EDU 241 – Learners and Diversity
Social & Behavioral Sciences Department

Catalog Course Description: This course is a study of lifespan development and learning with an emphasis on individual and group diversity. The students are required to participate in a field experience. This course transfers to USC College of Education. This course includes a practicum requirement of 30 hours/service/observation in public schools as designated by the instructor.

Prerequisite(s):
ENG 100 or ESL 110, RDG 100 or ESL 100

Credit Hours: 4.0

Departmental Website:
http://www.midlandstech.edu/sbs/

Desire2Learn Login Page:
https://elearn.midlandstech.edu/

Departmental Assistant:
Ms. Jayne Harris (harrisj@midlandstech.edu)

Department Chair:
Mr. Shickre Sabbagha (sabbaghas@midlandstech.edu)

Textbook(s):
Educational Psychology: Developing Learners, BY Jeanne Ellis Ormrod, 7th Edition

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Have a better understanding and appreciation of diversity in the classroom.
2. Be able to recognize the connection between and among theory, research, and practice in order to promote quality teaching and learning.
3. Have acquired a basic knowledge and understanding of the student as learner in relation to the complexities and diversity of learning and in relation to educational conditions that foster a healthy development for students.
4. Understand and assumptions and differences of the major theories of learning as they apply to the classroom.
5. Understand the cognitive, language, social, and emotional dimensions of human development as well as the major development theories in relation to educational practice.
6. Be aware of the multicultural issues in human development study and education.
7. Have an understanding of the needs of exceptional children and adolescent.
8. Be able to foster interaction ad collaboration with teachers and students in school settings.

Course Outcomes and Competencies:

Intended Course Outcome: Students will understand and recognize the application of learning theories and concepts, research, and practices to enhance student learning.

Course Competency: Students will demonstrate recognition of applied learning theories and strategies used to promote learning in a diverse student population.

Performance Measurement Instrument: Students will complete a resource manual containing information on the roles and responsibilities of various government components involved in the administration of schools including the current issues and challenges facing the field of education today. Success criteria is 80% of students will score 80% or better on a standardized assessment rubric.

Course Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes and are responsible for all class work, lectures, and
assignments whether they are present or not.

All students are required to attend a minimum of 85% of their regularly scheduled classes. The maximum number of allowable absences for a class meeting two days per week over the fall and spring semesters is four (4). Absences are counted from the first day of class. All absences are counted. There is NO such thing as excused absence.

**Online Course Attendance:**

Online instructors will establish and communicate to students the guidelines for determining attendance in their online courses. Attendance should be established along the same guidelines as on campus courses (see above). Attendance can be counted in a variety of ways such as identifying how many missing assignments constitute an absence or identifying a certain percentage of assignments that must be turned in for the student to be in attendance the required amount of time. Instructors should withdraw any students who exceed the total number of allowed absences.

**Hybrid Course Attendance:**

Hybrid instructors will count both on ground and online absences (as defined in the course syllabus and policies) in determining total absences in a hybrid course (see above). Instructor should establish and communicate to students what constitutes in class attendance and what constitutes online attendance. Instructor must be specific in what the online activities are and how they are graded. Students should be counted absent when they fail to participate in or submit specified online activities and/or assignments that equate to a class meeting. Tardies apply for on campus portion of course. Instructors should withdraw any students who exceed the total number of allowed absences, whether in class, online, or in combination.

Please note the following: You are responsible for all material and announcements presented, whether you are present or absent.

**Withdrawal:** Should the maximum allowable absences be exceeded prior to midterm, a "W" will be submitted to the registrar to be recorded on the student's transcript. Should the maximum allowable absences be exceeded after midterm, a "W" will be submitted to the registrar if the student was passing the course at the time of withdrawal OR a "WF" will be submitted if the student was failing the course at the time of withdrawal.

**No Shows:** If you register for a course and decide not to attend for any reason, you must complete a drop form and process through the student Records Office. You will not be automatically purged for non-attendance. If you do not submit a drop form, you will be responsible for course tuition and fees. By not officially dropping the course, you will incur a bill with the college that can only be addressed through the College’s Finance Office. The college’s refund policy and dates are posted each semester.

