**Session:** Spring 2011 (3/21/11 - 5/19/11)  
**Course Title:** Educational Psychology  
**Course Number:** EDUC 131  
**Units:** 3  
**Required Textbook:** *Educational Psychology* (11th edition) by Anita Woolfolk  
- Students must have MyEducationLab (see page 6 of this syllabus for further details)  
**ISBN#:** 0136111238  
**Publisher:** Allyn & Bacon  
**Division:** Social and Behavioral Sciences  
**Department:** Child Development & Educational Studies (CDES)  
**Ticket#:** 10750  
**Recommended Preparation:** ENG 200 & ENG 340

**Instructor:** Curt Visca, Associate Faculty  
**E-Mail:** evisca@saddleback.edu  
**Phone Number:** 949-582-4900 (ext. 3248)  
- *E-mail is the best way to contact the instructor.*  
**Website:** [http://www.saddleback.edu/faculty/evisca/](http://www.saddleback.edu/faculty/evisca/)

**Office Hours:** Since this is an on-line course and Mr. Visca is a full-time administrator in a local school district during the day, he will respond to student e-mails in the evening during the week.

**Instructor’s Comments:** Please review this syllabus thoroughly so that you can do your very best work in EDUC 131. I have been a college professor for over 5 years and have over 21 years of experience as a public school administrator.

**Catalog Description:** An introduction to the basic principles of psychology that are pertinent to education, including abilities, intelligence, social and emotional factors, and principles of learning (formerly CDES 131).

**Course Objectives:** Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:  
- Define Piaget’s four stages of cognitive development and explain how children’s thinking differs at each stage.  
- Describe how teachers can foster positive self-concepts in their students.  
- Identify and evaluate five specific teaching strategies for encouraging creativity.  
- Analyze classroom situations in which EDUC 131 students might use behavioral principles to solve problems.  
- Discuss the aspects of self-management.  
- Compare and contrast potential dangers and the ethical issues involved in the use of behavioral management.  
- Compare and contrast the concept of motivation from behavioral, cognitive, and humanistic points of view, and describe a representative theory from each perspective.
• Compare and contrast intrinsic and extrinsic motivation.
• Describe the special managerial demands of the classroom and relate these demands to students of different ages.
• Describe the functions and levels of teacher planning.
• Summarize the steps that can ensure clarity in a presentation.
• Explain how to improve reliability and validity in testing.
• Compare and contrast norm-referenced and criterion-referenced tests.
• Analyze possible sources of bias in a teachers grading polices.

Discussion Board: Since we are not meeting in-person in a traditional classroom setting, students in EDUC 131 will be expected to contribute to on-line discussions and thoughts on Blackboard’s Discussion Board. Topics will range from themes and content from the textbook, to current events and school observation experiences. Students are asked to remember their Netiquette during these discussions. What is Netiquette? Simply stated, it is network etiquette -- that is, the etiquette of cyberspace. In other words, Netiquette is a set of agreed upon rules for behaving properly on-line. Student also need to type in complete sentences with proper punctuation, etc. Text style messages such as “I believe that…” instead of “I believe that…”, slang, or symbols such as :) are not permissible.

Netiquette information: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

Correct Grammar & Punctuation: Always remember that this is a college class and not a “texting class.” In short, do not use text abbreviations or lingo! Always use correct grammar and punctuation when posting Discussion Board comments, sending e-mail correspondence, and posting other EDUC 131 assignments. This means complete sentences that start with an uppercase letter, words are spelled correctly, and each sentence ends with a period, question mark, etc. Remember, you’re in college and not texting your family and friends!

Teaching Philosophy: After reading the textbook, EDUC 131 students will write their teaching philosophy from a psychology perspective. Specific information will be posted on the EDUC 131 Blackboard site.

Activity/Lesson Plan: Students will create a K – 12 activity/lesson plan based on California Department of Education Standards. Specific information will be posted on the EDUC 131 Blackboard site.

