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Syllabus for EDTECH 504

Course Information:

**EDTECH 504: Theoretical Foundations of Educational Technology
Summer 2011, Section 4172/4173 Online**

Course Instructor:

Dr. Dazhi Yang
Boise State University

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Websites:

<http://edtech.boisestate.edu/>

Office Hours:

Tuesday 1:30 pm- 3:30 pm

Wednesday 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Thursday 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm or by appointment

Virtual Office Hours: Feel free to IM me when I'm online anytime through Moodle

Course Schedule

Course Description: Overview of classic and contemporary theories of learning and their applications in educational technology and emerging orientations; implications for practice. Explores foundations, history, perspectives, and literature in the field. Enables students to think more critically about their efforts and career goals.

Course Objectives (AECT Standards Addressed)

After completing this course student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast notions of past, present and future theories of educational technology.
2. Distinguish between the theoretical positions that underlie current approaches to educational technology.
3. Define and identify epistemological principles.
4. Identify major theoretical schools of thought.
5. Differentiate between epistemological beliefs and theoretical schools of thought.
6. Describe and account for the origins of major theories and their influence on educational technology.
7. Show how perceptions and approaches to educational technology have been influenced by prevailing educational theories.
8. Explain how systematic approaches to educational technology differ from traditional classroom-based approaches to teaching.
9. Contextualize emerging theories of learning within the framework of advancing technological innovations.
10. Apply educational technology theories to practical development contexts.

Source: AECT Accreditation Standards for Programs in Educational Communications and Instructional Technology (ECIT)
<http://www.aect-members.org/standards/>

Required Text

book

Theoretical Foundations of Learning Environments



Author (Eds.): Jonassen, D. H., & Land, S. M.

Date: 2000

Publisher: [Lawrence Erlbaum Associates](#)

ISBN-10: 0-8058-3216-5

6th Edition APA Manual: <http://www.apa.org/> (program requirement)

Optional Texts

Moore, M. & Kearsley, G. (2005). *Distance education: A systems view*. Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth. ISBN: 0-534-50688-7

Anderson, T. (2008). *The theory and practice of online learning, 2ed*. Available online <http://www.aupress.ca/index.php/books/120146>

Equipment: This is an online course requiring a computer with speakers and an Internet connection. Minimum hardware requirements for the EDTECH online courses may be located at: <http://edtech.boisestate.edu/web/hardware.htm>

Software Requirements: Current software requirements for the EDTECH program: <http://edtech.boisestate.edu/web/hardware.htm>

Please do not pay full price for your software!!! An academic discount is available for students and teachers with proof of eligibility. The academic price shaves hundreds of dollars from the original cost.

Here are two places where you can obtain the academic (lower priced) versions of the software:

- Boise State Bookstore: <http://www.boisestatebooks.com/> (Click Technology/Software)
- Academic Superstore: <http://www.academicssuperstore.com/> (Search for titles)

Antivirus Software: Please make sure to have up to date antivirus software installed and running on your computer.

Popup Blocker: This is highly recommended. Google has one built into their free toolbar if you want to try it: http://toolbar.google.com/T4/index_pack.html

Free Software: Please make sure that the following are installed and up to date on your computer.

- Adobe Reader: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>
- Flash Player: <http://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/>
- QuickTime Player: <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- Firefox Web Browser: <http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/>

Internet Connection: Of course, an Internet connection is required to participate in this online course. If you have a high speed connection it is preferable to dial-up access. If you only have dial-up access you can still get by, but patience is a virtue when waiting for files to download.

Course Policies

Time Management: An online course can take a considerable amount of time. For this reason, I would strongly suggest beginning each assignment early. Work on it regularly over the week rather than waiting until the last day or two. This will allow you to have the chance to work out problems or get help if needed.

Participation: Depending on the class activities, you are responsible for completing weekly assignments, participating in discussion groups, and checking in to the course site on a consistent basis.

Assignments: Assignments for each module are listed as "To do List ..." on the course homepage. You will always be given explicit instructions on where to send your assignments. Assignments are usually due on a weekly basis the exact dates will always be found in the activities. (*I'm trying my best to make Tuesdays as the due dates since most of you who have taken courses with us may be used to Tuesday due dates. However, summer schedules are different and tighter, so we do have non-Tuesday due dates.*) If you wish to complete an assignment prior to the due date, you may (however, a group assignment must be completed during the week assigned OR upon approval of every member of the group).

Late Assignments: Sometimes situations occur that prevent us from working on our assignments on time especially with many of your busy schedules. During the course, every student will be permitted **one** late assignment without losing any points; however, the assignment **cannot be turned in more than a week late**. Any other assignments that are late past this first initial late assignment (one week later from its due date) will have one letter grade per day deducted from it. During the last two weeks of class, all assignments must be turned in on time and cannot be submitted late. Late

assignments in the last two weeks of the class will NOT be graded.

The instructor is not responsible for any text or software that is not obtained in enough time to complete the assignments.