**Administrative Drop Requests:** A student requesting an Administrative Drop resulting from medical, death of family member, and other extenuating circumstances experienced while enrolled at Midlands Technical College should be directed to the Student Ombudsman’s office. Our policy dictates a request must be made no later than 30 days after the affected term. Supporting documentation is required and must be received before the request can be processed. Once the request form is received along with supporting documentation, it takes approximately three weeks for processing. As a result of an approved Administrative Drop Request, the student may be granted a refund of tuition and fees.

According to College Procedure 3.10.1, students having to withdraw from college because of Military Deployment (active duty personnel) while enrolled must complete a withdrawal form and submit to the Records Office along with a copy of military orders.
Disabilities Statement: The staff of Counseling and Career Services works to ensure that all educational programming and services are accessible to otherwise qualified students with disabilities. If you have a concern regarding the accessibility of websites, instructional materials, online courses and other electronic or information technology please contact Counseling and Career Services. It is the student's responsibility to self-disclose as a student with a disability and to request accommodations prior to beginning a program or course. Please contact the staff of Counseling and Career Services at 803-822-3505 (AC) or 803-738-7636 (BC) or via email at disability@midlandstech.edu if you have any questions or concerns.

D2L Brightspace Help:

Online Learning Support Help Desk: Technical questions related to the operation and use of Desire 2 Learn can be answered from our Support Help Desk. A response will be provided within one business day.
To login: use your MTC e-mail account username and password.
(Student Username Example: georgeasmith)
(Faculty Username Example: smithg)

Desire 2 Learn Assistance Online: Technical questions related to the operation and use of Desire 2 Learn can also be answered by leaving the information by telephone at (803) 822-3561, or emailing D2LHelp@midlandstech.edu. A response will be provided within one business day.

For MyMTC log-in issues please call 803-738-7888.

Academic Dishonesty: The students of MTC have adopted the following Honor Code:
As a member of the Midlands Technical College community, I will adhere to the college’s Student Code. I will act honorably, responsibly, and with academic integrity and honesty. I will be responsible for my own academic work and will neither give nor receive unauthorized or unacknowledged aid. I will behave courteously to all members of the MTC community and its guests and will respect college property and the property of others.

- The Student Code (Appendix I of the MTC Student Handbook) defines academic dishonesty, which includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism, collusion, and falsification. Such actions will result in discipline.
- Cheating on tests includes:
  - Copying from another student’s paper.
  - Copying or presenting someone else’s work as your own.
  - Using unauthorized materials during a test.
  - Collaborating with any other person during a test without permission.
  - Knowingly obtaining, using, buying, or selling in whole or part the contents of any test.
  - Bribing any other person to obtain information about tests.
  - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for you.
- Plagiarism is taking another person’s work and using it without giving the source credit in any graded assignment.
- The use of cell phones or other portable electronic devices for purposes of academic dishonesty in any form is strictly prohibited; students who violate this policy will be subject to the disciplinary procedures and sanctions outlined in the Student Code.
- For more information about academic dishonesty, see the Student Code.

If you are suspected of cheating, your instructor will inform you. You may explain or refute the allegation. If your instructor still thinks the charges are founded, you will be referred to the Office of the AVP, SDS. Documentation is submitted to the Office of the AVP, SDS, by your instructor. You will then meet with either Dr. Holloway or Mr. Hayden. After the meeting, you will receive a letter with the sanction grade of zero (0) and any other sanctions deemed appropriate. You will have the right to file an appeal. Once the hearing and the notice of the right to appeal have been completed, instructor will be notified to apply the sanction grade of zero (0).

