

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

CLASSROOM PRACTICE

This module aims to introduce students to the theory of aspects of education. The purpose of the module is to create an awareness about the challenges posed by the changes in education in South Africa and to investigate ways of coping with these changes. Students will gain a good understanding of the varied roles of the teacher and will be introduced to the importance of being a reflective practitioner.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

The purpose of this module is to develop students' knowledge and skills in teaching children from birth to five years using the South African National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for Children from Birth to Four as a springboard for planning, facilitating and assessing developmentally-appropriate teaching and learning activities in early childhood development centres.

END-USER COMPUTING

Students entering Higher Education come from a variety of backgrounds, and some may have had limited opportunities to develop the computer literacy skills they will need to cope with tertiary studies. This module includes an online training component which allows student to practice simulated MS Office tasks at their own pace, supported by integrated feedback which helps them to identify and remedy their mistakes; and an assessment component which will count towards their overall module result. Students will also complete several assignments in which they will be expected to apply the MS Office tools that they have practiced in the online environment.

ENGLISH FOR TEACHERS

The purpose of this module is to improve a student's English language capacity to ready them for further academic study and then their future teaching career. The module aims to develop English language skills and communication, active participation and reflection skills through the use of a comprehensive study manual and tasks. It will empower students to teach with confidence, speak with clarity and meaning in a way that will enhance their teaching.

GRADE R TEACHING

The purpose of the module is to introduce students to Grade R (the Reception Year) teaching and learning in the Foundation Phase using the relevant CAPS as well as CAPS-related documents pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12. The emphasis is placed on understanding the importance of the development and growth of the Grade R learner and understanding the concepts of learning and school readiness in preparing young learners for formal schooling. The module follows an integrated approach that will equip the teacher to enable Grade R learners to flourish in terms of physical, emotional, intellectual, language, perceptual and social development. Students will learn to develop developmentally-appropriate activities that will promote emergent literacy and mathematical content, concepts and skills and understand the importance of assessment as a core focus of the teaching and learning process.

HEALTH EDUCATION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of this module is to introduce students to the complex health needs facing young children in South Africa today and equip them with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to cope with health-related issues which guide their interactions with both children and adults in their community. Core content provides students with the knowledge to promote the holistic development of children within the South African context. This knowledge can be applied in creating health and safety policies for implementation in all areas of an early childhood education centre and can be used to provide advice to parents on how to support children with health issues.

INSTITUTIONAL TEACHING PRACTICE 1

The purpose of this module is to equip the student with the necessary knowledge and skills to design and facilitate an appropriate curriculum for children aged two to five years which includes children in Grade R. Institutional Teaching Practice (ITP) is a module that supports the school-based Teaching Practice module. The ITP module is practical in nature and provides the opportunity for students to plan, present and make resources for teaching young children in school-based settings, taking into account diversity of learner context and needs. By the end of the module, students will be able to plan and facilitate age-appropriate teaching and learning activities in a pre-school and Grade R programme, using the South African National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for children aged birth to four, and the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Documents (CAPS) for Language, Mathematics and Life Skills respectively.

PRACTICAL MANAGEMENT OF AN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

The purpose of this module is to equip students with the necessary knowledge, skills and strategies to manage an early childhood education centre / school. This module will contribute to the development of a teacher who has sound subject knowledge, identifies content particularly pertaining to all aspects related to managing an ECD centre in South Africa, is competent to design and implement various strategies and techniques, can communicate effectively using appropriate vocabulary, is knowledgeable about the law and is able to select and apply varied assessment techniques.

SCHOOL-BASED TEACHING PRACTICE 1

The purpose of the module is to provide students with the opportunity to put theory into practice by becoming acquainted with the school environment. Students are able to observe the routine school programme and become involved in classroom practices by assisting the mentor teacher as well as teaching lessons or activities in a pre-school classroom, from birth to reception year (Grade R). Students are required to attend a minimum of 3-weeks (15 consecutive days), in a South African school in the relevant grade.