

**Early Childhood/Elementary/Middle Level Education Department**  
**ELE 3340 Social Studies for Elementary School Children**

**Fall 2008; Section 5**

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**Unit Theme:** Educator as creator of effective educational environments: integrating diverse students, subjects, strategies and technologies.

**Catalog Description:** ELE 3340: Social Studies for the Elementary School Children (3-0-3). Planning and organizing for instruction, material selection, and evaluation in social studies. Field based activities will be provided in Elementary Education 4000.

**Prerequisites:** Elementary Education 3000; and concurrent enrollment in Elementary Education 3290, Elementary Education 4000, and Elementary Education 4880, or permission of department chair. University Teacher Education requirements apply and department requirements for enrollment must be met.

**Prerequisites & Concurrent Enrollment:**

**Course Purpose:** The primary purpose of social studies is to help young people develop the ability to “make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world.” (NCSS, *Expectations of Excellence*, p. vii). ELE 3340 is structured to assist in preparing preservice teachers to teach social studies in elementary and middle schools. Course goals include helping preservice teachers to develop: a) confidence in their teaching abilities; b) knowledge of social studies content and sequences; and c) the ability to select and utilize developmentally and age appropriate materials and techniques. ELE 3340 is essential in helping preservice teachers acquire knowledge, interactive and informational processing skills, attitudes, and commitments necessary for effective teaching of the social studies in elementary and middle schools.

**Course Textbooks:**

Welton, David. A., *Children and their World: Strategies for teaching social studies*. 8th Edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2004.

National Council for the Social Studies. *Expectations of excellence: Curriculum standards for the social studies*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1994.

**Supplemental Materials:**

Live Text account

**Teaching Model:** The Social Family: Building the Learning Community Models.

Joyce, B., Weil, M., & Calhoun, E. (2009). *Models of teaching*. (8th ed.). Boston: Pearson.

**Dispositions:**

Teacher candidates in the department of EC/ELE/MLE will exhibit professional ethical practices, effective communication, sensitivity to diversity, and the ability to provide varied teaching practices evidenced in a supportive and encouraging atmosphere for learning.

**Live Text Assessment Requirement:** For those classes with Live Text or Practicum- If the portfolio or Live Text requirements are rated, by the instructor, to have been completed in less than a satisfactory manner then no more than a "D" may be earned in the class regardless of the number of points earned.

**Standards related to ELE 3340:**

**Course Requirements & demonstrated competencies with the following standards:**

- Illinois Professional Teaching Standards (IPTS)
- <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/profprep/PDFs/ipts.pdf>
- Language Arts Standards for all Illinois Teachers (LASIT)
- [http://www.isbe.net/profprep/CASCDvr/pdfs/24110\\_corelangarts\\_std.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/profprep/CASCDvr/pdfs/24110_corelangarts_std.pdf)
- Technology Standards for all Illinois Teachers (TSIT)
- [http://www.isbe.net/profprep/CASCDvr/pdfs/24120\\_coretechnology.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/profprep/CASCDvr/pdfs/24120_coretechnology.pdf)
- ISTE/NETS standards for all teachers and for pre-service teachers prior to student teaching
- [http://cnets.iste.org/teachers/t\\_profile-pro.html](http://cnets.iste.org/teachers/t_profile-pro.html)
- SPA Standards Alignment (Special Professional Association Standards) based on
- ACEI (Association for Childhood Education International) program standards for elementary teacher preparation
- <http://www.acei.org/Synopsis.htm> and <http://www.acei.org/ncateindex.htm>
- NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) NAEYC
- [http://www.naeyc.org/accreditation/next\\_era.asp](http://www.naeyc.org/accreditation/next_era.asp)

**Outcomes specific to ELE 3340:**

Students will:

- Demonstrate commitment to continuing enhancement of knowledge bases in the Social Studies and in best practice pedagogy
- Search, evaluate, and apply appropriate resources including primary sources
- Develop conceptually connected themed curriculum
- Ground pedagogy in democratic beliefs and values (NCSS)
- Utilize inquiry and critical thinking in curriculum development
- Place emphasis on “reasoned and informed decision making for the common good in a diverse and interdependent world,” according to the NCSS definition of competent citizenship, the goal of the Social Studies.