Course Grading:
Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Superior Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Average Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Below Average Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory Work</td>
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Guidelines for the Use of Portable Electronic Devices

Cell phones and other portable electronic devices may be used in classrooms only for maintaining access to MTC Alerts!, the college's emergency notification system. Other uses of portable electronic devices (for example, leaving class to make or receive phone calls, sending or reading text messages, accessing the internet, taking pictures or videos, listening to music, etc.) will be considered disruptive activities, and the student will be subject to dismissal for the remainder of the class period and can be counted absent for that class meeting.

Faculty in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences hold that the classroom is a learning environment where all students must have an equal opportunity to learn free from any distractions or disruptions. Technological disruptions caused by cell phones, text messaging, PDAs, tablet or laptop use will not be tolerated. All cell phones and other portable electronic devices must be turned off (preferably) or placed on silent mode (not vibrate). In some classroom situations, such as when tests are being administered, an instructor can require students to turn off all electronic devices; at such times, the instructor will be responsible for maintaining access to MTC Alerts!

Exceptions to this guideline may be allowed at the instructor’s discretion for tablet/laptop/PDA use that is related to the course’s specific learning environment. All exceptions to the prohibition against the unauthorized use of technology in the classroom rest upon the sole discretion of the instructor.

The use of portable electronic devices for purposes of academic dishonesty in any form is strictly prohibited; students who violate this guideline will be subject to the disciplinary procedures and sanctions outlined in the Student Code.

MTC Alerts! The instructor may designate one (or more) student volunteer(s) to monitor the MTC emergency text messaging system MTC Alerts! To volunteer for this assignment, please see your instructor. The student MTC Alerts! Volunteer may only use their cell phone to monitor the MTC emergency response text message system (MTC Alerts!) and may not take any other text messages or calls during class. Failure to follow this policy could result in removal as the designated class MTC Alerts! Volunteer. No more than two student volunteers are needed in each class. The instructor can always appoint themselves to be the monitor the MTC Alerts! text messaging network, abrogating the need for student volunteers.

All students are required to attend a minimum of 85% of their regularly scheduled classes. The maximum number of allowable absences for a class meeting two days per week over the fall and spring semesters is four (4). In addition, attendance is taken for the online portion of this class. This is determined by weekly participation in the discussion boards. Students are allowed one (1) absence (failure to participate in weekly discussions) in the online forum. Absences are counted from the first day of class. All absences are counted. There is NO such thing as excused absence.

Please note the following: You are responsible for all material and announcements presented, whether you are present or absent.

Withdrawal: Should the maximum allowable absences be exceeded prior to midterm, a "W" will be submitted to the registrar to be recorded on the student's transcript. Should the maximum allowable absences be exceeded after midterm, a "WF" will be submitted to the registrar if the student was passing the course at the time of withdrawal OR a "WF" will be submitted if the student was failing the course at the time of withdrawal.

Academic Affairs Student Guidelines and Expectations

MTC Student Handbook:
Students are expected to read the *MTC Student Handbook* and abide by its policies. You can find the handbook online at http://www.midlandstech.edu/handbook/; copies are also available at various locations on campus. Some of the more important handbook policies that impact your academic success are listed below.

**Academic Integrity:**

- The students of MTC have adopted the following Honor Code:
  
  *As a member of the Midlands Technical College community, I will adhere to the college’s Student Code. I will act honorably, responsibly, and with academic integrity and honesty. I will be responsible for my own academic work and will neither give nor receive unauthorized or unacknowledged aid. I will behave courteously to all members of the MTC community and its guests and will respect college property and the property of others.*

- The Student Code (Appendix I of the *MTC Student Handbook*) defines academic dishonesty, which includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism, collusion, and falsification. Such actions will result in discipline.

- Cheating on tests includes:
  
  - Copying from another student’s paper.
  - Copying or presenting someone else’s work as your own.
  - Using unauthorized materials during a test.
  - Collaborating with any other person during a test without permission.
  - Knowingly obtaining, using, buying, or selling in whole or part the contents of any test.
  - Bribing any other person to obtain information about tests.
  - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for you.

- Plagiarism is taking another person’s work and using it without giving the source credit in any graded assignment.

