

**Course Title:** Introduction to Education

**Course Description:** Provides an introduction to teaching as a profession in the American education system. Offers a variety of perspectives on education including historical, philosophical, social, legal, and ethical issues in a diverse society. Includes organizational structure and school governance. A clinical component is required.

**Semester Credit Hours:** 3

**Prerequisites:** None

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### **Course Objectives/Standards**

*based on the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards (IPTS)*

There are two levels that correspond to the standards/indicators identified below:

- Introduced: Concepts/materials are covered at a beginning level of knowledge and/or skill.
- Met: Concepts/materials are covered at a proficient level of knowledge and/or skill.

Upon successful completion of this course, the candidate will be able to:

#### ***Knowledge Objectives***

- Understand how students' learning is influenced by individual experiences, talents, and prior learning as well as language, culture, family, and community values (IPTS: 3C – Introduced)
- Understand personal cultural perspectives and biases and their effects on one's teaching (IPTS: 3F – Introduced)
- Understand how to use various technological tools to access and manage information (IPTS: 4G – Introduced)
- Understand how cultural and gender differences can affect communication in the classroom (IPTS: 7B – Introduced)
- Understand the social, intellectual, and political implications of language use and how they influence meaning (IPTS: 7C – Introduced)
- Understand schools as organizations within the larger community context (IPTS: 9A – Introduced)
- Understand that reflection is an integral part of professional growth and improvement of instruction (IPTS: 10A – Introduced)

AAT Sample Course Syllabus – September 2003

- Understand methods of inquiry that provide for a variety of self assessment and problem-solving strategies for reflecting on practice (IPTS: 10B – Introduced)
- Understand the unique characteristics of education as a profession and a professional code of conduct as defined by the Illinois School Code (IPTS: 11A – Met)
- Understand how school systems are organized and operate (IPTS: 11B – Introduced)
- Understand school policies and procedures (IPTS: 11C – Introduced)
- Understand legal issues in education (IPTS: 11D – Introduced)
- Understand the importance of active participation and leadership in professional education organizations (IPTS: 11E – Introduced)
- Be familiar with the rights of students with disabilities (IPTS: 11F – Introduced)

**Course Content/Topics:**

- I. Social Context
- II. Diversity
- III. Communication in the Classroom
- IV. Organization and Operation Procedures
- V. Legal Issues
- VI. School Policies and Governance
- VII. Professionalism
- VIII. School Programs and Practices
- IX. Historical Foundations
- X. Ethical Issues
- XI. Standards, Basic Skills, Portfolios

**Sample of Acceptable Course Assignments/Assessments/Artifacts:**

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Group presentations
- Panel discussions
- Class discussions
- Personal educational autobiography
- Pre- and post-philosophy paper
- Case studies
- Article analysis
- Current events
- Observation and reflection papers
- Interviews
- Pre- and post-attitudinal surveys