###### PSYCHOLOGY 7938

#### TEACHING AND LEADING

#### SUMMER 2011

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**REQUIRED READINGS:**

Heath C., & Heath, D. (2010). *Switch: How to change things when change is hard.* New York, NY: Crown Business. ISBN: 0385528752

Other assigned or reference readings will be available in class or on Moodle.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course involves an in-depth examination of research-based knowledge about the skills that underlie expert teaching practice and a consideration of how to apply these findings to your own work. More broadly, this course considers what is involved in being a leader with respect to teaching. Leadership involves many levels that range from self-management to classroom leadership to organizational leadership. We will investigate how these various different types of skills can be built and combined in effective ways. The goal of the course is to get you to think critically about your current practice and help you use what you have learned to become a more expert teacher. *In this course, you will identify one or more important professional goals (e.g., improve student learning) you want to pursue beginning in the fall and develop plans to accomplish those goals*. We will be meeting with you to check on your progress throughout the upcoming academic year.

If you are participating in a research (thesis) seminar with Dr. Browne or Dr. Madden, the work completed in that course will evaluated and will form part of the grade assigned in this class. For specific information, consult their syllabus.

**CLASS SESSIONS:** This course is thinking-intensive. Class sessions will follow a seminar format. A

typical session will involve lecture, discussion, and small-group problem solving. There are a number of assignments (see below) that should be completed before the associated class session.

As a general rule, we ask that you be courteous to your classmates and to the speaker(s) during class. This includes, but is not limited to:

* Being respectful of other people’s opinions during discussions.
* If you have cellular phones or beepers, *please turn them off or set them to “vibrate” during class time*.

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. *Class participation* *(15% of class grade)*

 The central aspect of the class involves interacting and learning with others. The more you put into this process, the more you will get out of it. Therefore it is important for you to attend class and participate in discussions. If you have to miss class, please let us know.

2. *Assignment 1 (5% of class grade)*

 During the first week of class, you will be reading the book “Switch.” While reading the book, think about the concepts that are discussed and consider which might be relevant to classroom teaching. For Monday, June 20, please come to class with a typed **list of the five most important things you learned from the book**. **In addition, identify at least one “bright spot” you have observed for a common problem you encounter in your teaching (we’ll talk more about this in class)**. We will use these ideas to focus the group discussion we will be having this day.

3. *Assignment 2* (5% of the class grade)

 On Tuesday, June 21, please come to class with a typed list of **your top three goals for improving student learning in your classroom**. Ideas for these goals are likely to come out Monday’s group discussion. These goals will form the basis for a group discussion exercise.

4. *Preliminary Goal Worksheet* (5% of class grade).

 On Thursday, June 23, please come to class with your first draft of the goal worksheet. You are going to select one goal for improving student learning in the classroom this upcoming school year. Tuesday’s exercise will help you to narrow your goals to a single one. The goal worksheet will involve answering a series of questions that will guide you from your goal to a specific plan for accomplishing the goal. The draft will also form the basis for a group discussion exercise. We will discuss this assignment in more detail as the session progresses.

*5. Final draft of Goal Worksheet/Plan (22% of class grade)*

On Wednesday, June 29, you will turn in a revised version of your goal worksheet based on what you learned from the group discussion. In addition, you will turn in a one-page typed summary (single-spaced, 12-point font) of what you learned from the experience of generating a plan. Please attach this to the front of the final goal worksheet/plan. After turning this in, we encourage all of you to share your plans with others by uploading them to the e-network.

6. *Assignment 3* (5% of the class grade)

 Prior to class on Thursday, June 30, please create a network profile and post a blog entry about needed network resources and obstacles to obtaining them. Peruse the others’ entries to find common ground. Ideas about professional networks will likely develop during Tuesday’s (June 28) group discussion.

7. *Assignment 4* (5% of the class grade)

 Prior to class on Tuesday, July 5, post a collection of your favorite, most useful websites and resources for core competencies, classroom instruction and student engagement. Surf the resources posted by others.

8. *Assignment 5* (5% of the class grade)

 Prior to class on Thursday, July 7, twitter-feed your thoughts regarding, “Too much information! Too little time!”

9. *Assignment 6* (After last class session – not graded)

 Post a blog entry about your long-term goals for building and maintaining your professional network, and helping to cultivate the networks of those around you.

10. *Assignments in Thesis Seminar – Dr. Browne or Dr. Madden* (*33% of class grade)*

If you are enrolled in a research (thesis) seminar with Dr. Browne or Dr. Madden, your grades on the assignments you complete in that class will be totaled. That total will comprise 33% of the grade you receive for PSYC 7938. Consult the syllabus for those courses for more information about the required assignments.

**GRADING:** The total number of points you earn in the course will determine your grade. The scale is: 90-100% A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, and 59% and below F.

**DEADLINE POLICY:** It is expected that you will turn in assignments by class time on the specified due date.

**STANDARD LSU Information:** If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see an Advisor in the Office of Disability Services (112 Johnston Hall) so that such accommodations may be arranged. After you receive your accommodation letters, please meet with us to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as soon as possible.

All Louisiana State University students are responsible for observing the highest standards of academic and personal integrity. All cases of alleged academic dishonesty will be referred to the Office of the Dean of Students. Academic dishonesty includes any act that violates the academic processes of the university. These acts include, but are not limited to,

* Cheating on an examination
* Stealing examination questions
* Substituting one person for another at an examination
* Plagiarizing (using as one's own the ideas or writings of another)
* Collaborating during a test or assignment without prior approval of the instructor

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Date Topic/Activity Presenter/Facilitator**

**WEEK ONE**

June 13 – Monday Introduction Lane & Mathews

June 14 – Tuesday Principles of Learning Lane & Mathews

June 15 – Wednesday Expertise and Deliberate Practice Lane & Mathews

June 16 - Thursday Expertise and Deliberate Practice Lane & Mathews

**WEEK TWO**

June 20 – Monday What to Change? Mathews & Lane

June 21 – Tuesday Achieving Goals I Mathews & Lane

June 22 – Wednesday Achieving Goals II Mathews & Lane

June 23 – Thursday Group Problem Solving I Mathews & Lane

**WEEK THREE**

June 27 – Monday Group Problem Solving II Mathews & Lane

June 28 – Tuesday Professional Networks I Rizzuto

June 29 – Wednesday Planning Lane & Mathews

June 30 – Thursday Professional Networks II Rizzuto

**WEEK FOUR**

July 4 – Monday *HOLIDAY*

July 5 – Tuesday Professional Networks III Rizzuto

July 6 – Wednesday Learning from Our Experience Lane & Mathews

July 7 – Thursday Professional Networks IV Rizzuto