



***CIME 3375.02-The Middle School Child  
Fall 2017***

**College of Education  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction**

**Instructor:** Beth Burt  
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**Office hours:** Before and after class, and by appointment

**Course Format:** This course will consist of lecture, discussion, small group work, and in-class and out-of-class activities designed to help candidates further their knowledge, skills, and dispositions in regards to teaching middle grades in the public schools.

**Class Day and Time:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00-10:50  
**Location:** TEC 341

**Course Description:** This course focuses on effective programs and practices at middle-level schools. Emphasis is placed on a historical perspective and philosophy, components of highly successful programs, and current trends and issues in middle-level education. Being prepared for class and participating in all activities is expected.

**Textbooks:** Brown, D.F. & Knowles, T. (2014). *What every middle school teacher should know*. (3rd Ed.) Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.  
National Middle School Association (2010). *This we believe*. Westerville, OH: NMSA.

**Course and IDEA Objectives:** In this course, our focus will be on these major objectives (as assessed by the IDEA course evaluation system):

**Essential:** \*Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, methods, trends)  
\*Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories

**Important:** \*Learning to apply course material  
\*Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals

**Course Requirements and Evaluation:**

Six (6) activities will be due during the course:

- 1) A written paper on your personal middle school experience using Brown Ch. 2 and 3 as guide.
  - 2) An interview with a middle school-aged child and write up of the interview.
  - 3) A written paper analyzing *This We Believe*.
  - 4) A topic response
  - 5) class participation and class projects
  - 6) Activity portfolio
- Rubrics will be given later.

Two exams will be given. The two exams will consist of objective and/or essay questions.

***ASSIGNMENT WEIGHTING AND GRADE SCALE***

Assignment #1	50	points
Assignment #2	50	points
Assignment #3	50	points
Topic response.	50	Points
Participation and in class project	50	Points
2 Exams @ 100 points each	200	points
Activity portfolio	100	Points
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550 total points possible		

495-550 points A

440-494.9 points B

385- 439.9 points C

A grade lower than a C requires the course be repeated.

All out of class work is graded on content, grammar, punctuation, spelling, etc. Late assignments will be penalized five points per day that they are late. All out of class assignments should be typed.

All due dates will be given the first week of class. **No extra credit will be given**

If individual assignments possess a striking similarity to another student's work, a grade of F will be given for the course and a referral made to appropriate authorities.

### ***TENTATIVE SCHEDULE***

<i>Date Week</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Reading Required (Brown)</i>	<i>Assignments Due</i>
Aug.23	What is a middle school? Influences from the past to the present	Chapters 1 and 6	
Aug.28	Developmental changes of early adolescents: Intellectual, Physical, Emotional, Social	Chapter 2 Chapter 3	
Sept. 6	Impact of Developmental Changes	Chapters 4 and 5	
Sept.11	Impact of changes		Sept. 11- Topic 1 presents Sept. 13 Topic 2 presents Sept. 15 Topic 3 presents
Sept. 18	Teaming programs		Sept. 18 Topic 4 presents <b>Sept. 20 Assignment 1 due</b>
Sept. 25	middle school structures	Chapter 7	Sept. 25 Topic 5 presents <b>Sept. 29 Test 1</b>
Oct. 2	Facilitate learning	Chapter 8	Oct. 4 Topic 6 presents Oct. 6 Topic 7 presents
Oct. 9	Facilitate learning	Chapter 8	Oct.11- Topic 8 presents Oct. 13- Topic 9 presents
Oct.16	Meaningful Learning	Chapter 8	<b>Oct. 16 Assignment 2 due</b> Oct. 18 Topic 10 presents
Oct. 23	Safe haven	Chapter 9	Oct. 23-Topic 11 presents Oct. 27 Topic 12 presents
Oct. 30	Integrated curriculum	Chapter 10	Oct. 30 Topic 13 presents Nov. 1 Topic 14 presents
Nov.6	This we believe	This we believe book	Nov. 6 Topic 15 presents
Nov. 13	Integrated Curriculum	Activity portfolio	<b>Nov.17 Activity portfolio due</b>
Nov. 20	Student designed curriculum		<b>Nov. 20 assignment 3 due</b>
Nov. 27	Student designed curriculum	Chapter 11	
Dec. 4	Professionalism		<b>Final</b>


