



AMBROSE

**Field Experience 700 Seminar**  
**INTRODUCTION TO THE LIFE OF CURRICULUM DESIGN AND PROGRAM**  
**DEVELOPMENT**  
**(Fall 2011)**

**Course Description**

The Field Experience Seminar is a non-credit class intended to deepen and broaden the student's understanding of the interconnectedness of curriculum design and program development in Alberta's public school classrooms with learners, teachers and society. This seminar is designed to prepare students for success in the Field Experience 700. The goal of the seminar is for students to reconsider and reframe their assumptions, theories, values and concepts regarding curriculum and programs designed for use in Alberta's public school classrooms. The seminar uses the shared praxis methodology of guided reflection on previous teaching experiences informed by research and best practices. The following topics will be considered: assessment and evaluation in Alberta schools; parental engagement; educational technologies; teacher vision and teaching philosophy; and, ministry approaches to achieving excellence in educational practices (ie. teaching quality standards and certification of teachers).

**Class Schedules**

Fridays from 1:00-3:00 pm

**Instructor Information**

Ms. Nicki Rehn

[NRehn@ambrose.edu](mailto:NRehn@ambrose.edu)

403-2746189 (home)

**Textbooks**

There is no required text for this course.

**Attendance**

Attendance is expected at each seminar.

**Course Outline**

Seminar 1 – Introductions

Seminar 2 – Review of Field Experience Handbook

Seminar 3 – Reflections of BEd Competencies

Seminar 4 – Assessment and Evaluation in Alberta's schools

Seminar 5 – Parental Engagement 1

Seminar 6 – Parental Engagement 2

Seminar 7 – Educational Technologies

Seminar 8 – Future Successful Practice: a Principal's perspective

Seminar 9 – Student concerns and questions

## Expected Learning Outcomes

During this course, students will:

- Identify the gaps that exist between theory and practice, and their assumptions and reality in the topics that are explored.
- Challenge their own perspective on topics raised in the seminar
- Share their experiences with one another

At the completion of this course, students will:

- Be prepared for success in Field Experience 700

## Course Requirements

This course requires your participation in four ways:

### 1. Preparation

Please check the Moodle site at the beginning of each week (Monday) for instructions about how to prepare for the upcoming seminar. This may include reading an article or viewing some media, reflecting on a question that has been posed, or bringing something to class.

### 2. Contribution

During the seminar, it is expected that students will engage in exploratory dialogue, reference theory and research, and offer examples from experience. Students should feel free to initiate new ideas and 'think aloud'.

### 3. Critical Reflection

Students are expected to examine their own position without defensiveness. Students are invited to reflect on the gaps that exist between theory and practice, and also their assumptions and reality.

### 4. Active listening

Students should respect one another by listening carefully, taking note of detail, clarifying and paraphrasing others' perspectives, and building on each other's points.

## Important Notes/Dates:

The last day to enter a course without permission and /or voluntary withdrawal from a course without financial penalty (**drop**) – Sunday, September 18, 2011 (Fall semester) or Sunday, January 22, 2012 (winter semester). These courses will not appear on the student's transcript. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date.

Students may change the designation of any class from credit to audit, or drop out of the "audit" up to the "drop" date indicated above. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees. Please note that this is a **new policy**, beginning in the 2010-2011 academic year.

Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. The last day to voluntarily withdraw from a course without academic penalty (**withdraw**) – Monday, November 14, 2011 (Fall semester) or Friday, March 23, 2012 (Winter semester). A grade of "W" will appear on the student's transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

## **Electronic Etiquette**

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to engage in electronically-enabled activities unrelated to the class during a class session. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Please do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

## **Academic Policies**

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

## **Extensions**

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "Course Extension" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the appropriate deadline (as listed in the Academic Calendar <http://www.ambrose.edu/publications/academiccalendar>). Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

## **Academic Integrity**

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.