

**College of Education
Northern Kentucky University
EDG 646 Teaching Environmental Education
3 credit hours Spring 2003**



"Providing for the educational needs of all students"

The College of Education will prepare exemplary educators who demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions necessary to provide for the educational needs of all students in a diverse and technological society.

Professor: Dr. Yvonne Meichtry **Office:** BEP 160 & NS 446 **Phone:** 572-6380

Office Hours: Monday 1:00-3:00 PM, Friday 10:00-Noon, & by appointment

Email: meichtryy@nku.edu

Textbooks: NAAEE. *Excellence in Environmental Education: Guidelines for Learning K-12*.
Meichtry, Y.J. *Teaching Environmental Education: Course Handbook EDG 646*.
Campus Books, Highland Heights, KY: NKU

Student Activities, Evaluation, and Grading Policy

1. **Journal article reviews:** Each student will review and critique two journal articles relating to environmental education. One article will be practitioner-based and the other article will be research-based. Each student will present a summary and critique of each article to the class. Guidelines & assessment rubric are on Blackboard site.
2. **Exam:** An exam is scheduled to be taken during class time as indicated on the course calendar.
2. **Environmental Education Improvement Plan (Final Project):** Each student will design a project which relates to the improvement of classroom environmental education instruction. This project needs prior approval of the course instructor and will be presented during final exam week through the use of electronic media. Guidelines & assessment rubric are on Blackboard site
3. **Reading Schedule:** Reading assignments are indicated on the course calendar attached. Students should be prepared to discuss readings during class. Readings are to be used as a reference for activities and assignments throughout the course.
4. **Weekly Class Activities:** You must be present in class to complete class activities! They cannot be "made up" after an absence.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES:

Syllabus: The instructor reserves the right to make changes in the syllabus and/or course calendar if circumstances so dictate.

Attendance: To a large extent, the degree of students’ success will depend on class attendance. For any class session missed, it is the student’s responsibility to secure notes from other students and course materials from the instructor. Notification/explanation for absences should be provided to the instructor.

Assignments: Complete all assignments on time. Exceptions or extensions may be granted if warranted and only if the professor is notified in advance. 10% of the original point value of an assignment is deducted for assignments which are up to 3 school days late. Additional points will be deducted for assignments which are later. Assignments will not be accepted after 1 week except in extreme circumstances, as determined by the instructor. Assignments WILL NOT be accepted after the last scheduled class meeting.

Collaboration: Collaborate responsibly with colleagues. Students are expected to work cooperatively and fulfill their collegial responsibilities.

Professionalism: Interact professionally with professor and classmates. Students must demonstrate respectful standards of behavior during class discussion.

Cheating, plagiarism, and illegal copying of software or web pages will not be tolerated. University and School of Education policies will be followed in such circumstances. To take information directly from another source without giving credit to or citing the original source is plagiarism. Plagiarism is in violation of copyright laws and NKU's Student Honor. Refer to <http://www.nku.edu/~library/howto/plagiarism.shtml> for information on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it.

The **final grade** will be determined in the following manner:

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Points</u>
Exam	100
Journal article reviews	100
Final Project	150
Professionalism	100
TOTAL POINTS	450

GRADING SCALE		
500 Pts=100%		
A	Superior	92-100%
B	Above Ave.	85-91%
C	Average	75-84%
D	Below Ave.	70-74%
F	Failure	Below 70%

Course Description and Objectives

The purpose of this course is to improve the skills and theoretical knowledge base needed to be an effective environmental educator. The course will provide opportunities for students to 1) gain knowledge of the five goals of EE, 2) gain experiential knowledge of teaching methods to help develop the environmental literacy of all students, 3) gain knowledge of national environmental education standards and state initiatives to develop standards, 4) correlate environmental education standards with KY Core Content for Assessment in a variety of subject areas, 5) gain knowledge of local & state community resources, 6) critically examine environmental education literature and curriculum resources, 7) use current learning theory and knowledge of national and state standards to justify choices made in selecting curriculum resources and delivering environmental instruction to K-12 students, & 8) design an individual, standards-based environmental education improvement plan for classroom or school use.

The format for the course will consist primarily of experiential learning. Students will be actively engaged in activities, class presentations, class discussions, & reflective thinking about their own learning and the learning of K-12 students.

