Instructor and Class Information

- Instructor: Dr. Brian Beavers, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Stephen F. Austin State University
- Office: Bush Mathematical Sciences Building 310
- ZOOM Personal Meeting Room: sfasu.zoom.us/my/drbeaverssfa
- Email: beaversbd@sfasu.edu
- Telephone: 936.468.1433
- Office Hours: 2-3pm MW, 10am-12pm T, 10-11am R, or by appointment

Class Meeting Information

Class Meetings and Location: 7:35-8:50am MW in Bush Mathematical Sciences Building Room 205

Course Expectations:

The following is an excerpt from SFA Policy 5.4:

The federal definition of a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates:

1. Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or 10 to 12 weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time, or;
2. At least an equivalent amount of work as outlined in item 1 above for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

To this end, all students in courses offered by Stephen F. Austin State University who wish to be successful should plan to spend a minimum of three hours of work for every credit hour associated with this course.

Expected activities to be completed in the time include reviewing course content, reading assigned course resources, completing all assigned exercises and projects, and performing periodic assessment preparation. Students should check daily for course announcements.

Required Materials

- Two books for assigned readings:
- Functional computer and internet connectivity, preferably high-speed
- Microsoft Office 365 and Microsoft Teams (provided by SFA)

About This Course

Prerequisites: JTCH 1102 (Step 2: Inquiry-Based Lesson Design)
Course Topics:

Please see the calendar in D2L for our course topics, assigned readings, and deadlines. This is a tentative list of topics that may change once we get going.

- Course Orientation
- What is Science? What is Mathematics?
- Plato's Philosophy of Mathematics
- Revolutions in Astronomy
- Paradoxes of Division
- Minus Times Minus is What?
- Radical Puzzles
- Species, Monsters, and Things in Between
- Darwin's Path to Evolution
- Questions and Evidence on Evolution
- Secrets of the Alchemists
- Impossible Chemistry
- Discovery of the Electron
- Infinitely Small
- Prisoners of Probability
- The Age of the Earth
- Non-Euclidean Geometry
- Philosophies of Math: Choose or Sleepwalk?
- Sir Isaac Newton
- Albert Einstein

Course Description: This upper-division history course explores a selection of topics and episodes in the history of science and mathematics. The specific objectives and expectations in the table following this section are part of four broad, interlocking goals:

- to provide you with an overview of the history of science and mathematics;
- to enable you to put these historical perspectives and context to work in pedagogy;
- to promote intellectual curiosity and sharpen your critical thinking skills; and
- to improve your presentation and writing skills.

As a key component of this course, you will design and prepare one 5E Lesson Plans of at least 2,000 words. You will select the subject of these lesson plans from a variety of options. (Detailed instructions will be distributed separately.) Once graded, you will incorporate corrections into your lesson plan and electronically post the revised product for an opportunity to improve your grade. Additionally, you will give a formal presentation of lesson plans to a group of peers and participate in critiquing presentations of others.

The course includes a midterm exam designed to test the extent to which you have followed, engaged, and learned from the topics discussed in class as well as from assigned readings. As a final exam you will have a 30-minute oral exam where you answer some questions about what you have learned over the whole semester.

The assigned readings for this course vary in length and you are encouraged to read thoughtfully in all cases. Lightly skimming the material will not adequately prepare you for the level of critical thinking and engagement you are expected to display in class discussions. Some of the readings are from primary sources (such as writings by prominent scientists), other readings are from secondary texts (such as by historians). You are also required to do additional research and reading to inform your lesson plans. (Keep this in mind when budgeting your time for this course). Each week you will write and turn in a short reflection paper on topics related to the material covered - presenting your understanding of the issues raised and how knowing about this issue will affect your classroom practice.

Classes are conducted as a mixture of lecture and discussion. Accordingly, attendance and participation are important, as you can see from the grading distributions below. Attendance will be taken daily, and will be used in evaluating your overall grade for class participation. You are encouraged to ask questions at any time during lectures, as well as to speak up and offer thoughts, ideas, and opinions during class discussions.

Course Objectives:

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<th>Students will...</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
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<td>describe the historical development of aspects of science and mathematics relevant to future teachers.</td>
<td>Reflection papers, Participation in class discussions</td>
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describe several analytic frameworks for understanding the history of science and mathematics.

analyze the history and content of evolutionary theory.

express ideas and opinions clearly and effectively in formal writing.

develop skills in searching for, retrieving, and evaluating the provenance and reliability of, source materials, on- and offline, including specific resources available to teachers.

integrate approaches and material learned in the course with independent research and science or math content to design middle and high school science and math lessons.

reflect on and critique their own work, particularly lesson plans, and that of others.

