Foundations in Education
Education and Training Career Cluster: Educators in Training
Course Syllabus – Saraland High School
Ms. Easley 2024-2025

Course Description: Foundations in Education is the foundational course for both the Educators in Training and the Early Childhood Education programs. It presents a broad overview of the work of education professionals, the history of education, the roles and responsibilities of educators, strategies for creating and presenting engaging lessons and activities, methods of measuring student progress, and the domains of development. Foundations in Education is the gateway to specialized courses and internship opportunities in the Education and Training cluster. Observation opportunities are strongly encouraged.

Prerequisite: N/A

Program/ Instructional Plan: The Education and Training program of Career and Technical Education focuses on preparing students for teaching careers serving children and youth from birth through high school and for education-related careers outside of the traditional classroom setting. Courses in this program introduce concepts of brain development, pedagogy, classroom practices, and professional expectations. Certain fundamental understandings which support the Education and Training program must be embraced by schools and school districts in order to provide students with the best possible experiences in the classroom and in the field. These position statements summarize the requirements for an effective Education and Training program.

Course Goal:
- Describe effective communication skills required in the teaching, administration, and professional support services professions.
- Determine professional organizations that impact the education profession.
- Identify the history, current trends, initiatives, and issues in education with the United States.
- Apply mathematical, reading, writing, critical-thinking and problem-solving skills to effectively perform in the educational setting.
- Explain the impact of goal- setting, teamwork, and required skills in the field of education.

Assessment Procedures: Students will be assessed by their performance on projects, reports, presentation, lesson planning, and teaching.

Safety Test: There is ONE formal test in the class that MUST be passed with 100% in order to receive credit. Students may take the test up to two (2) times without penalty. After that, the student will receive the highest grade received during their attempts. However, the student will NOT be allowed to participate in activities in which their safety could be a concern.

Artificial Intelligence: This course will allow—in some cases, even encourage—the use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI) techniques in some assignments. Unless otherwise indicated, the default is that this kind of use is prohibited. GAI use must be recognized and referenced. Academic misconduct will be the result of breaking this policy and could result in loss of credit for the assignment(s) as referenced in the cheating policy in the Saraland City Schools' Student Handbook. It is the student's responsibility to follow the requirements of each course or assignment.

Grading Scale: 60% Summative Assessments 40% Formative Activities

CTSO: Career and technical student organizations (**FCCLA**) are integral, cocurricular components of each career and technical education course. These organizations serve as a means to enhance classroom instruction

while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and broaden opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Embedded literacy/ Numeracy: Teaching and Training STAR Event FCCLA: Students will develop a teaching portfolio with written summaries of interviews from business, industry, agency, and organizations, or a written narrative of job shadowing. Students will create a monthly budget with their future teaching salary demonstrating knowledge of mathematics.

Student Industry Credential: N/A

Course Fee: There is a required **$25.00** course fee. Students who do not pay the course fee will not be able to participate in labs nor will they receive their schedule the following school year until the fee has been paid. Please take care of this as soon as possible.

Supply List: 3 ring binder, pens and pencils, highlighters, project supplies (when needed), cell phone, laptop

Course Outline:
Foundational Standards

- Incorporate safety procedures in handling, operating, and maintaining tools and machinery; handling materials; utilizing personal protective equipment; maintaining a safe work area; and handling hazardous materials and forces.
- Demonstrate effective workplace and employability skills, including communication, awareness of diversity, positive work ethic, problem-solving, time management, and teamwork.
- Explore the range of careers available in the field and investigate their educational requirements and demonstrate job-seeking skills including resume-writing and interviewing
- Advocate and practice safe, legal, responsible, and ethical use of information and technology tools specific to the industry pathway.
- Participate in a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) to increase knowledge and skills and to enhance leadership and teamwork.

Foundation
- Research and report on historical events and current trends in education within the United States.
  - Examples: Plessy v. Ferguson, Brown v. Board of Education, No Child Left Behind, Title IX, creation of school calendar, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, First Class Pre-K
- Explore and deliberate current issues in education within the United States.
- Analyze the Alabama Educator Code of Ethics to obtain personal and professional guidance.
- Identify and interpret teacher observation and evaluation tools currently established by the State of Alabama or LEAs.
- Compare and contrast the roles and responsibilities of teachers, administrators, and specialized instructional support personnel.
- Create age-appropriate learning activities that actively engage students in the learning process.

Classroom Culture
- Describe ways in which teachers can show respect and appreciation for each student.
- Explain how physical and instructional environments can be engineered to be conducive to learning for students of various ages.
  - Examples: indoor/outdoor play, traditional/non-traditional instruction
- Research and report on how the connection between learning styles and teaching methods impacts student learning.
- Compare and contrast classroom management procedures for various ages, subjects, and settings
  - Examples: classroom layout, policies and procedures, facility safety

Domains of Development
- Summarize current research on the processes of early brain development.
- Explain the importance of social interaction, communication, and self-concept in social and emotional development.
- Describe physical developmental milestones from birth through adolescence.
- Create learning activities that apply knowledge of physical, social and emotional, and cognitive development.
- Research and analyze developmental theories.
  - Examples: theories of Freud, Piaget, Marzano, Erikson, Skinner, Bowlby, Vygotsky, Maslow