

Introduction to Education Concurrent Enrollment Course

SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

NEW OPPORTUNITY

Southwest Minnesota State University has received partial funding from the Minnesota Department of Education to develop and offer an "Introduction to Education" course for the 2018-19 school year through the College Now program. The purpose for this funding is to encourage teaching as a profession in an effort to address the existing and increasing teacher shortage issues prevalent across Minnesota. It is our goal to spark an interest in the field of Education early in a student's college experience. The course will be offered in the high school setting and will be equivalent to the Introduction to Education course taught on the SMSU campus.

CLASS DESCRIPTION

An introduction to early childhood, elementary, and secondary education for students interested in teaching. Includes study of historical and social foundations of education topics such as inquiry into the teaching and learning process, schools in a multicultural and diverse society, the profession of teaching principles of cooperative group learning and cultural differences, communication, and stereotyping. Fifteen hours of field experience is required.

TARGET STUDENTS

This opportunity is geared towards, but not limited to, junior and senior American Indian students and students of color attending high schools that are located in the Southwest West Central Service Cooperative 18-County Region. These counties include: Big Stone, Swift, Kandiyohi, Meeker, Lac Qui Parle, Chippewa, McLead, Renville, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Pipestone, Murry, Cottonwood, Rock, Nobels and Yellow Medicine; however, all districts are encouraged to apply for consideration.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

This course is intended for junior and senior high school students who are considering Education as a possible future career. Concurrent enrollment eligibility requirements are as follows:

Seniors - need to have a 3.0 GPA or above and be in the top half of their graduating class

Juniors - need to have a 3.0 GPA or above and be in the top third of their graduating class

WHAT TO EXPECT

There will be a limited number of schools chosen to offer Introduction to Education at their high school. Because of this, there will be an application process for each school. All information will be available on the website at smsu.edu/academics/collegenow on the Introduction to Education tab.

This course is not guaranteed; high schools will be selected and notified no later than April 6th.

The College Now Education Coordinator will be in contact with each school to answer any questions and to set up visits or provide an education night. These education nights will help to answer any other questions from administration and/or parents and students.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT AT SMSU

Concurrent Enrollment classes are university level classes offered at the high school to junior and senior students during their regular school day. (High school students reduce duplication of classes and save time and money by earning both high school and university credits at the same time.)

Instructors are qualified high school teachers who meet SMSU requirements and faculty approval to be facilitative teachers. Instructor qualifications, syllabi, assignments, textbooks, exams and grading requirements are equivalent to those at SMSU. Classes are monitored by supervising faculty from SMSU.

SMSU has selected a group of courses appropriate for delivery to regional high schools via concurrent enrollment. The majority of these courses are lower-division, general education courses which have been certified as meeting the requirements of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum. This designation indicates the course meets state-wide curricular standards. These courses offer participants flexible educational options for their future college careers and support statewide higher education goals.



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