Backing up your files: You will be offered several ways to save your work online. However . . . and this is important, **you should always save your work on another storage device on your own computer. I cannot stress this enough . . .**

Faculty Initiated Drop: Please be advised that if you do not "attend" class **at least once** during the first week, I will drop you from class. Since this is an online course, this requirement means that you **MUST** be present in our Moodle course site during the **first week** and participate in the self introductions.

Incompletes: Please be advised that I strictly follow the rules for incompletes. In order for me to give you an incomplete in this course, the following two criteria **MUST** be met:

1. Your work has been satisfactory up to the last one and half weeks (three weeks is for regular semester) of the semester.
2. Extenuating circumstances make it impossible for you to complete the course before the end of the semester.

In order to receive an incomplete, we must create a contract stipulating the work you must do and the time in which it must be completed for you to receive a grade in the class. The contract time may not exceed one year. If no grade other than incomplete has been assigned one year after the original incomplete, the grade of 'F' will automatically be assigned. The grade of 'F' may not be changed without the approval of the University Appeals Committee. You may not remove the incomplete from your transcript by re-enrolling in the class during another semester. A grade of incomplete is excluded from GPA calculations until you receive a final grade in the course. If I assign a grade of incomplete you will received an email notification that you have "Registrar To Do Items" on BroncoWeb.

Student Code of Conduct: It is expected that students in this class will create original works for each assignment. We will follow the [BSU Student Code of Conduct](#). In the event of academic dishonesty a complaint is filed with the BSU Student Conduct Office with supporting documentation. This complaint remains on file and actions may be taken against the student (e.g., loss or credit, grade reduction, expulsion, etc.).

We will also observe [U.S. copyright laws](#) in this course. Several great links to copyright information are available on the BSU Academic Technologies site at: <http://itc.boisestate.edu/resource.htm>

In addition to the above, please respect the following guidelines:

- Please submit original work for each project. Projects that were created for other classes may not be submitted for credit in EDTECH 504. Each project may only be submitted for credit one time by the person who created it. The BSU Student Code of Conduct states: "Academic dishonesty also includes submitting substantial portions of the same academic course work to more than one course for credit without prior permission of the instructor(s)."
- All project text should be original text written by the student who is creating the project. The exception to this is the use of small amounts of quoted material that is properly cited. Copying and pasting from other Web sites or projects (including the instructor's examples) is not allowed.
- Images and sound clips used in projects should be original, or used with permission of the owner, or come from the public domain. Please check terms of use on sites containing these items.
- Please cite the source(s) for materials that are obtained for your projects unless they are created by you. If permission is granted for use of copyrighted materials please post a statement explaining that near those materials.

I may use some plagiarism detection utilities to test random assignments. Contact me if you have any questions regarding this issue.

Thank you for abiding by the Course Policies.

Boise State University's conceptual framework, "The Professional Educator, establishes our shared vision in preparing educators to work effectively in P-12 schools. It provides direction for programs, courses, teaching, candidate performance, scholarship, service, and accountability.

The Professional Educator

Boise State University strives to develop knowledgeable educators who integrate complex roles

and dispositions in the service of diverse communities of learners. Believing that all children, adolescents, and adults can learn, educators dedicate themselves to supporting that learning. Using effective approaches that promote high levels of student achievement, educators create environments that prepare learners to be citizens who contribute to a complex world. Educators serve learners as reflective practitioners, scholars and artists, problem solvers, and partners.

The Department of Educational Technology contributes to this vision by emphasizing the following:

The Department of Educational Technology supports the study and practice of facilitating and improving learning of a diverse population by creating, using, and managing appropriate technological processes and resources. Believing technology is a tool that enhances and expands the educational environment, we promote the use of current and emergent technologies for teaching and learning in a dynamic global society. Educational technologists are leaders and innovators, serving in institutions of higher education, public or private school settings, federal, state or local educational agencies, community organizations, and the private sector.

Grading: Grades in this course will consist of three major components:

1. In-class projects/preparation/participation (approximately 25%)
2. Reflection (approximately 25%)
3. Major papers (approximately 50%)

Point values are specified when the assignments are posted. I reserve the right to adjust these percentages, either collectively or individually, as necessary.

Grade Scale: Based on percentage of total points attained:

A+ 99-100%
A 93-98%
A- 90-92%
B+ 88-89%
B 84-87%
B- 80-83%
C+ 78-79%
C 74-77%
C- 70-73%
D 65-69%
F < 65%

If the cost of this course is being reimbursed by your district or school, please review the policies regarding the minimum grade required for a complete reimbursement. It is not the responsibility of the instructor to assure a grade that meets those requirements.

How to Get Help: If you have questions or need help please contact your instructor by phone, email, or by posting a note on the class discussion board. I will do my best to respond within 24 hours on weekdays. Weekend messages will be answered on Mondays by the end of the day.

Modification of the Syllabus and Schedule

I reserve the right to modify the syllabus and schedule at any time. Notice of any change will be emailed and posted as an announcement.