Course Description
This course examines teaching and learning in urban communities. Through course readings, discussions, a service-learning placement, activities and assignments, students consider the social, economic, political, cultural and historical factors that shape urban teaching and learning. The course emphasizes the importance of educators understanding themselves as members of the communities they work in and therefore, students examine the relationship between social and cultural identities and pedagogical practices.

The course is guided by an essential question: How does the urban context impact a student’s ability to learn and grow and a teacher’s orientation to teaching and learning? The course is driven by five related questions. Each question will guide our inquiry and discussion during three weeks of the course.

1. Do race and culture matter in teaching?
2. How do socio-political issues impact teaching and learning?
3. Do schools hold proprietary power over education?
4. What are ways to engage young people effectively?
5. How do we make change in the ecosystem of schools?

A central aspect of the course is a field experience working with a local community organization on educational initiatives and researching the relationship between such organizations, communities, and local schools. This community-based research component is designed to assist students in developing a complex understanding of urban communities and their educational resources.

This course is designed with a framework for significant learning in mind. I am borrowing from the work of Dr. D. Fink who has developed the following taxonomy that aligns with Bloom but also takes into account social-emotional and civic learning. Fink’s six elements are:

1. Foundational knowledge
2. Application
3. Integration
4. Human dimension
5. Caring
6. Learning how to learn

For each one of these domains, I will have specific learning outcomes, assessment activities, and learning activities.

The School of Education’s Conceptual Framework
The Loyola University School of Education’s conceptual framework – Social Action through Education – is at the heart of CIEP 469: Teaching and Learning in Urban Communities. The School’s conceptual framework is embedded throughout the course as our learning community will seek to understand our own positionality relative to our communities, schools, and students, work to understand the “back
story” of our students and their communities, endeavor to explore promising models and strategies that have potential to impact our students positively, and to better understand how we can embody and promote social action for ourselves, our peers, and our students through education. To that end, this course also supports and lives into Loyola University Chicago’s Jesuit ideal of knowledge in the service of humanity. We endeavor to advance professional education in the service of social justice, engaged with Chicago, the nation, and the world. To achieve this vision the School of Education participates in the discovery, development, demonstration, and dissemination of professional knowledge and practice within a context of ethics, service to others, and social justice. We fulfill this mission by preparing professionals to serve as teachers, administrators, psychologists, and researchers; by conducting research on issues of professional practice and social justice; and by partnering with schools and community agencies to enhance life-long learning in the Chicago area.

### Diversity

This course supports the School of Education’s conceptual framework of Social Action through Education in preparing teachers in service for social justice by engaging students in reflective exercises, class discussions, and field experiences that allow them to bridge theory and practice as it relates to teaching and learning in diverse urban communities.

### Technology

Students will use technology for a variety of purposes in this course. Students will access information from Sakai in order to complete assignments. Students will also use internet-based resources to access readings, conduct research, and develop curriculum. These activities are designed to enhance students’ ability to use technology as a teaching and learning tool.

### Important University Policies and Information

**Dispositions**

Each course in the School of Education focuses on one or more professional dispositions. Students are offered opportunities to receive feedback on their dispositional growth in the areas of professionalism, fairness and/or the belief that all students can learn. The specific dispositions for CIEP 469 are Fairness and All Students Can Learn. Descriptions for the expected behaviors for the disposition(s) can be found on the rubric posted on Sakai and in LiveText for this course.

**Harassment**

It is unacceptable and a violation of university policy to harass, discriminate against or abuse any person because of his or her race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, age or any other characteristic protected by applicable law. Such behavior threatens to destroy the environment of tolerance and mutual respect that must prevail for this university to fulfill its educational and health care mission. For this reason, every incident of harassment, discrimination or abuse undermines the aspirations and attacks the ideals of our community. For specific definitions of discrimination, abuse, and harassment refer p. 25-26 in the Loyola University Chicago Student Handbook, located at: [http://www.luc.edu/studentaffairs/pdfs/LoyolaStudentHandbook2006.pdf](http://www.luc.edu/studentaffairs/pdfs/LoyolaStudentHandbook2006.pdf). If you believe you are subject to such harassment, you should notify your instructor. If you believe you are subject to harassment by your instructor, contact the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at 312-915-6464.

### Course Objectives

- Explain how broader social and historical issues affect teaching and learning. (NCATE 4; IPTS 3E)
- Describe the affect that race, class and culture have on teaching and learning. (NCATE 4; IPTS 3C)
- Conduct a community-based research project and demonstrate a complex understanding of urban communities and their educational resources. (NCATE 3, 4; IPTS 3C, 3E, 9A)
- Reflect on the relationship between one’s cultural identity and pedagogical practice. (NCATE 1, 4; IPTS 3F, 10)
• Conduct a review of research literature on an issue particular to urban education. (NCATE 1; IPTS 3E)
• Reflect on field experiences and how one’s choices and actions affect others and self. (NCATE 3; IPTS 10)
• Design a service-learning project that incorporates students’ experiences, cultures, and community resources and engages youth in their communities. (NCATE 1; IPTS 3E, 4)
• Articulate the implications contemporary urban school reform has for teaching and learning. (NCATE 1: IPTS 11)
• Become familiar with contemporary urban schools and school systems. (NCATE 1; IPTS 11B)
• Demonstrate a commitment to learning about schools and communities. (NCATE 4; IPTS 3E)

