

Communicating Science - EART 240
Monday 10:00-12:00, E&MS Room D250

Purpose of course:

This course is for students interested in improving their ability to communicate their scientific knowledge by teaching science in local schools. The course will combine instruction in inquiry-based science teaching methods with six weeks of supervised teaching in a local elementary school classroom. Students will practice communicating scientific knowledge, and receive mentoring on how to improve their presentations.

Instructor:

Adina Paytan, E&MS Room C308; apaytan@ucsc.edu

Please come to discuss class issues or any thing else any time, just make sure I am around via email.

Homework: Very short assignments will be given occasionally

Discussion: A large fraction of the learning (and your grade) is based your participation in discussion in class so be prepared to participate! Please feel free to take advantage of this class to discuss other issues related to science education.

Requirements: - Participation in class discussion and activities including teaching
- Observing and teaching in a local school
- Development of an original science activity
- Short presentation in class

Grading: - Participation in class discussion and assignments (40%)
- Teaching in schools (30%)
- Development and presentation of activity (lesson idea proposal) (30%)

By the end of this class you should feel that you have improved your ability to communicate science to K-12 students and the general public effectively.

NOTE: While we are focusing on K-12 the skills and practice you will gain is relevant to teaching at any level.

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Class Schedule Fall 2014

Week	*Date	Topic	Assignments
1	06-Oct	Teaching Science	
2	13-Oct	Comparing Teaching Approaches	Hand in your Fall schedule
3	20-Oct	Blank Slates or Clever Minds	Classes assigned this week
4	27-Oct	Questioning Strategies	Class observation – Know your kits
5	03-Nov	Promoting Discussion	Teaching session week 1
6	10-Nov	Designing a Lesson	Teaching session week 2
7	17-Nov	Assessment	Teaching session week 3
8	24-Nov	Holiday	Teaching session week 4 Lesson idea proposal due (1 page)
9	01-Dec	Creating an Inclusive Environment	Teaching session week 5
10	08-Dec	Communicating Research (AGU)	Prepare your lesson
11 Final	*12-Dec	Oral Presentation in class	Written lesson plan due (1-2 pages)

* Schedule might change a bit due to holidays and other conflicts (e.g. AGU etc.)

** Supper short assignments will be given occasionally