Thurgood Marshall College 198 (4 units), Pass/No Pass  
Fall 2009

Professor Hugh Mehan  
and Rafael Hernandez,  
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Wednesdays, 5:00pm-6:00pm or  
Thursdays, 5:00 pm-6:00pm

SYLLABUS

Course Description

**TMC 198**

The purpose of the course is (1) to provide UCSD students with hands-on experience in urban schools, especially the constraints on 6-12 students’ learning in these settings; (2) to enable UCSD students to conduct basic research on issues of urban education directed toward improving educational quality and preparing students for college;

**Field Experience:** Students will be involved in a Service Learning Project 10 hours per week for 10 weeks at Lincoln High School, Gompers Preparatory Academy, or The Preuss School UCSD.

**Research Paper:** Students will conduct a research project. The topic of the project will be established in conjunction with the Intern Supervisor at the school site and the course instructors. The intent of the project is assist the school site improve practice and to give UCSD students experience in gathering data, analyzing data, and reporting it succinctly. Students will be expected to integrate class material with this field experience.

Course Readings

Sonia Nieto, “Profoundly Multicultural Questions”  
Fager, Jennifer, “Tutoring Strategies for Successful Learning”  
Rosen & Mehan, Reestablishing Equality  
Alvarez & Mehan, Whole School Detracking  
Mehan, Inter-Organizational Collaboration  
Jones, Lincoln High School
Course Expectations

Students are expected to:
- Complete 90-100 hours at the school site during the quarter (40%)
- Complete all readings and attend and actively participate in 4 class meetings (10%).
- Complete 8-12 page research paper; due Friday of finals work (30%)
- Present a 15 minute presentation on the research topic (20%).

Service Learning

Service learning is a method in which students learn and develop organized activities that are conducted in and meet the needs of a community. In our case, service learning is coordinated with UCSD partnership schools. It helps foster civic responsibility; is integrated into and enhances the academic experiences of the students enrolled.

Each student will select a school (Lincoln High School, Gompers Preparatory Academy, Preuss School) to conduct a quarter-long service learning project. This is an opportunity to become part of a “real world” setting that addresses the needs of a diverse population of students. Your service will affect you personally and the community you work with.

Service learning should be a reciprocal arrangement in that you will be both a participant and a learner. Participants are perceived as colleagues, not as servers and clients. You will be involved in a process that can bring lasting benefits to the community and do the real work of bringing about social change. We anticipate that each of you will change as a result of this experience.

Weekly Journal (Recommended)

A research paper is due at the end of the quarter. To assist you in writing this paper, we recommend that you keep a journal weekly. Consider including the following information:
- Description of your site
- Mission statement
- Who are the leaders?
- Who is your supervisor? What are his/her responsibilities?
- Who attends, why and how often?
- Does it have a web site? Check it out and describe the info that it offers.
- What service do educational professionals at the site offer the community?
- What is their approach to providing a culturally relevant experience?
- To what extent do professionals at the site seem to be aware of the culturally specific background of students and integrate it into their practice?
- What are some of the challenges you face in your internship?

Notes from these journals should help you participate in class discussions and can be included in your final report.