EDG 646 specifically addresses the following Kentucky Experienced Teacher Education Standards (means of assessment noted in boldface):

Standard 1: *The teacher provides professional leadership within the school, community, and education profession to improve student learning and well-being.*

Performance Criteria:

- 1.3 Participates in professional organizations and activities.
Project Wild, Project Learning Tree, & Leopold Education Project Programs (On demand task)
- 1.4 Writes and speaks effectively.
Journal Article Reviews (On demand task), EE Improvement Plan (Project)
- 1.8 Initiates and develops educational projects and programs.
EE Improvement Plan (Project)

Standard 2: *The teacher demonstrates content knowledge within own disciplines(s) and in application to teacher disciplines.*

Performance Criteria:

- 2.2 Communicates a current knowledge of discipline(s) to be taught.
Journal Article Reviews (On demand task), Exam (Test), EE Improvement Plan (Project)
- 2.3 Demonstrates a general knowledge that allows for integration of ideas and information across disciplines.
EE Improvement Plan (Project)

Standard 3: *The teacher designs/plans instruction that develops student abilities to use communication skills, apply core concepts, become self-sufficient individuals, become responsible team members, think and solve problems, and integrate knowledge.*

Performance Criteria:

- 3.1 Focuses instruction on one or more of Kentucky's learning goals and academic expectations.
EE Improvement Plan (Project)
- 3.3 Integrates skills, thinking processes, and content across disciplines.
EE Improvement Plan (Project)
- 3.4 Creates and utilizes learning experiences that challenge, motivate and actively involve the learner.
EE Improvement Plan (Project)
- 3.5 Creates and utilizes learning experiences that are developmentally appropriate for learners.
EE Improvement Plan (Project)
- 3.8 Includes creative and appropriate use of technologies to improve student learning.
EE Improvement Plan (Project)
- 3.10 Secures and uses a variety of appropriate school and community resources to support learning.
EE Improvement Plan (Project)
- 3.11 Develops and incorporates learning experiences that encourage students to be adaptable, flexible, resourceful, and creative.
EE Improvement Plan (Project)

Standard 7: *The teacher reflects on and evaluates teaching/learning.*

Performance Criteria:

7.3 Assess programs and curricula; proposes appropriate recommendations and needed adjustments.

Curriculum Resource Review (On demand task)

Standard 9: *The teacher evaluates own overall performance in relation to Kentucky's learner goals and implements a professional development plan.*

Performance Criteria:

9.1 Establishes priorities for professional growth.

EE Improvement Plan (Project)

9.4 Applies to instruction the knowledge, skills, and processes acquired through professional development.

EE Improvement Plan (Project)

Standard 10 *The teacher uses technology to support instruction; access and manipulate data; enhance professional growth and productivity; communicate and collaborate with colleagues, parents, and the community; and conduct research.*

Performance Criteria:

10.6 Uses the computer to do work processing, create data bases and spreadsheets, access electronic mail and the Internet, make presentations, and use other emerging technologies to enhance professional productivity and support instruction.

EE Improvement Plan (Project)

10.14 Uses computers and other technology for individual, small group, and large group learning activities.

EE Improvement Plan (Project)

Tentative Course Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Due</u>
W 1/15	Course Pre-Survey Overview of EE History of EE Professional Organizations	HB 1-52	
W 1/22	Using the Environment as an Integrating Context State and Local EE Initiatives Professional Organizations	HB 53-66 EIC Report	
W 1/29	National EE Standards K-12 Guidelines KY Core Content	Land, Legacy, Learning Guidelines for K-12 Learning http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/envred/	
W 2/5	Goals of EE Awareness	HB 103-123	
W 2/12	Goal of EE: Knowledge	HB 124-136	
W 2/19	EE Reception, Kenton County Library		
W 2/26	Goal of EE: Attitudes/Values	HB 137-164	
W 3/5	Goal of EE: Citizen Action Skills	HB 165-185	
W 3/12	NKU Spring Break		
W 3/19	Goal of EE: Citizen Action Experience	HB 186-211	
W 3/26	Article Review 1 Presentations Exam		Article Review 1
W 4/2	Outdoor Education Grants Lick Elementary School (Outdoor classroom, greenhouse, biology museum, & science lab)	HB 212-222 KY Outdoor Education booklet	
W 4/9	NKU Campus, NS 449 Guidelines of Evaluation of EE Curriculum Resources, Mary Kathryn Dickerson, Boone, Campbell, & Kenton County Conservation District		
W 4/16	Field Trip - Environmental Education Center A.J. Jolly Park		
W 4/23	KY NEED Program		
W 4/30	Article Review 2 Sharing Summary of Teaching Strategies Course Post-Survey		Article Review 2 Final Project (Written Report)
W 5/7	Final Project Presentations		Oral Presentation