Teacher Observations: Students are required to visit two public or private school classrooms at the preschool, elementary, middle, and high school level. Daycare observations are not permitted. Two hours must be spent at a minimum of two schools and at two different levels for a total of four hours. Students are asked to compare and evaluate the concepts covered in class according to real life examples of teaching practice. Specific information will be posted on the EDUC 131 Blackboard site.
Exams: A mid-term and a final will be posted on Blackboard. The exams will be multiple choice and based on the textbook *Educational Psychology* (11th edition) by Anita Woolfolk. The mid-term will cover Chapters 1 to 7 and the final will cover Chapters 8 to 15.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Standards/Criteria:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A = 900 to 1,000 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>B = 800 to 899 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>C = 700 to 799 points</td>
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<td>D = 600 to 699 points</td>
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<td>F = 0 to 599 points</td>
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Mid-Term*: 300 points

Observation #1 & Completion of Observation Form (2 hours): 100 points

Observation #2 & Completion of Observation Form (2 hours): 100 points

Discussion Board (20 points each topic/5 total topics): 100 points

Teaching Philosophy: 50 points

Activity/Lesson Plan: 50 points

Final*: 300 points

Important Dates
First Week of Class Begins: Monday, 3/21/11
Add without Instructor Permission by: Sunday, 3/20/11
Drop with Refund by: Friday, 3/25/11
Elect Pass/No Pass by: Wednesday, 4/6/11
Drop without 'W' Grade by: Wednesday, 4/6/11
Drop with 'W' Grade by: Thursday, 4/28/11
Last Week of Class Ends: Thursday, 5/19/11

Policy Regarding Late Assignments: Students are encouraged to complete and submit assignments on or before the due date to earn full credit (points). College level work is expected. Late assignments will not earn any credit (0 points) since assignments will be posted on Blackboard and then will not be available after the posted due date.
Spring EDUC 131 Course Calendar (3/21/11 - 5/19/11)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Reading Assignment/Topic</th>
<th>Assignments/Tests/Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week #1 3/21/11</td>
<td>Chapter 1 (Learning, Teaching, and Educational Psychology) &amp;</td>
<td>Review Syllabus &amp; Blackboard Site</td>
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<td>Chapter 2 (Cognitive Development and Language)</td>
<td>Week #1 Discussion Board, Observations, Teaching Philosophy, &amp; Activity/Lesson Plan</td>
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<td>Posted Monday, 3/21/11</td>
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<td>Week #1 Discussion Board Available Monday, 3/21/11 to Sunday, 3/27/11</td>
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<td>Week #2 3/28/11</td>
<td>Chapter 3 (The Self, Social, &amp; Moral Development) &amp;</td>
<td>Week #2 Discussion Board Available Monday, 3/28/11 to Sunday, 4/3/11</td>
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<td>Chapter 4 (Learner Differences &amp; Learning Needs)</td>
<td>Week #3 Discussion Board Available Monday, 4/4/11 to Sunday, 4/10/11</td>
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<td>Week #3 4/4/11</td>
<td>Chapter 5 (Culture and Diversity) &amp;</td>
<td>Week #4 Discussion Board Available Monday, 4/11/11 to Sunday, 4/17/11</td>
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<td>Chapter 6 (Behavioral Views of Learning)</td>
<td>Mid-Term Available Monday, 4/11/11 to Thursday, 4/14/11</td>
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<td>Week #4 Discussion Board Available Monday, 4/11/11 to Sunday, 4/17/11</td>
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<td>Week #4 4/11/11</td>
<td>Chapter 7 (Cognitive Views of Learning) &amp; Chapter 8 (Complex</td>
<td>Week #5 Discussion Board Available Monday, 4/18/11 to Sunday, 4/24/11</td>
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<td>Cognitive Processes)</td>
<td>Activity/Lesson Plan Due Sunday, 4/17/11</td>
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<td>Week #5 4/18/11</td>
<td>Chapter 9 (The Learning Sciences &amp; Constructivism) &amp;</td>
<td>Week #6 Discussion Board Available Monday, 4/25/11 to Sunday, 5/1/11</td>
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<td>Chapter 10 (Social Cognitive Views of Learning &amp; Motivation)</td>
<td>Teaching Philosophy Due Sunday, 5/1/11</td>
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<td>Week #6 4/25/11</td>
<td>Chapter 11 (Motivation in Learning &amp; Teaching) &amp;</td>
<td>Observation #1 Due Sunday, 5/8/11</td>
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<td>Chapter 12 (Creating Learning Environments)</td>
<td>Observation #2 Due Sunday, 5/15/11</td>
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<td>Week #7 5/2/11</td>
<td>Chapter 13 (Teaching Every Student) &amp;</td>
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<td>Chapter 14 (Classroom Assessment, Grading, &amp; Standardized Testing)</td>
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<td>Week #8 5/9/11</td>
<td>Review Chapters 8 to 15</td>
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<td>Week #9 5/16/11</td>
<td>Last Official Day of Class: Thursday, 5/19/11</td>
<td>Final Available Monday, 5/16/11 to Thursday, 5/19/11</td>
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Rubrics: The activity/lesson plan, teaching philosophy, and both observations will be graded based on a rubric. These rubrics will be posted on Blackboard for students to review prior to completing each assignment.

