licensure.

#### **I. PREREQUISITES**

This is the capstone course. It should be the last education course taken.

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click the following link to view the required resources for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word  
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Discuss how the three components in the Conceptual Framework integrate into the context of teaching situations.
- B. Present documentation about a topic that enhances the ability of teachers in a specific area of teaching.
- C. Develop a project related to the field of education which demonstrates the professional development of a Christian world view pertinent to Christian, public, and private schools.
- D. Create and use grading rubrics to assess various written and verbal presentations.
- E. Discuss with other educational professionals elements pertaining to continual professional growth.

## V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

### A. Textbook readings and presentations

### B. Mentor Assignments

- Mentor Approval

In Module/Week 1, candidates are required to select an individual to serve as a mentor for the field experience hours. The selected mentor must have at least 3 years of experience and be certified in his/her field. Certification may be state licensure, ACSI, etc. Furthermore, the mentor must be willing to complete the all required paperwork. Additionally, the mentor must be willing to meet with the candidate multiple times throughout the course and observe/critique a lesson prepared and taught by the candidate. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 1.

- Mentor Confirmation Quiz

In Module/Week 2, candidates will confirm that they have received the instructor's approval for the mentor. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 2.

### C. Discussion Board forums (4)

Candidates are expected to participate in four Discussion Board forums based on the instructor's prompt. Each forum is completed in two parts: the candidates' original response in a new thread (Modules/Weeks 3, 7, 11, and 15) followed by two reply posts (Modules/Weeks 4, 8, 12, and 16). All posts to the Discussion Board should adhere to the communication policy provided through the Student Expectations link. Each candidate will submit his or her initial thread by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday and will then read and reply to at least two other candidates' posts by 11:59 p.m. (ET) the following Monday, except for the final Discussion Board post which is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 16.

### D. Field Experience Assignments

Throughout this course, candidates are required to complete 30 hours in a field placement for each credit hour earned. Thus, the field experience is a foundational element in the course assignments. Field Experience related assignments include:

- Field Placement Approval

In Module/Week 1, candidates must submit a Field Placement Approval Form that must be granted by the instructor. If the candidate resides in Lynchburg or the surrounding areas, he/she may NOT contact the schools on their own and must contact the Field Placement Coordinator at [field@liberty.edu](mailto:field@liberty.edu) to allow them to arrange the placement. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 1.

- **Field Placement Confirmation Quiz**  
In Module/Week 2, candidates will confirm that they have received the instructor's approval for the placement. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 2.
- **Field Experience Log**  
By Module/Week 3, candidates should begin completing their field experience. The Field Experience Log should be used to track their hours in the field, and the Mentor's Summative Assessment document to give to their mentor. The Field Experience Log is completed by the candidate as he/she visits the approved placement. This completed form is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 16. The candidate will need access to a document scanner in order to submit the completed Summative Assessment to the instructor.
- **Summative Assessment**  
The Summative Assessment is completed by the mentor at the end of the course to evaluate the candidate's performance in the placement. This completed form is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 16. The candidate will need access to a document scanner in order to submit the completed Summative Assessment to the instructor.
- **Field Experience Learning Summary**  
In Module/Week 16, candidates will complete a Field Experience Learning Summary based on the questions and prompts provided in the Field Experience Learning Summary document. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 16.

#### E. Course Project Assignments

This research based Course Project contains several related parts which are described below. The candidate will be permitted to research any relevant topic to create a project idea (suggestions are provided inside the Assignment Instructions folder). Writing lesson plans and/or Unit Lesson plans do not qualify as a project. The Course Project must be related to the field of education and must incorporate current issues related to the chosen topic.

- **Project Proposal:** Candidates will submit a proposal that outlines the premise of their project idea. The proposal consists of six elements: Purpose, Rationale, Research, Application, Communication, and Outcomes. Each of these elements is described and explained in the Assignments Instructions folder. All project proposals must be approved by the course instructor prior to beginning work on the project. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 5.

- Grading Rubric: Candidates will create a Grading Rubric which they will use to self-evaluate their projects. All projects will be graded by the course instructor using the Summative Assessment therefore, candidates should refer to the Summative Assessment provided in the Assignment Instructions folder when creating the Grading Rubric. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 6.
- Midterm Progress Report: Candidates will submit what he/she has completed so far, so that the instructor can give feedback and view the candidate's progress. For the Midterm Progress Report, the candidates will be evaluated in four areas: Amount and relevance of research, following the approved Project Proposal, incorporating the Conceptual Framework, and overall completion of the project. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 9.
- Self-Evaluation: Candidates will use the Grading Rubric that he/she created in Module/Week 3 to self-evaluate his/her completed projects. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 13.
- Completed Project: Candidates will submit the complete Course Project which is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 14.