IDEA Evaluation Objectives
To facilitate the process for online course evaluations, these are the core course objectives that are rated as critical to this course:

• Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principals, generalizations, theories) Critical
• Developing ethical reasoning and/or ethical decision making Important
• Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing Important
• Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions) Critical
• Learning to apply knowledge and skills to benefit others or serve the public good Critical

Texts and Resources

Required Texts

Other Required Reading Available on Sakai
• Kahne, Joseph & Westheimer, Joel. (2005). What kind of citizen? The politics of educating for


**Required Media**

- Sakai: www.sakai.luc.edu
- LiveText: www.livetext.com
- Citation Style Guide: http://library.duke.edu/research/citing/

**Recommended Texts and Resources:**


- Kretzmann, J.P. & McKnight, J.L. (1993). Building communities from the inside out: A path toward finding and mobilizing a community’s assets. Evanston, IL: Institute for Policy Research.
- ISBE School Report Cards: www.isbe.net

### Evaluation and Assignments

In addition to the general criteria listed, work needs to address assignment specific criteria. Rubrics with these criteria are available on Sakai under “Assignments”.

- **Assignments** submitted after the due date will receive a lower grade unless prior agreement with the instructor has been reached concerning extenuating circumstances.
- Assignments need to be typed double-spaced with 1” margins in 12-point font.
- Include appropriate identifying information.
- Students are expected to use APA style (6th ed.) for citing references. When quoting and paraphrasing sources or adapting an idea from a source those sources must be cited.
- **Submit all assignments using Sakai unless otherwise noted.**

**Participation (20 points)** - In order to create a constructive learning environment, it is essential for each student to attend class, be on time, and participate. Class activities are planned with the assumption that all students will be in attendance. Please be sure to contact me ahead of time if you will be absent.

**Reflective Journal (20 points)** – Students will write weekly reflections of a ½ to full page in length. Journal entries should focus on course topics, readings, discussions, and field experiences. Students can choose to respond to prompts given in class or generate one in response to a topic that is compelling for the student. Reflections should discuss students’ experiences, observations, and intellectual and professional growth in relation to teaching and learning in urban communities. Journals are due each week beginning on the second of class and continuing through the twelfth week. A total of 8 entries must be submitted in order to be considered complete. **Submit through Sakai.** Feel free to submit more than the required number.

**Class Activity Facilitation (20 points)** – Students will read one chapter of our text and present key learnings from that chapter using interactive pedagogical techniques. You should be prepared to facilitate learning about the key ideas in the text and any important sub-themes.

**Personal Reflection on Culture and Pedagogy (30 points)** – In a three-page essay, students will reflect on the
relationship between their social identities and pedagogical practice. This essay should examine how your social identities affect your approach to content, pedagogy, teacher-student relationships, and classroom environment. The essay should and address each element of the following question: How does who you are affect the way you teach, what you choose to teach, and how you understand your students and your expectations of them? Submit through Sakai.

Research Review (30 points) – Summarize and review three research articles on a particular topic in urban education. Include complete citations for the articles. Use APA 6th edition for formatting and citations. Submit through Sakai. This assignment expects that you will:

- identify and introduce a particular topic of importance in urban education;
- provide a concise summary and review of three research studies on this topic;
- assess the implications these studies have for teaching and learning in urban schools; and
- explain how these studies contribute to your understanding of this topic in urban education.

Service Learning Project Proposal (50 points) – Either individually or in a small group, students will design a proposal for a service-learning project that incorporates students’ experiences, cultures, and community resources and engages youth in their communities. Submit through Sakai. The proposal must include the following:

- Project Overview
- Need(s) addressed by the project
- Service Component
- Learner Outcomes for the Project: Goals, Objectives and Standards
- Academic Content and Skill Focus
- Societal/Community Gains
- Community Partners
- Project Timeline
- Possible Challenges
- Introductory Lesson Plan: Goal, Objective, Standards, Materials and Resources, Learning Activities and Instructional Procedures, and Assessment

Local School Council (20 points) – Students will submit a report from their Local School Council meeting. Students can choose an LSC meeting that best fits their schedule but are advised to attend an LSC meeting that is connected with their service-learning site placement. Students will report on the logistics of the meeting (attendees, agenda, etc.), the substantive discussion of the meeting, and interview at least two LSC members about their participation on the Council. Students will provide an assessment of the efficacy of the LSC and its relationship to urban school reform. Submit through Sakai.

Research Project Plan (10 points) – Students will submit a project plan indicating the specific organization they plan to research for their final project. Students will identify and research a community organization that addresses the educational needs of urban youth (and their families if possible) through tutoring, academic enrichment, civic engagement, health, or after school care/programs. The plan needs to include the organization’s name, location and contact information, a brief description of the organization and the communities it serves, and the research activities the student plans to conduct, e.g. literature review, data analysis, interviews, observations, and/or working with the organization. Submit through Sakai.

