Developing subject Knowledge for the Primary Years  E209

Presentation pattern  October to June

Module description

This module is the compulsory level 2 (SCQF level 8) module for the BA (Hons) Education Studies (Primary) degree (Q94) and the Diploma of Higher Education in Education Studies (Primary) (W54). It is for students with an interest in primary education, for those aspiring to become primary school teachers, or to pursue other careers within education. E209 is an optional module in the BA (Hons) Early Childhood degree (Q89) and the Diploma of Higher Education in Early Childhood (W50) and is appropriate for early years practitioners with an interest in children’s transitions, who wish to develop their own subject knowledge.

Students will further develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of supporting primary school children’s learning in mathematics, language and literacy, science and computing & ICT by developing their own knowledge in these subjects. They will identify and reflect critically on their own subject knowledge, and related attitudes, experiences and perspectives and consider the implications for practice. They will evaluate and analyse the potential impact of enhanced subject knowledge on their learning and that of children. Students will examine the curriculum in their setting, how it is planned and carried out; explore the factors that affect children’s learning and examine the role of subject knowledge in established curriculum frameworks.

If they are not already working or volunteering in a practice setting, students are encouraged to arrange access throughout the module (a minimum of 10 days is suggested). This is a practice-focused, rather than a work-based module. As such, there is no requirement or support from the OU (including the tutor) for the establishment of formal mentoring arrangements in school.

Students will develop academic and professional skills including:

• evaluating and communicating information effectively to others,
• using a range of digital technologies effectively for study, online collaboration and to support their continuing professional development,
• planning and managing time and tasks and working to deadlines,
• identifying strengths and areas for development, and seeking and learning from feedback.

Person specification

The person specification for this module should be read in conjunction with the generic person specification for an associate lecturer at The Open University.

As well as meeting all the requirements set out in the generic person specification, you should have:

• a degree in one of the following: Education Studies, Early Childhood or a primary curriculum subject
• qualified teacher status or experience as a primary school teacher or teacher educator
• a broad understanding of primary subject knowledge in English, mathematics, science and computing & ICT and how to teach it effectively
• experience of working alongside teaching assistants, volunteers and/or similar learning support staff
• experience of assessing and giving effective written feedback on assignments produced by adult learners
• the ability to support students in online tutorials and to help them to develop skills for studying effectively online
• an awareness of the different curricula in different nations.

It would be an advantage to have:

• experience of working with others to deliver tuition
Additional information

As well as traditional printed study material, E209 includes a significant amount of online study. All tutorials are online. Tutors are expected to be proactive in supporting their students to become confident and effective in their engagement online. Tutors are expected to engage in the following support for students on a regular basis:

- starting and supporting regular online discussion threads, moderating/teaching on your students’ tutor group forum.
- including tutorial activities that require students to engage in a range of the module’s online features, and responding to any difficulties that students may experience with any of these
- setting up and trouble-shooting small e-groups within your tutor group (but not moderating these)
- regular email contact with individual students and, where appropriate, members of the central module team and your cluster manager.

Tuition on this module will involve working as part of a team of associate lecturers in a cluster group. You will be working as part of a collaborative team, sharing tuition tasks for online tutorials. You will be expected to check into the Tutor Forum on a regular basis.

Module related details - a full explanation can be found on the website

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<th>Credits awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module:</th>
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<td>Level of ICT requirements:</td>
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<td>Number of students likely to be in a standard group:</td>
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<td>Estimated number of hours per teaching week:</td>
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