F. Lesson Plan Reflection Evaluation

Candidates will view and evaluate a lesson completed in the classroom. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 10.

G. Lesson Assignments

The candidate will complete a Lesson in three phases: the Lesson Plan, Teaching the Lesson, and the Lesson Reflection. The candidate must meet with the mentor to determine a topic or subject for the Lesson Plan.

- The candidate will submit the completed Lesson Plan by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 11.
- Before teaching the lesson in Module/Week 12, the candidate is to provide the mentor with the Lesson Evaluation Rubric. The candidate will teach the lesson to students in the field placement and the mentor is to observe/critique the lesson. The candidate should tape the lesson and review it when completing the Lesson Reflection in Module/Week 15. Candidates are to teach their lesson by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 12.
- In Module/Week 15, the candidate will submit the Lesson Evaluation Rubric that was completed by the mentor and the Lesson Reflection provided by the instructor. The candidate needs access to a document scanner in order to submit the mentor's completed evaluation of the lesson to the instructor. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 15.

H. Honor Code Quiz

This two-question quiz evaluates the candidate’s integrity regarding the field experience, mentor document submissions, and course assignments. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 16.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

A. Points

Mentor Assignments	
Mentor Approval	20
Mentor Confirmation Quiz	10
Discussion Board forums	
Threads (4 @ 40 pts ea)	160
Replies (4 @ 30 pt ea)	120
Field Experience Assignments	
Field Placement Approval	20
Field Placement Confirmation Quiz	10
Field Experience Log	50
Summative Assessment	100
Field Experience Learning Summary	30
Course Project Assignments	
Project Proposal	40
Grading Rubric	40
Midterm Progress Report	70
Self-Evaluation	50
Completed Project	70
Lesson Assignments	
Lesson Plan Reflection Evaluation	40
Lesson Plan	100
Teaching the Lesson	0
Lesson Reflection	50
Field Experience Learning Summary	30
Honor Code Quiz	20
	<b>Total</b> 1000

Scale

A = 900–1000 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

B. Plagiarism

All work in this course must be originally created, and any form of plagiarism will not be tolerated. Procedures as indicated are in the academic integrity policy within the Student Expectations link in the course.

C. Late Policy

The nature of this course requires that the candidate interact with the material, professor and other students on a weekly basis. Because of this, it is difficult to achieve the fullest experience in this learning environment when assignments are late.

If unable to complete an assignment on time, the candidate must contact the instructor immediately by email to make arrangements for the completion of that assignment. Assignments that are submitted after the due date without appropriate excuse and pre-approval will receive the following deductions:

- Assignments submitted after the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
- Assignments submitted more than one week late receives a 20% deduction.
- Assignments submitted after two weeks late or after the final due date of the class will not be accepted without documentation or extenuating circumstances.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations.

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **EDUC 390**

Textbooks: Kronowitz, *The Teacher's Guide to Success* (2012).

<b>WEEK/ MODULE</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 1–2 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist	0
		Class Introductions Thread	0
		Field Placement Approval	20
		Mentor Approval	20
<b>2</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 3–4 1 presentation	Class Introductions Replies	0
		Field Placement Confirmation Quiz	10
		Mentor Confirmation Quiz	10
<b>3</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 5–7 4 presentations	DB Forum 1 Thread	40
<b>4</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 8–9	DB Forum 1 Replies	30
<b>5</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 10–12	Project Proposal	40
<b>6</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 13–15 1 presentation	Grading Rubric	40
<b>7</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 16–17 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 Thread	40
<b>8</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 18–20	DB Forum 2 Replies	30
<b>9</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 21–22 2 presentations	Midterm Progress Report	70
<b>10</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 23–24 2 presentations	Lesson Plan Reflection Evaluation	40
<b>11</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 25–27 5 presentations	DB Forum 3 Thread	40
		Lesson Plan	100

<b>12</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 28–29 1 presentation	DB Forum 3 Replies Teaching the Lesson	30 0
<b>13</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 30–32 2 presentations	Self-Evaluation	50
<b>14</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 33–34	Completed Project	70
<b>15</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 35–37	DB Forum 4 Thread Lesson Reflection	40 50
<b>16</b>	Kronowitz: chs. 38–40 1 presentation	DB Forum 4 Replies Field Experience Log Summative Assessment Field Experience Learning Summary Required Exit Survey Honor Code Quiz	30 50 100 30 0 20
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1000</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week (except week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.