### University Policies

- SHSU Academic Policy Manual-Students
  - [Procedures in Cases of Academic Dishonesty #810213](#)
  - [Disabled Student Policy #811006](#)
  - [Student Absences on Religious Holy Days #861001](#)
  - [Academic Grievance Procedures for Students #900823](#)
- SHSU Academic Policy Manual-Curriculum and Instruction
  - [Use of Telephones and Text Messagers in Academic Classrooms and Facilities #100728](#)
  - Technology during instruction: Only with permission
  - Technology during exams: Will not be necessary
  - Technology in emergencies: Only with permission
  - Visitors in the Classroom- Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance.

**Attendance:** As per University policy, candidates will not be penalized for three hours of absence during the semester. It is important that candidates notify the professor via email or phone call prior to, or on the day of, the absence regardless of the reason for the absence.

Excessive absences will constitute reason for lowering of semester grade *at least* one letter grade, and possibly, removal from class. The candidate is responsible for obtaining and completing any assignments missed due to absence.

**Tardies:** If a candidate is fifteen minutes late to class or leaves class fifteen minutes or more before class is over, an absence will be recorded. A candidate who shows a pattern of being a few minutes late (but less than 15) will be notified that continuation will result in being counted absent and procedures for being absent will follow.

**Course Expectations:** For each hour in class you will be expected to commit at least three hours outside of class. It is expected that if you enroll in this course, you can meet the time requirements.

Professionalism is expected in effort and attitude. This includes communication through technology during class time. It is expected that no contact with the “outside world” will be attempted or received during class. If unauthorized cell phone use occurs, your grade may be lowered one letter grade for each occurrence.

### Bibliography:

- Bucher, K. (2008). *Teaching in the middle school* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Allyn & Bacon.
- Cushman, K., & Rogers, L. (2008). *Fires in the middle school bathroom: Advice to teachers from middle schoolers*, New Press.
- George, P. & Alexander, W. (2002). *The exemplary middle school* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Wadsworth Publishing.
- Kinney, J. (2007). *Diary of a wimpy kid* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition). Amulet Books.
- Parks, J. (2004). *Teacher under construction: things I wish I'd known- a survival handbook for new middle school teachers*. Weekly Reader Teacher's Press.
- Powell, S. (2004). *Introduction to middle school*. Prentice Hall.
- Wormeli, R. (2001). *Meet me in the middle: Becoming an accomplished middle-level teacher*. Stenhouse Publishers.

## **College of Education Information**

### **Accreditation:**

The programs within the SHSU College of Education have the distinction of receiving accreditation and national recognition from multiple accrediting bodies. All educator certification programs, including teaching and professional certifications, have received ongoing accreditation from the Texas Education Agency ([TEA](#)). Additionally, the educator preparation program has been accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation ([CAEP](#)-formerly NCATE) since 1954. Many of the educator preparation concentration areas have also chosen to pursue national recognition from their respective Specialized Professional Associations ([SPA](#)), signifying the program is among the best in the nation. The programs within the Department of Counselor Education have also received accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs ([CACREP](#)).

### **Course and Program Evaluation:**

Near the end of the semester, students are asked to take part in the University's adopted course evaluation system, IDEA. The assessments are completed online and instructions are emailed to each student. Students' assessments of courses are taken are systematically reviewed by the Dean, Associate Deans, Department Chairs, and individual faculty members. Only after the semester has completed are faculty members allowed to view aggregated results of non-personally-identifiable student responses.

The College of Education conducts ongoing research regarding the effectiveness of the programs. Students receive one survey in the final semester prior to graduation regarding the operations of the unit during their time here. A second survey occurs within one year following completion of a program, and is sent to students and their employers. This survey requests information related to students' quality of preparation while at SHSU. Students' responses to these surveys are critical to maintaining SHSU's programs' excellence.