Course Requirements	Demonstrated Competencies	Aligned Standards
Participation	Performance includes discussion, volunteer input, engagement with others, and cooperative learning situations that relate to social issues and social concerns. Focus is on critical citizenship education that results in constructive social action	ACEI 5.3 IPTS 7, 9, 10 ISTE 1 LASIT 2
Integrated Social Studies Curriculum Unit	Performance includes application of technology skills in researching topics; and development activities reflecting creativity, higher order thinking skills, different learning styles, and multiple assessments. Qualitative and developmentally appropriate children’s literature will be collected and applied in unit projects. Focus is on the design of integrated and themed curriculum for comprehensive social studies and citizenship in a global village, including the creation of learning environments that invite development of healthy self-concept and pro-social behaviors. A research paper with multiple sources will be part of the unit.  LiveText uploads will be submitted from the Social Studies Curriculum Unit.	ACEI 2.8, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5 IPTS 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 ISTE 2, 3 LASIT 1, 2, 3
Group Presentations	Performance includes demonstration of effective communication skills; application of technology tools; and utilization of productivity tools such as Power Point or LiveText. Focus is on dissemination of social studies content knowledge.	ACEI 3.5, 5.4 IPTS 7, 9 ISTE 2, 5 LASIT 2
Literature/ Journal/Internet Reviews	Performance may include assembling and evaluating books for a literacy circle, reading an article provided by the instructor and submitting a reaction paper and/or locating relevant social studies sources, topics, issues, and providing a reflection paper. Focus is on utilization of vital social issues, current events, enhancement of the concept, and experience of thoughtful democratic citizenship.	ACEI 5.2 IPTS 1, 9, 10 ISTE 4, 6 LASIT 2
Selected Assignments	Performance includes demonstration of content knowledge, research skills, multiple perspectives, and creativity. Diverse and appropriate technology tools will be utilized. Focus is on the promotion of higher-order thinking skills and decision making, in support of and as applied to individual uniqueness and cultural pluralism.	ACEI 3.2 IPTS 1, 2, 5, 11 ISTE 4 LASIT 1, 2, 3
Final Exam	The course final exam will be administered during exam week as scheduled and as required by Internal Governing Policy #44, Eastern Illinois University	

Core Assignment	Brief Description	Weight
Participation	Forms of student participation are listening, reflecting, responding, and contributing to class and group projects, discussions, and presentations. 70 pts	10%
Integrated Social Studies Curriculum Unit	Within the unit, social studies lead several subject areas (math, literacy, science) in investigation of an essential question. Resources are assembled and reviewed. Lesson plans are developed to enable diverse learners to explore, explain, elaborate and respond to unit components. A 2 page research paper on the era of the unit will be discussed in class.  LiveText uploads will be submitted from the Unit. 305 pts	43%
Journal / Internet reviews	Journal review/ rubric will be supplied 28 pts	4%
Exams	Tests reflect course objectives. A final exam is required. (EIU IGP#44) 310 pts	43%

**Grading Scale:** A= 100-93%, B = 92 – 84%, C = 83 – 75%

## COURSE OUTLINE

### BUILDING A FRAMEWORK

#### 1. Dynamics of Social Studies

Democratic Citizenship  
Nature and Origins  
Citizenship Education

#### 2. Knowledge Base of Social Studies

History and the Human Experience  
History and the Social Sciences

#### 3. Organization of Social Studies Programs

Traditional models  
Alternative models  
Elements of SS program design

### CONTEXTS FOR TEACHING SOCIAL STUDIES

#### 4. Dimensions of Cultural Diversity

Cultural diversity  
Ethnic diversity  
Gender equity education  
Multicultural education  
Teaching and respecting religious diversity

#### 5. Dimensions of Instructional Diversity

Physical and emotional diversity  
Educational diversity

#### 6. Developing Character and Values

Defining and building character  
Service learning and responsible citizenship  
Literature based techniques for values education

#### 7. Social Studies: Gateway to Literacy

Oral language and listening, ELL  
Reading and writing for social study  
Constructing meaning