Text: A Handbook of Arts and Crafts by Wigg and Hasselschwert

Course Description: This course will explore art education strategies which are related to contemporary and traditional craft techniques and materials. Projects will be aimed at diverse school populations by exploring the crafts of various global cultures, as well as through understanding the use of crafts through history. Discussions will touch on tiered lesson plans for inclusion and special needs students.

I Aims:
A. To develop a historical perspective of crafts that will enable the student to analyze, identify, interpret and evaluate the crafts of the past through the present.
B. To help the student become aware of the use and development of crafts through the utilization of basic tools, materials, and techniques.
C. To foster an awareness of the major traditions and contemporary movements related to crafts.
D. To enrich the student’s individual appreciation and understanding of creative expression through personal involvement with media, process and ideas.
E. To become familiar with the techniques used by educators to teach crafts to various age groups and examine the relationship between theory and practice of teaching art to students of all ages.
F. To gain an understanding of child development and demonstrate the ability to implement teaching strategies by developing and writing lesson plans which are age and skill level appropriate.

II. Major Projects for Exploration:
A. Weaving/Fiber Arts
B. Plaster, Model Magic, Paper Mache
C. Clay and kilns: technical info
D. Jewelry: cold working and introduction to soldering
E. Mixed media and found objects

III. Requirements:
A. Students must attend all classes. Excessive lateness may count as absence if habitual. Missing more than one class (unexcused) will significantly lower the final grade. Any student unable to attend a class must notify the art office before the class meets and follow this with a written excuse from a health care provider. Unexcused absences will impact on the final grade. Students missing more than three classes may be subject to failure. Emergencies do arise and will be dealt with
on an individual basis. Students are responsible for project assignments given on a day when they are not in class.

B. Complete assigned readings and submit projects when due. Late projects are subject to grade reduction. Projects will lose a letter grade for each class they are overdue.

C. Actively participate in critiques and class discussions.

D. Submit all work for final review.

E. Practice good studio manners. Students should clean up and put away materials at the end of class.

F. Class time is meant for concentration and quiet studio work.

G. A bus trip to New York City’s Museums and galleries will be scheduled for later in the semester. More information will be given closer to the date.

.IV. Grading:

After each project there will be a group critique to help students learn to evaluate their own work and the work of others. The critiques are designed to stimulate useful feedback and generate additional ideas for students to incorporate into their lessons. Participation in these discussions is regarded as part of the class. Project grades are bases on the quality of the work and related lesson plans, originality, craftsmanship and effort. Attendance, attitude, personal growth, effort, and class participation are considered part of the overall final grade.

The following meanings are assigned to letter grades:

A= excellent, well above expected achievement
B= good, above expected achievement
C= expected achievement
D= below expected achievement
F= unacceptable

A = 93-100   B = 84-87   C = 74-77   D = 64-67
A- = 90-92   B- = 80-83   C- = 70-73   D- = 60-63
B+ = 88-89   C+ 78-79   D+ = 68-69   F below 60

Projects grades = 80% of final grade
Personal growth and development= 10% of final grade
Participation and attendance= 10% of final grade

Any student who wishes to disclose a disability and request accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act for this course first MUST meet with Mrs. Laurie Roth in the Office of Learning Services (for learning disabilities such as ADD or ADHD) or Dr. Kline in the Counseling Center (for all other disabilities).

Students are often influenced by other artists, but a student should never exactly copy the work of another and pass it off as his/her own. A student who copies or submits someone else’s work as his/her own is subject to failure for that assignment.

This syllabus is subject to change.