Community-based Research Project and Presentation (80 points) – Individually or in pairs, students will conduct a community-based research project on a community organization serving urban youth. The project and presentation will address each of the following:

- Part I: Students will write a research paper addressing the following elements:
  - Context and Background: Describe the organization and its mission; how long it has been in existence; and how it is funded and governed. Describe the demographics of the communities and clients it serves.
Teaching and Learning: Describe the educational programs offered by the organization and the needs these programs address. Discuss the goals, structure, and methods of these programs. Assess the impact these programs have on the communities and clients served. Support your discussion with evidence from your interviews, observations, and experiences.

Communities and Community Organizations: Describe the relationship between the organization and the communities and clients served. Support your discussion with evidence from your interviews, observations, and experiences.

Community Resources: Provide a detailed community asset map.

Organizational Resources: Provide a detailed organization asset map.

Analysis of Assets and Needs: How can the community organization utilize community and organizational assets to better meet the educational needs of the communities and clients served?

Reflection: What issues of social justice and inequity have been raised by your research? How has your research project informed your understanding of urban communities and their educational resources? How might schools use these resources to enhance student learning?

- Part II: Students will prepare and deliver a short presentation of their project. Students will prepare a one-page handout with background information on the organization and their analysis of assets and needs. Submit through Sakai and bring paper copy of one-pager to class.
- Part III: Reflection on Community Field Experiences. Students will prepare a 750-1000 word reflection on their field experiences and conducting a community-based research project. Submit through LiveText.

**Course Grades**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<td>167 and Below</td>
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## Course Schedule

The following is a schedule of topics with required readings and assignment due dates for the course. Those readings available electronically can be accessed through the course’s Sakai site. These readings should be printed and brought to class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignment(s) Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29</td>
<td>An Introduction to Teaching and Learning in Urban Communities</td>
<td>TCW Introduction and Chapter 1</td>
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<td>September 19</td>
<td>The Impact of Race and Culture on Teaching and Learning</td>
<td>TCW 5, Assigned readings from Teel</td>
<td>Journal Entry #2, Classroom facilitation</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Socio/Political Issues and Urban Education: Housing and Criminal Justice</td>
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<th>Assignment(s) Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Socio/Political Issues and Urban Education: School Reform and Its Implications for Teaching and Learning</td>
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<td>Community-Based Research Project Plan</td>
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<td>Topic</td>
<td>Schools and Community: Asset Based Community Development</td>
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<th>Assignment(s) Due</th>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>Topic</td>
<td>Schools and Community: Community Schools</td>
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<th>Assignment(s) Due</th>
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<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Educating Youth in Families, Schools, and Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</table>
| Readings | TCW 11  
Selections from *Community Organizing for Urban School Reform*.  
| Assignment(s) Due | Journal Entry #6 |
| Date | November 14 |
| Topic | Engaging Young People Effectively:  
Service-Learning |
| Assignment(s) Due | LSC Meeting Report |
| Date | November 21 |
| Topic | Engaging Young People Effectively:  
Civic Engagement and Social Justice Education |
| Readings | TCW 9  
| Assignment(s) Due | Journal Entry #7 |
| Date | November 28 |
| Topic | Engaging Young People Effectively:  
Restorative justice, student voice and democratic classrooms |
| Readings | TCW 8  
| Assignment(s) Due | Journal Entry #8 |
| Service-Learning Project Design | |
| Date | December 5 |
| **Topic**       | Making change in ecosystems of schools:  
|                | *Teachers as agents of change*         |
| **Readings**   | TCW 12                                   |
|                | Selections from *Community Organizing for Urban School Reform* |
| **Assignment(s) Due** | Field experience final documentation |
| **Date**       | December 12                              |
| **Assignment(s) Due** | Student Presentations         |
|                | Community Based Research Projects       |
IDEA Course Evaluation Link for Students
Each course you take in the School of Education is evaluated through the IDEA Campus Labs system. We ask that when you receive an email alerting you that the evaluation is available that you promptly complete it. To learn more about IDEA or to access the website directly to complete your course evaluation go to: http://luc.edu/idea/ and click on STUDENT IDEA LOGIN on the left hand side of the page.

Dispositions
All students are assessed on one or more dispositional areas of growth across our programs: Professionalism, Fairness, and the Belief that All Students Can Learn. The instructor in your course will identify the dispositions assessed in this course and you can find the rubrics related to these dispositions in LiveText. Disposition data is reviewed by program faculty on a regular basis. This allows faculty to work with students to develop throughout their program and address any issues as they arise.

LiveText
All students, except those who are non-degree, must have access to LiveText to complete the benchmark assessments aligned to the Conceptual Framework Standards and all other accreditation, school-wide and/or program-wide related assessments. You can access more information on LiveText here: LiveText.

Syllabus Addendum Link

- www.luc.edu/education/syllabus-addendum/

This link directs students to statements on essential policies regarding academic honesty, accessibility, ethics line reporting and electronic communication policies and guidelines. We ask that you read each policy carefully.

This link will also bring you to the full text of our conceptual framework that guides the work of the School of Education – Social Action through Education.