EDUC 622- Case Studies in Middle and Secondary Education

Course Description:
This course seeks to integrate theories of effective teaching and the practice of teaching through the use of case studies. The primary objective of the course is to encourage learners to examine the practice of teaching, to apply theory to the practice of teaching, to facilitate process whereby teachers learn to reflect on their practice, and to encourage the use of research to inform practice. These objectives will be met by analyzing case studies in which participants must come to terms with the ambiguity of school and classroom situations and develop problem-solving methods in response to those situations.

Course Requirements
A course using case studies is not intended to be a passive learning experience. The course will require active on-line participation by members in order to achieve our learning goals. Class members should be prepared to participate in multiple discussion boards each week and critically evaluating the readings, the theories and their own experiences. Thus, members are expected to read the assignments; to post their work and assignments on the dates due; to questions and think about what is posted and discussed; and to actively engage each other in a learning experience.

Course Texts:
How Can I Fix It?: Finding Solutions and Managing Dilemmas: An Educator's Road Map, Cuban L. (2001) and other articles as assigned

Objectives: At the end of the course participants will be able to:
* Explore and analyze the ambiguous nature of school settings
* Examine multiple perspectives on a situation
* Apply theoretical constructs to the analysis of classroom problems
* Reflect on their own practices and that of others

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