- The use of cell phones or other portable electronic devices for purposes of academic dishonesty in any form is strictly prohibited; students who violate this policy will be subject to the disciplinary procedures and sanctions outlined in the Student Code.

- For more information about academic dishonesty, see the Student Code.

**Class Attendance and Participation:**

Students are responsible for meeting all attendance and participation requirements outlined in each course syllabus.

**Portable Electronic Devices:**

Cell phones and other portable electronic devices may be used in classrooms only for maintaining access to *MTC Alerts!*, the college’s emergency notification system. Other uses of portable electronic devices (for example, leaving class to make or receive phone calls, sending or reading text messages, accessing the internet, taking pictures or videos, listening to music, etc.) will be considered disruptive activities, and the student will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Student Email Accounts (*MyMTC* Email):**

- All MTC students are assigned a college email account called *MyMTC* Email. For access, follow the link on the *Enrolled Students* page or go to http://www.midlandstech.edu/myemail.

- *MyMTC* Email is the primary way the college communicates with students. You are responsible for checking your college email regularly for important information and announcements about registration, financial aid, cancelled classes, emergencies, etc.

- Students can use their college email accounts to communicate with faculty, staff, fellow students, and others, as well as to maintain personal calendars and task lists.

- In addition to using *MyMTC* Email, students may also be required to communicate with instructors through Desire 2 Learn (D2L, the college-wide learning management system), or through course-specific software, such as MyMathLab.

*MyMTC:*
The college conducts business with students through MyMTC, which provides many services and resources, including access to transcripts, grades, and program evaluations; information about financial aid status; and how to search and register for courses. To access MyMTC, follow the link on the Enrolled Students page or go to http://mymtc.midlandstech.edu.

Children on Campus:

Children are generally not permitted on campus except for special events. Children are not permitted in classes, labs, or advisors’ offices. Children can never be left unattended on campus, including in the library, the Academic Success Center, or parking lots.

Inclement Weather Policy:

- If weather conditions or other emergencies cause the college to close or open late, announcements will be made over local radio and TV stations, on the MTC website, and on the college’s information line (803-738-8324).
- Notices will be sent to students via MyMTC Email and MTC Alerts! when applicable.
- Check for separate announcements for day and evening classes because weather conditions can change during the day.
- Inclement weather schedules: In standard non-lab and non-clinical classes, if the college closing or reopening means that there is at least 30 minutes of a class remaining, plan to attend that class. For example, if the college opens at 10 a.m., classes that normally meet at 8 a.m. will not meet, but classes that normally begin at 9:35 a.m. will begin at 10 a.m. Similarly, if the college closes at 8 p.m., 6 p.m. classes will meet for their regular time, but 7:35 p.m. classes will not meet.
- Check your syllabus for specific information about the inclement weather policy for that course.

Campus Emergency Protocol:

- To report safety concerns or suspicious activities, call Campus Security at 7850 (on campus) or 738-7850 (cell phone or off campus).
- To report a security emergency, call Campus Security at 738-7199 or dial local 911 immediately.
- The college also provides emergency call boxes; look for these red call boxes in or near parking lots on all campuses.
- If a college-wide emergency occurs, the college will communicate additional information and instructions in a number of ways, including the MTC Information Centers, campus loud speakers, MyMTC Email, the MTC website, and MTC Alerts!. To sign up for MTC Alerts! and receive emergency notifications on your cell phone, go to: http://www.midlandstech.edu/Phone_Alert.htm.

Student Evaluation of Instruction:

Toward the end of the semester, students will be encouraged to participate in evaluating their courses. You can complete this confidential evaluation through MyMTC using your username and password. Announcements will be made during the term concerning how and when to complete the online evaluation.

Students Requiring Special Accommodations:

- If a student with a disability requires special accommodations, the student should go to Counseling Services in the Student Center on Beltline or Airport Campus for assistance. Documentation regarding a specific disability is required in order for special arrangements to be made. All information received will remain confidential.
For more information, follow the Disability Resource Centers link under Online Resources on the Enrolled Students page.