Hands-Science Learning at Cooper Elementary

Learning styles based on auditory, visual, and kinesthetic learning methods are often incorporated into classrooms, particularly kinesthetic learning in reading instruction. However, classrooms and studies alike have not addressed the potential benefits for more conceptual subjects such as science. Environmental Science major Amanda Anderson, Psychology major Alexis Seitz, and faculty mentors Juk Bhattacharyya (Geology & Geography) and Ozgur Yavuzcetin (Physics) partnered with Cooper Elementary in Burlington. Their work, through a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship in Community Based Research, supports the elementary instructors as they implement kinesthetic learning in science classrooms, impacting a total of 24 fourth grade students.

Using written stories, 3D printer models, and a questionnaire, the students learn about water transportation in relation to rainfall and steam flow in a more tangible, hands-on way. "We've talked with elementary teachers about the need for more hands-on lessons," explain Anderson and Seitz.
"And school districts are pushing for interactive learning, so with this project we're hoping to help support this idea of kinesthetic learning through gathering empirical data." The students hope to create an online library of printable, 3D lessons for teachers to access and utilize in their classrooms.

Incorporating kinesthetic approaches to the instruction of students in the sciences more directly involves students in their learning, captivating and engaging their minds in new ways. Anderson and Seitz agree: "We're hoping to introduce a new way of teaching that not only helps elementary students understand science, but gets them inspired about the subject, too."

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**Exciting New Partnership Brings Noncredit Courses to UW-Whitewater**

Continuing Education at UW-Whitewater is excited to announce a new partnership with Education2Go (Ed2Go), bringing affordable and accessible online classes to our community. These highly interactive noncredit classes are led by expert faculty, including nationally known authors. Over 300 classes are available in a wide range of subject areas. Are you looking to change or move up in your career? How about a class in Project Management or Accounting Fundamentals. Do you own your own side business or volunteer with an organization? Creating a Successful Business Plan or Quick Books might be classes for you. Are you looking for a fun class to stay engaged during the long winter? Try Travel Photography or Genealogy Basics.

Classes are approximately six weeks long and are fully online, starting monthly. There are no prerequisites for the courses and no experience in online classes needed. If the course content relates to your current position, talk with your supervisor about whether your professional development funds can cover the cost of the course. Questions? Contact Kari Borne at bornek@uww.edu.

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**Spring Lecture Series to Focus on Entertainment and Performance**

The theme of the 11 lectures in the Spring Fairhaven Lecture Series is "All the World's a Stage." Inspired by the lasting legacy world's most influential playwright, the Series takes a line from Shakespeare's As You Like It to guide our exploration and celebration of entertainment and performance in our world today. Dance, rock and roll, Hollywood, Disney, community theatre, and Carnegie Hall are just a few of the topics to be covered in the free, public lectures. Presenters from across campus and from area performing arts centers and historical sites will offer talks on Monday afternoons at 3p.m. in Fellowship Hall of Fairhaven Senior Services in Whitewater. Videos of these lectures, and over 100 lectures can be accessed on our website. Join us at Fairhaven on Mondays, or online anytime.

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**The Shifting Roles of School Librarians**
When you were a student, what did you think the role of a school librarian was? Maybe you saw them as keepers of the books, people that recommended new books to read. Perhaps they taught you how to research and find scholarly online sources. The role of school librarians has shifted through the years, but the overall goal has stayed the same: they are working to build skilled and enthusiastic learners. As more school librarians reach retirement age, many districts are recruiting new school librarians from experienced teachers already in the district.

To help school districts educate experienced teachers on the shifting roles of a school librarian and their importance to student education, Eileen Schroeder (Educational Foundations) and Stacy Fisher (Huron Consulting Group, formerly of Waunakee High School) formed a leadership team called the Emerging Roles of Librarians (ERL). Using funds from an Education Outreach grant, The ERL team offered three summer workshops across the state, designed to share the positive impact of the school librarian and provide teachers with hands-on experience that would benefit them in the classroom. The workshops also provided teachers with information on certification programs should they decide to become licensed school librarians.

The workshops led some participants to pursue the additional training required for school librarians and media specialists. UW-Whitewater offers a graduate distance education program in collaboration with several other institutions called the University of Wisconsin System School Library Education Consortium (UWSSLEC). This program allows teachers to earn the licensure required to move into a school librarian position. The workshops offered by the ERL team drew experienced teachers who bring a wealth of knowledge and understanding of school culture and children to their work as a school librarian. Participants and organizers agree: the emerging roles of school librarians are vital to the successful development of student learning.

Visit the Roseman Gallery

You’re invited to stroll the second floor hall of Roseman and enjoy three oil paintings on loan from the Crossman Gallery, surrounded by photos by Tapan Shah of the many people impacted by the work of the School of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education. New photos were recently selected by Roseman residents, and will be on display for your viewing pleasure.
Photo selection process.

Grandchildren's University, 2015.

A new graduate and her proud family.

A student veteran studies at the UC.

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