SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: ENVE 580
Instructional Strategies in Environmental Education

COURSE CREDIT: Three Semester Hours

COURSE DATES: Course sessions: June 16 - 22, 2007
Independent study: June 25 - August 10, 2007
Follow up sessions: KAEE Conference, September 14-15, 2007

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Terry L. Wilson
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course is designed to assist classroom teachers and other formal and nonformal educators improve their understanding of the natural and cultural environment. In addition, it provides participants with opportunities to utilize the environment in their instructional programs. Specific attention will be given to the teaching of the early childhood, elementary, middle school, and high school levels, specifically as it relates to outdoor and environmental education. Goals, objectives, and teaching strategies associated with environmental education will be reviewed in keeping with the characteristic needs of learners at specific age levels. Emphasis will be placed on the interrelatedness of environmental education with traditional curriculum content areas. On-site experiences will be conducted at various sites at Land Between the Lakes, in west Kentucky and Tennessee.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will demonstrate increased knowledge about various natural communities and ecological concepts.
2. Students will demonstrate recognition of the value of environmental education in the elementary and secondary schools.
3. Students will develop activities using environmental education teaching techniques in the curriculum, or in other educational settings.

4. Students will identify and demonstrate methods, techniques, strategies and facilities that promote the use of community resources and environmental concepts.

COURSE MATERIALS:


STUDENT EXPECTATIONS:

1. Participation in all required sessions offered at Land Between the Lakes.
2. Completion of a workshop log documenting the experiences of the week at Land Between the Lakes.
3. Completion of a project (see below) by August 1, 2007. Projects should be sent to the instructor with a self-addressed stamped envelope. Written projects must be typed or word-processed.

PROJECT POSSIBILITIES (choose one):

A. Develop a teaching unit. This standards-based unit should be built upon a theme related to the course and should include a purpose statement (i.e. what do you expect students to know and be able to do as a result of being involved in this unit), 5 - 8 teaching activities, a list of resources needed to develop and/or implement the unit, as well as all of the normally accepted components of such a unit. (This option is required for teachers pursuing the EE endorsement.)

B. Develop a professional development workshop plan that could be presented to other teachers/staff members relating to the concepts and skills taught in this class. The workshop should last a minimum of one day. The plan should include a purpose statement (i.e. what do you expect participants to know and be
able to do as a result of being involved in this workshop), an agenda, a list of activities that will be done with participants, a list of materials needed to implement the workshop, and a bibliography of resources that participants will be made aware of during the workshop.

C. Create an audio-visual product that deals with some aspect of the course. Such products should be designed to use in the participant's teaching situation. A written script and outline of the presentation should be included.