



Class Information		Instructor Information		First day of classes:	Wed., Sept. 9, 2015
Days:	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday	Instructor:	Nicki Rehn	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun., Sept 20, 2015
Time:	See course schedule on Moodle	Email:	NRehn@ambrose.edu	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon., Oct. 26, 2015
Room:	RE 112	Phone:	403-4102000 ext. 6927	Last day to withdraw from course:	Thu., Nov. 12, 2015
Lab/Tutorial:	none	Office:	RE 150	Last day to apply for time extension for coursework:	Mon., Nov 23, 2015
FINAL EXAM: n/a		Office Hrs:		Last day of classes:	Mon., Dec 14, 2015

**Textbooks:**

Wiggins, G. & McTighe, J. (2005). *Understanding by Design, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.* Alexandria, Virginia: ASCD.

Hutchinson, N. (2014). *Inclusion of Exceptional Learners in Canadian Schools. A Practical Handbook for Teachers, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed.* Toronto: Pearson Canada.

**Course Description:**

This course introduces models of curriculum design and program development as organizing frameworks for K-6 Schools. Students will examine principles and practices regarding integration of learning theory, evaluation, and assessment. Five curricular commonplaces will be explored: learners and learning, teachers and teaching, subject matter and curriculum schools and classroom, and society and culture. The focus is on the role of the teacher in translating the Alberta Education's Program of Studies, Elementary Education, into longer term learning experiences (units) for teaching for all learners, including those with special needs and those coming from various cultural backgrounds, especially First Nations educational challenges and opportunities. Inquiry is emphasized.

## Expected Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the big ideas and key competencies in a unit of study.
- Write age-appropriate essential questions that drive student thinking into the big ideas.
- Explain what it means to “understand” and list possible evidences of understanding.
- Design summative assessment tasks that measure progress toward and achievement of outcomes.
- Consider the experience of being an ELL student in an Alberta classroom.
- Speak expertly about one learning exceptionality and how to plan for it in your classroom (Autism, FASD, Dyslexia, ADHD, Downs Syndrome, Anxiety Disorder, ODD).
- Make inquiry ubiquitous in your planning.
- Use research literature to formally defend your position on a curriculum issue or demonstrate your understanding of a topic that affects planning.
- Plan a unit of study using backwards design.
- Make a teacher professional growth plan, identify your indicators of success and self-affirm your progress.

## Course Schedule:

See course schedule on Moodle

## Requirements:

Assessment	%	Due Date
Professionalism	15	On-going
Formal Paper	15	See course schedule
Meta-inquiry	20	See course schedule
Unit Plan	50	See course schedule

## Attendance:

### Professional Expectations:

- Take ownership of your learning and professional journey.
- Complete all the readings according to the schedule – expect 2-3 hours per week
- Treat your peers as professional colleagues.
- Submit assignments on time.
- Address issues, conflicts, and differences of opinion promptly and professionally.
- Attend all classes and contribute to discussions, activities, and collaborations.
- Conduct personal business (texting, Facebook/Instagram, phone calls, online shopping...etc) outside of the classroom.
- Challenge your own assumptions, identify biases, consider other perspectives, and think creatively.
- Go beyond the resources and requirements of the program to begin your own professional development journey (mentor, resource binder, personal ideas journal, library..etc.)

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- Find ways to add value to your cohort and your program.

<b>Grade Summary:</b>
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The available letters for course grades are as follows:

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Weight	Description
96-100	A+	4.0	
91-95	A	4.0	Excellent
86-90	A-	3.7	
82-85	B+	3.3	
75-81	B	3.0	Good
72-74	B-	2.7	
68-71	C+	2.3	
63-67	C	2.0	Satisfactory
60-62	C-	1.7	
56-59	D+	1.3	
50-55	D	1.0	Minimal Pass
0-49	F		Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform College-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

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## Policies:

### Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

### Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

### Exam Scheduling

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.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

### 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 use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. 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. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in 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 Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required 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 deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

### Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office

in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

### **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 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 acknowledge 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 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.

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