

# SP20 SCED 490: Science Methods and Curriculum for the Elementary School Credits: 3 credits

**Description:** Online (synchronous/asynchronous) development of tools and strategies to implement effective teaching practices for face-to-face and online instruction.

**Note:** It is strongly advised that students are prepared to take SCED 480 and SCED 490 in consecutive quarters.

**Prerequisites & Notes:** Completion of SCED480

<b>Instructor:</b>	<b>Meeting Time and Office Hours</b>	<b>Communicate via Email, not Canvas Messages:</b>
Josie Melton- pronouns she/her/hers	Weekly Online Class Meeting: Thursdays, 12:30 – 2:15pm Optional Weekly Office Hour: Tuesdays, 12:30 – 1:30pm Zoom link provided via Canvas	<a href="mailto:josie.melton@wwu.edu">josie.melton@wwu.edu</a>

*In order to be flexible and responsive to the needs and interests of students and the course, this syllabus and course agenda is subject to change. Changes, if any, will be announced in Canvas Announcements, and assignments will be updated. Students will be held responsible for all changes.*

**Grade Mode:** On the recommendation of the Academic Coordinating Council Executive Council and the Faculty Senate Executive Council and with the approval of the Provost, the University will move to a Pass/No Pass (P/NP) quarter for all students, with the student option of requesting letter grades at the quarter's conclusion.

**Rationale:** The coronavirus pandemic has led the university to shift to remote learning, a modality that is new for many faculty and students. These uncharted learning conditions, coupled with the current social and economic instability our students are currently experiencing, will create a challenging quarter. This policy offers a simple and consistent approach to assessment which should alleviate student anxiety and encourage a focus on learning. See link ([Links to an external site.](#))for complete information.

**The grading scale is as follows:**

**A 94-100%   A- 90-93%   B+ 87-89%   B 84-86%   B- 80-83%**

**C+ 77-79%   C 74-76%   C- 70-73%   D+ 67-69%   D 64-66%**

**D- 60-63%    F <60%**

**Tentative Schedule:** For a summary of our weekly schedule, visit the **Course Agenda**.

**Course Organization and Requirements:**

Each week, you will be required to attend a synchronous meeting on Thursdays from 12:30-2:15. The rest of the week, you will complete a module based on a weekly theme, asynchronously. The module will consist of individual and group work, to be completed on shared google docs.

1. The class is organized around 9 weekly themes that will begin on 4/7. The Welcome Module will be available the week before, but can also be completed as part of Week 1. You will find the weekly themes published under Pages in Canvas.
2. Incomplete modules may result in the need for an incomplete (K) grade to be assigned. To receive a K grade, a student must print an incomplete (K) grade contract. (Links to an external site.)
3. Your SCED480 OneNote notebook will serve as your Learning Journal. This notebook will hold most work from the weekly modules. Unit planning will be completed on a shared google doc.
4. Attendance/participation: Unless previously excused, your attendance is mandatory during our Thursday synchronous meetings. If you need to miss a meeting for any reason (personal/tech/connectivity issues), please let me know ASAP via email.
5. Late Work: due to current circumstances, late work will be accepted but will affect your Participation & Professionalism grade. Please try to stay on schedule with due dates. This will make my grading job more streamlined.
6. Written assignments must model appropriate grammar, spelling, usage and punctuation. All written work is to be word-processed (double-spaced, 12 point font) unless otherwise specified. Proofread your papers as you would if you were developing a handout for students or parents. The instructor reserves the right to return work for correction prior to grading if there are multiple mistakes in grammar, spelling, and or punctuation.
7. Netiquette Statement:

It is important to recognize that the online classroom is in fact a classroom, and certain behaviors are expected when you communicate with both your peers and your instructors. These guidelines for online behavior and interaction are known as netiquette.

When communicating online, you should:

- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in e-mail or any other written communication.
- Use your professor's preferred name or title.
- Use clear and concise language, and attend to spelling and grammar.

- Avoid slang and text abbreviations.
- Use standard fonts such as Ariel, Calibri, or Times New Roman and a size 12 font.
- Avoid using caps lock AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETED AS YELLING.
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an e-mail or discussion post.
- Be careful with personal information – yours and other’s.
  - Read more about netiquette on this [website \(Links to an external site.\)](#).

**Course Goals & Objectives:** In this course, Preservice Teachers (you) will:

- Examine beliefs in relation to a vision of effective science teaching and learning
- Deepen your subject matter knowledge for teaching science
- Implement an understanding of learners, learning, and issues of diversity and equity in science
- Implement and practice a repertoire of strategies for science instruction and assessment
- Develop the tools and dispositions to study and learn from teaching

### **Major Assignments:**

Major assignments are intended to help you meet specific objectives that align with the course goals listed above. Each assignment will be explained in detail with a rationale and evaluation criteria. Note that in addition to the graded assignments listed below, you will complete a number of assignments that will act as baseline assessments or that as 'works in progress' will not be counted towards your final grade. Weighting of individual assignments towards the final course grade are indicated.

- Initial Reflection (10%)
- Module work (20%)
- Group’s Weekly Extension Activity (20%)
- Online Teaching Experience -Planning and Reflection (20%)
- Evidence of Learning - Revised Individual Lesson Plan (20%)
- Attendance/participation (10%)

### **Required Materials:**

- Readings and supplemental materials will be provided on Canvas.
- Internet access for various resources, not limited to: [Zoom \(Links to an external site.\)](#), [Flipgrid \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- Access to these platforms and websites (access provided by WWU): Canvas, [G-Suite \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

### **Syllabus Policies**

This course will adhere to Western's [Syllabi Policies \(Links to an external site.\)](#) for Academic Honesty, Accommodations, Ethical Conduct with WWU Network and Computing Resources, Equal Opportunity, Student Conduct Code, and Medical Excuse Policy.

Third-Party Software and FERPA: During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these are required assignments, you need not make any personally identifying information available on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname (ensuring the facilitators know how to identify you). Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identifiable/sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor. See [FERPA Toolkit \(Links to an external site.\)](#).

### **Student Services**

Western encourages students to seek assistance and support at the onset of an illness, difficulty, or crisis. As your instructor, I can be a first point of contact to help you find the campus-based resources you may need. Here are some of the resources WWU offers students:

- In the case of a **medical concern or question**, please contact the Health Center (360) 650-3400 or visit its website: <https://studenthealth.wvu.edu/> (Links to an external site.)
- In the case of an **emotional or psychological concern or question**, please contact the Counseling Center: (360) 650-3400 or visit its website: <http://www.wvu.edu/counseling/> (Links to an external site.)
- In the case of a **safety concern**, please contact the University Police: (360) 650-3555 or visit its website: <http://www.wvu.edu/ps/police/> (Links to an external site.)
- In case of **need for academic support of assignments/writing papers**, please contact The Hacherl Writing Center on the second floor of Haggard Hall : <https://library.wvu.edu/rws> (Links to an external site.)
- In the case of a **family or personal crisis or emergency**, please contact the Office of Student Life (360) 650-3706 or its website: <https://wp.wvu.edu/officeofstudentlife/>