



ArmchairEd Course Syllabus
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- **The course syllabus is provided for your preview. Please be sure to register PRIOR to completing any coursework. Registering for a course after coursework has been started violates accreditation standards and puts the University at risk; therefore, SPU reserves the right to not award credit if students are found to be in violation of this policy.**

Overview:

ArmchairEd.com currently provides continuing education to educators, using Educational Leadership magazine and premiere published books on cutting-edge educational themes and topics. The program has been operating since Fall, 2000, and has provided continuing education to hundreds of educators.

Course Goals and Objectives:

As a result of these courses, the student will be able to:

1. Stay current on educational themes and topics pertinent to teaching and education
2. Identify current research in education
3. Apply this knowledge to the student's current educational position

The following published books are currently being used as texts for the ArmchairEd course:

Wong, H. K., & Wong, R. T. (2018). *The first days of school: How to be an effective teacher*. Harry K. Wong Publications.

THE First Days of School

Schools exist for one reason only--for students to learn and achieve. The effectiveness of the teacher is the single greatest effect on student learning and achievement.

This course uses the most requested book for what works in the classroom for teacher and student success. It s an education staple for preparing effective teachers at all grade levels, pre-K through



college, in all content areas. With the release of the 5th edition, it's now bigger, better, and bolder. The book walks a teacher, either novice or veteran, through structuring and organizing a classroom for success that can be applied at any time of the year.

The First Days of School includes a 54-minute DVD, *You Have Changed My Life*, with accomplished actor and singer William Martinez. Through story, song, and American Sign Language, he shares the transformational moment when a teacher realized his potential. His story affirms that teachers ARE the difference in the lives of their students.

Grading Rubric:

Pass/Fail: Coursework must be passed with 70% criterion

Letter Grade: 90%: A grade

80%: B grade

70%: C grade

Multiple Choice Test: 20% of overall grade

Essays: 80% of overall grade

Two Essays Required:

Option 1: Check to see if your classroom is inviting. Use the questions near the bottom of page 59 to assess your classroom. Develop the beginning of your essay by answering the questions and discuss your discovery. Do you contemplate making changes? What will you change? Why?

Option 2: Reread the section on Preparing Your Classroom, page 104-109 in the text. Which of these seems the most important preparation? Talk about the reason that item stands out to you. Describe in detail how you make that element ready for the first day and how it may differ from the description in the text.

Option 3: Watch the DVD [You Have Changed My Life](#) which comes with the text. Describe your reaction to the video and your takeaway. Did a teacher change your life? Have you changed the life of a student? What specific actions made the difference?

Option 4: You may choose to write an essay to explain your answer to #19 of the multiple choice.

19. Check the list of Procedures to Rehearse with Students on page 164 of the text. How many of them do you teach, rehearse and reinforce? (There's no right answer.)

- A. 1-5
- B. 1-20
- C. About three quarters of them
- D. All of them!



Option 5: Create your own demonstration of the learning you take from this text. Identify your topic and describe it in an introductory paragraph. You may choose from the list below or develop your own.

- Plan a unit with assessment
- Action Research
- Extended learning, including research and developed activities
- Compare/contrast your current education practice to that of the text
- Create forms or systems for use in your classroom including assessment tools
- Plan an 'event', meeting or other pertinent program and report/reflect on it

Essay scoring rubric:

- Two essays required
- Each essay 40% of overall grade

- Single spaced, 10 to 12 size font
- Use of introduction and summary statement (even when a unit is developed)
- Demonstration of grammar, spelling and writing skill
- Demonstration of applied knowledge

All essays must be fully completed and the rubric followed to receive a grade. Essays not completed to required length will not be processed and revisions will be required.

- **You must download the coursework before starting this course.**
- **Submit all coursework at the same time.**
- **All essays must be fully completed and the rubric followed to receive a grade. Essays not completed to required length will not be processed and revisions will be required.**