Certification Standards:

This course meets educator preparation standards for one or more certification programs; a complete listing of all the educator preparation standards this course meets can be found at: https://sfasu.edu/docs/jacksteach/jacksteach-standards-alignment-chart.xlsx

Expectations:

1. Everyone is expected to attend class. You have one free absence without consequences. After that you must provide written medical proof of illness, or another acceptable exemption, otherwise, you will lose .5 percentage points from your participation grade component for each absence.

2. Work turned in late without an extension approved by the instructors will be penalized 50%. If you are unable to meet a deadline for a major grade component, you are expected to contact the instructor at least 24 hours before the deadline, or the 50% penalty may apply.

3. One of the goals of this course is to give you a chance to improve your skill in writing about technical material. You may (and likely will) be given opportunity to revise writing that does not meet standards and expectations. Our expectation of writing quality will likely rise as your skill improves through the semester.

4. Readings will either be in one of the two required texts for the class, be posted in D2L Brightspace, available online (from reliable sources), or handed out in class (if they are from outdated original sources). All readings will be announced on a weekly basis; if for whatever reason you miss a day of class, you are responsible for obtaining the assignment.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Grade Components:

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<th>Activities</th>
<th>Percentage of Course Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Assignments and Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Lesson Plan</td>
<td>30%</td>
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Lesson Plan Presentation 20%
Written Midterm Exam 15%
Oral Final Exam 15%
TOTAL 100%

Grading Scale:
90 to 100 = A
80 to 89 = B
70 to 79 = C
60 to 69 = D
below 60 = F

The SFA Way

"...striving for personal excellence in everything that we do."

At Stephen F. Austin State University, our faculty, staff, alumni and students believe in doing things "The SFA Way." We expect the best from ourselves and from each other, and we hold each other accountable when we fail to maintain these standards.

Root Principles

Grounded in the five "Root Principles" below, members of the SFASU community seek to strive for personal excellence in everything that we do.

The Principle of Respect:
Lumberjacks command respect and treat others with respect • They are considerate of others and tolerant of differences • They demonstrate respect for those around them by avoiding the use of offensive or profane language • They do not threaten or harm anyone and deal peacefully and civilly with conflict.

The Principle of Caring:
Lumberjacks think of the needs of others and seek to improve the quality of life of those around them • They are compassionate, empathic and kind • They respond with humility to those they have helped and express gratitude freely to those who help them • Lumberjacks prepare themselves to become leaders in their communities and workplaces • They dedicate themselves to excellence in their chosen field of study and to using what they learn in the service of others.

The Principle of Responsibility:
Lumberjacks do what is right • They persevere in times of adversity • Through self-control and self-discipline, they strive to do their best • Lumberjacks challenge each other to exceed expectations • They are active learners both inside and outside of the classroom • They are reliable; they do what they say they will do • Lumberjacks hold themselves accountable for their decisions •

The Principle of Unity:
Lumberjacks are loyal to their friends, family, university, state and country • Lumberjacks stand together against any adversary • They recognize that though we are very different from one another, we are united by the Lumberjack Spirit. Lumberjacks seek to understand the people and world around them • When one lumberjack fails, all fail • When one lumberjack succeeds, all succeed.

The Principle of Integrity:
Lumberjacks have the courage to do what is right, even when it is hard or unpopular • They respond to each situation with steadfast values that are not subject to change based on the actions of others • They seek opportunities to practice effective and ethical leadership • Lumberjacks are honest; they do not deceive, cheat or steal • Lumberjacks stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves • As lifelong learners, lumberjacks are committed to continuously improving themselves.
Academic Integrity

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one's self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades (SFA Policy 5.5)

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. The circumstances precipitating the request must have occurred after the last day in which a student could withdraw from a course. Students requesting a WH must be passing the course with a minimum projected grade of C. For additional information, go to [https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf).

Students with Disabilities

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices).

Student Wellness and Well-Being

SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.
If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:

The Dean of Students Office (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents
936.468.7249
dos@sfasu.edu

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic Human Services, Room 202
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
936.468.1041

The Health and Wellness Hub “The Hub”
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.

To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:

- Health Services
- Counseling Services
- Student Outreach and Support
- Food Pantry
- Wellness Coaching
- Alcohol and Other Drug Education

www.sfasu.edu/thehub
936.468.4008
thehub@sfasu.edu

Crisis Resources:

- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
- National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

Acceptable Student Behavior

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom.