

**EDP 504 ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY**

Fall 2021  
 Wed. 4:10 – 6:55 pm, 211 Poe Hall  
 3 credit hours  
 Graduate standing requirement

**Instructor Information:**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an in-depth study of the major theories of classroom learning. Emphasis will be placed on enabling teachers to better understand how students learn; on helping educators identify and remove barriers that impede student learning; and on helping educators develop, utilize and advocate teaching practices, programs, and curriculum that lead to academic success for all. Theories of motivation and belief systems that promote learning will also be addressed.

**TEXTS, READINGS AND INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES**

**Required Text:** None

Article supplement (provided on-line)



**LEAD and SERVE** constitute the conceptual framework for all programs for professional educators in the College of Education at NC State. They are the touchstones that assure that our students graduate with the following:

- ❖ **LEAD:** four forms of knowledge; general pedagogy, content-specific pedagogical strategies, content or discipline knowledge as well as knowledge of the content of education, including foundations, historical perspectives and school settings.
- ❖ **SERVE:** elements that show the range of dispositions developed in our candidates; scholarly, ethical, reflective, valuing diversity and experienced in practical application of knowledge.

**Course Overview**

The course objectives address the following elements of the conceptual framework:

- ❖ **L:** Learn general pedagogy
- ❖ **E:** Educate with content specific strategies for teaching, may include technology
- ❖ **A:** Apply discipline or content specific knowledge
  - Compare and contrast cognitive and behavioral theories of learning and discuss their implications for teaching and learning.
  - Learn to integrate and synthesize research findings on teaching and learning to generate new, more effective teaching activities
  - Compare and contrast theories of motivation and discuss their implications for teaching and learning.
- ❖ **D:** Demonstrate understanding the educational context, i.e., school culture, societal issues
- ❖ **S:** Scholarly knowledge base to guide educational decisions
  - Define educational psychology and explain its significance for teaching and learning.
  - Develop a knowledge base about the role of the teacher and cite current research findings on effective teaching and student achievement
  - Identify strategies for encouraging the achievement of all students.
  - Identify effective classroom management strategies.
- ❖ **E:** Ethical disposition for behaving with respect, integrity, personal responsibility
- ❖ **R:** Reflective and self-evaluative
- ❖ **V:** Value diversity with a sensitivity to cultural, economic, developmental, ethnic, racial, gender, religious and sexual orientation differences
- ❖ **E:** Experienced in practical application of knowledge

**Teaching strategies:** Class discussions, group work, reflection, case study discussions, electronic communication, inquiry activities, lecture

### Major Assignments:

Class Format	
Midterm Exam	50 points
Final Exam	50 points
Project (2 options)	70 points
Focus Group Work	20 points

### Grading Scale

Letter Grade	% Correct Needed	What this grade means
A+	97 %	Demonstrated the highest level of mastery of concepts, including the ability to apply these concepts to real situations
A	93 %	
A-	90 %	
B+	87 %	Demonstrated mastery and ability to apply at least some of these concepts to real situations
B	83 %	
B-	80 %	
C+	77 %	Demonstrated mastery of basic concepts
C	73 %	
C-	70 %	
D+	67 %	Demonstrated minimal mastery of topics
D	63 %	
D-	60 %	
F	< 60 %	Failed to demonstrate mastery of any topics

### *Midterm and Final Exam*

The midterm and final exam are tentatively scheduled for the dates given on the last page of this handout. Each exam will consist primarily of multiple-choice questions with a couple of essay questions. The final is not comprehensive.

If you are absent or late to class the day of a scheduled exam you will not be able to take the exam. If an emergency arises the day of an exam please contact me at my office as soon as possible. For any other conflicts regarding these dates please contact me ahead of time. The midterm exam will be returned and discussed at the beginning of the next class period.

**Course Project – 2 Options:****Option #1: Tutoring System Project**

The goal of this project is to develop a Web-based tutoring system on a topic within the areas of learning and motivation. The objective is to integrate information/concepts learned from the course along with additional outside sources (journal articles, the internet, etc.) to create an informative program to benefit a targeted audience. In essence, you will become “experts” within one particular topic and then share your knowledge with others. Remember that your tutorial should be interesting and engaging . . . a program you would voluntarily choose to interact with. You will present this to the class (approx. 15 min.), receive feedback from your peers in order for you to make improvements, and then provide John with an internet link for assessment. Please consider choosing a topic that will benefit you outside of the realm of classwork (your job, in your teaching, research, hobby, etc.). The project can be completed individually or in a small group (max 3 students). If completed in a group the completion of a confidential “contribution sheet” will be required. Some general topics are below but you should transform these into something more specific for your intended audience. For instance, *Strategies for Improving Metacognitive Monitoring abilities in Reading for 4<sup>th</sup> graders*. Once you have determined your topic inform John of your choice.