Bibliography

- American Forestry Foundation (1993). Project Learning Tree Pre K – 8.
- Caduto, M. & Bruchac, J. (1999). Keepers of the Earth. Fulcrum Publishing. CO: Golden.
- Campbell County Extension Service. Environmental Education Resources. Highland Heights, KY.
- Cincinnati Nature Center. Trail Activities. OH: Cincinnati.
- Cornell, J (1979). Sharing Nature with Children. Ananda Publications.
- Cornell, J (1989). Sharing the joy of Nature. Nevada City, CA.
- Hungerford, H. et.al (1990). Investigating and Evaluating Environmental Issues and Actions: Skill Development Program. Champaign, IL.
- Kagan, S (1992). Cooperative Learning. Publisher: Kagan Cooperative Learning.
- Kentucky Environmental Education Council (2001), Be a Solid Waste Survivor. Frankfort, KY.
- Kentucky Environmental Education Council (1996). Developing, Using, & Maintaining Outdoor Classrooms in Kentucky. Frankfort, KY.
- Kentucky Environmental Education Council (1991), Land, Legacy and Learning. Frankfort, KY.
- Doug LaFollette (1991). The Survival Handbook, Madison, WI: Wisconsin Environmental Decade
- Lawrence Hall of Science. Full Option Science Study (FOSS).
- Lawrence Hall of Science : Great Explorations in Math and Science (GEMS) Activity Books. Berkeley.
- Lawrence Hall of Science. Science Education for Public Understanding (SEPUP).
- Lieberman, G. & Hoody, L. (1998). Closing the Achievement Gap. Poway, CA: Science Wizards.
- National Wildlife Federation (1985). CLASS Project: Hazardous Substances Simulation Game.
- Nicholson-Nelson, K (1988). Developing Students' Multiple Intelligences. New York: Scholastic.
- North South Wales Department of Education (1988). Environmental Education Curriculum Statement K-12.
- Pheasants Unlimited. Leopold Education Project. MN: St. Paul
- Suess, Dr (1971). The Lorax. New York: Random House.
- Unesco-UNEP (1983). Teaching Methodologies in EE from Environmental Education Module for Inservice Training of Science Teachers and Supervisors for Secondary Schools, Environmental Education Series Number 8. Paris, France.
- University of WI Madison, Institute of Environmental Studies (1990). Earthwatching III. Madison, WI.

Western Regional Environmental Education Council (1992). Project Wild K-12 Education Activity Guide. TX: Houston.

Western Regional Environmental Education Council (1992). Project Wild Aquatic Education Activity Guide. TX: Houston.

Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education, Annotated Bibliography of EE Resources, Stevens Point, WI

Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education, Bibliography of Children's Books, Stevens Point, WI

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (1985). A Guide to Curriculum Planning: Environmental Education. Madison, WI.

UNESCO (1977). The Tbilisi Declaration. Tbilisi, Georgia (USSR).

Zero Population Growth (1989). Food for Thought. Washington DC

Zero Population Growth (1989). Earth: Apple of our Eye. Washington DC

Websites

Blackboard

<http://learnonline.nku.edu>

To log in, use your NKU email name as your "Username" and for your password use the first four letters of your last name and the last four letters of your social security number (all lower case).

Excellence in Environmental Education Guidelines for Learning (K-12)

<http://www.naaee.org/npeee/learnerguidelines/12thp2.html>

Implementation Manuals (KDE)

<http://www.kde.state.ky.us/oapd/curric/Publications/ImplementationManual/>

Kentucky Association for Environmental Education

www.kaee.org

KY Core Content for Assessment

http://www.kde.state.ky.us/oapd/curric/corecontent/core_content_index_version_30.asp

Kentucky Department of Education <http://www.kde.state.ky.us>

Kentucky Environmental Education Council

<http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/envred/>

KY Program of Studies <<ftp://meichtryy:@www.nku.edu/www/EDU308003sp02.pdf>>
(<http://www.kde.state.ky.us/oapd/curric/Publications/ProgramofStudies/tocpos.html>)

Leopold Education Project: www.lep.org

NKU Science Education (Professional development, weblinks, K-12 students)
www.nku.edu/~scienceed

North American Association for Environmental Education
www.naee.org

Project Learning Tree: www.plt.org

Project Wild: www.projectwild.org

STUDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the following form and return to the professor. All information will be kept confidential and will facilitate the professor contacting you, if necessary. Your signature and the date will indicate that you have received a copy of the course syllabus for EDG 646/EDU 599, have read it, had it explained by the professor, and understand its contents.

NAME _____ **DATE** _____

HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

Other Phone _____ **Best Time** _____

Preferred EMAIL _____

I have read and understand the information presented in the course syllabus for EDG 646, *Teaching Environmental Education*, Spring 2003, Northern Kentucky University.

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____



**Northern Kentucky University
College of Education Permission Form
EDG 646-E01, Teaching Environmental Education, Spring 2003**

I hereby give Dr. Yvonne Meichtry permission to use my photograph & coursework (print, video, CDs, and still photos) for the purpose of sharing with other teachers and education professionals. I understand that this material might appear in written or electronic form, including booklets, videos, CD, photos (still and video), and web pages.

Signature _____

Name Printed _____

Date _____

*If you would prefer that your name **not** appear on these materials, please sign here:*
