Communication Studies 6055  
Teaching Practicum  
Monday 3:30-4:20, Main 203

General Information

Instructor: Clair Canfield  
Office: Main 002G  
Virtual Office Hours: Flexible by appointment  
Email: clair.canfield@usu.edu

Assigned Readings

All course readings will be made available to you on Canvas, or will come from readings done in CMST 6050.

Course Description

The purpose of this teaching practicum is to help graduate students teaching as instructors of record to explore issues of classroom management, grading, difficult conversations, mentorship, etc. while they are in the classroom. This course will also build up and apply in practice the theory and practice learned in CMST 6050. Students will reflect on their teaching efforts and implement plans for improvement.

Course Objectives

1. Learn issues of classroom management while teaching as instructor of record.  
2. Apply theory and practice learned in CMST 6050.  
3. Reflect on teaching practice and make improvements in the classroom.

Course Requirements

This course requires four types of assignments, as listed below. Specific guidelines for each will be provided during the semester.

1. **Weekly Teaching Reflections** (50 percent of total grade). Each week you will submit a two-page, double-spaced paper that reflects on your teaching experiences, what you learned, and how you will improve.  
2. **Revised Teaching Philosophy** (10 percent of total grade). During the course of the semester, you will gain significant teaching experience. This will allow you to inform your teaching philosophy with your experiences in the classroom. You will revise your teaching philosophy from CMST 6050 to reflect your experience in the classroom.  
3. **Classroom Observations** (20 percent of total grade). During the course of the spring semester, you will arrange to make a minimum of 2 classroom visits to observe and provide feedback for a fellow GTA.
4. **Final Reflection Paper** (20 percent of total grade). At the end of the semester you will submit a 7-page, double-spaced paper that gives an overall reflection of your teaching for the semester, identifies plans for improving your next class, and highlights lessons learned.

**Course Policies**

1. Attendance and Participation: Seminar course only function well when everyone attends and actively participates in the discussion. You are expected to attend all class sessions, complete all readings, and participate in class discussions. If you are unable to attend a class, please let me know ahead of time.
2. Late work: No late work will be accepted, unless prior arrangements for extenuating circumstances have been made ahead of time. You are always welcome to turn in assignments early.
3. Academic Integrity: You will be expected to adhere to the USU’s policy for academic integrity. See: [http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=3140](http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=3140)
4. Disabilities: Accommodation for disabilities will be made, per USU’s policies. See: [http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=3168%20](http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=3168%20)
5. Classroom Civility: Both students and the teacher will be expected to follow all guidelines for classroom civility. See: [http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=3171](http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=3171)