Student Learning Outcome (SLO): Students who take this course will be able to observe and assess a preschool, elementary, middle, and/or high school classroom.

Assessment Method and Criteria for Success: In a specific observation format, 75% of students will be able to accurately complete 2 observation hours and respond to 20 observation questions/items by scoring 80 points out of a possible 100 points.

Absence Policy: Since this is an on-line class, students need to check the EDUC 131 Blackboard schedule each week for updates and assignments, along with weekly e-mails from Mr. Visca.

Policy on Academic Dishonesty & Consequences: The expectation is that the principles of truth and honesty will be followed by students in all academic endeavors. This assumes that all work will be done by the person who purports to do the work without unauthorized aids and assistance. When making use of language and some idea not his or her own, whether quoting them directly or paraphrasing them into his or her own words, the student must attribute the source of the material in some standard form, such as naming the source in the text or offering a footnote. Any student who is caught cheating will not receive credit on the assignment, exam, etc.

Student Services: General Student Service Information is available at the Saddleback College website. General, academic, and service information can be obtained by accessing the Counseling Division and Financial Aide websites. Individual and small group counseling information such as academic planning and review of transcripts is available by appointment. All other student services are available on campus during normal business hours.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: This course meets the requirements set forth in the accessibility checklist and universal design grid provided by Special Services. The web pages, video presentations, textbooks, and class materials used in this course are accessible to students with disabilities. Please check out Saddleback College’s “Special Services” link at http://www.saddleback.edu/ss/couns/dspsl/ for assistance, or contact Mr. Visca with any special needs.
**MyEducationLab** – Having access to [http://www.myeducationlab.com](http://www.myeducationlab.com) is a required supplemental resource to be utilized by EDUC 131 students for assignments throughout the course. The Saddleback College bookstore carries the access code bundled with the textbook at a significant discount. If you choose to purchase your textbook through another vendor, you will be required to purchase a MyEducationLab access code at full price [http://www.myeducationlab.com](http://www.myeducationlab.com).

- To purchase/register an access code, go to [http://www.myeducationlab.com](http://www.myeducationlab.com).
- Click "student" under "Buy Access" on the left-hand side.
- There will be a series of questions to help you set up an account.
- Choose the EDUC 131 textbook being used in MyEducation Lab. It’s *Educational Psychology* (11th edition) by Anita Woolfolk.
- After completing the registration process, you will need to choose the EDUC 131 course ID, which is: cm195758.
- E-mail Kimberly.scheyying@pearson.com if you have any issues registering.

**Course Syllabus Questions?** Students are expected to thoroughly review and understand the EDUC 131 course syllabus. Items posted on the EDUC 131 Blackboard site are also considered part of the syllabus. E-mail Mr. Visca at cvisca@saddleback.edu if you have any questions regarding the syllabus or items posted on the EDUC 131 Blackboard site.