Some possible topic areas:

- Memory – Strategies for increasing the effectiveness of one’s memory
- Metacognition
- Behavioral principles applied to education
- Goal Orientation, Growth mindset; the impact of Dweck’s theory
- Attribution Theory
- Problem Solving processes and skills
- Cognitive Study Skills
- The Use of Rewards in Education
- Instructional strategies (e.g., cooperative learning, direction instruction, etc.)
- Implications of theories of intelligence in applied educational settings
- Developing Expertise
- Implicit Beliefs (e.g., reading, knowledge, etc.)
- Research on the teaching of Reading (or an approved discipline, e.g., Science) with ed psych components included
- Being a critical consumer of educational trends
- Technology/game-based learning applications that enhance learning
- The impact of metacognition on creative problem solving

**Option #2: Research Proposal**

Each student will write a proposal for an empirical research study that focus on one or more concepts discussed in the course. The final form of the project will include (a) a written paper 10 pages in length; and (b) an oral presentation of the proposal in class in order to receive feedback for the final version. Research proposals should conform to APA style. The paper should center on a study that could conceivably be executed and submitted this following year to a national or international conference (e.g.,

AERA, APA, IRA, etc.). More details about the structure and assessment of the project will be forthcoming.

\*\*Five points will be deducted from the project score for each day a project is submitted after the submission deadline so make sure to plan ahead.

### ***Focus Group Participation***

The structure for most of the class periods will involve me leading class for about the first hour and a half and then you working within small focus groups for the last part of class. During this time I will have structured activities for you to complete such as describing reactions to a video we've watched, reading and responding to a short article or discussing questions pertaining to the night's topic. You will also take part of this time to discuss the weekly "Be the Educational Psychologist" questions found on our moodle space. The questions relate to educational implications of the topic(s) for the week. Your task is to imagine that you are an educational psychologist and produce an informed answer to shed light on the subject. This means going beyond just mere opinion to produce a research-based response. Therefore, depending on the question, this will most likely include information from the weekly readings or even going beyond these sources to develop a defensible response. Items for the midterm and final exam will be selected from these weekly questions.

During ten class periods you will receive 2 points for participating in your focus group. You will receive full credit each night if you are actively participating on the assigned activity and are present for the entire session. If you miss a focus group for medical reasons you can make it up if you contact me and complete it within the next week.

### ***Class Discussion***

I strongly encourage you to participate in classroom discussion and to ask questions when you do not understand something. I hope to encourage a class with a relaxed atmosphere in which all students feel comfortable participating. The class will be more interesting and thought provoking if the whole class is engaged in the discussion. Therefore, it is very important that you complete the readings to be discussed *before* class. Finally, I hope that this class is enjoyable and rewarding for you and useful to your future career. My goal is for you, as a student, to be able to look back at this class and feel as though it made a significant contribution to your professional and personal development. Feel free along the way to bring interesting materials to class to share and do not hesitate to ask me questions concerning the course or educational psychology in general.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- Students are bound by the academic integrity policy as stated in the code of student conduct. Therefore, students are required to uphold the university pledge of honor and exercise honesty in completing any assignment. See the website for a full explanation: <https://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-11-35-01/>
- Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653. For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see <https://dso.dasa.ncsu.edu>

**Tentative Schedule**

Aug. 18	<i>Class Overview</i>
Aug. 25	<i>Sensory, Short-Term, and Working Memory</i>
Sept. 1	<i>Long-Term Memory</i>
Sept. 8	<i>Encoding, Retrieval, &amp; Metacognition</i>
Sept. 15	<i>Encoding, Retrieval, &amp; Metacognition</i>
Sept. 22	<i>Self-Efficacy &amp; Attribution Theory</i>
Sept. 29	<i>Achievement Goals &amp; Implicit Beliefs</i>
Oct. 6	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
Oct. 13	<i>The Use of Rewards in Education</i>
Oct. 20	<i>Instructional Strategies</i>
Oct. 27	<i>Problem Solving, Creativity, &amp; Critical Thinking</i>
Nov. 3	<i>Technology Contexts and Learning</i>
Nov. 10	<i>Theories of Intelligence and Expertise</i>
Nov. 17	<b>Present Projects</b>
Nov. 24	<i>Open Topic</i>
Dec. 1	<b>Projects Due (midnight)</b>
Dec. 3	<b>Final Exam (3:30-6pm)</b>