



ED325 Course Syllabus (Spring 2026, 3 Credits)

Elementary Social Studies (CCPI)

School of Education and Behavioral Sciences

[Chaminade University Honolulu](#)

3140 Waialae Avenue - Honolulu, HI 96816

Instructor: John Akapito
Email: john.akapito@chaminade.edu

Office Hours: Tue 3:30- 5:30 PM (Chuuk time) on any of the following:
- Google Chat;
- Google Meet (<https://meet.google.com/fht-osnf-imx>) or Onsite - CCPI campus.
Please send an email to indicate how you want to meet.

Email is the best way to reach me with questions about course assignments or policies. I will answer all emails by the next school day (usually within 24 hours, though weekends may take longer).

Department: School of Education and Behavioral Sciences

Term: Spring 2026

Class Meetings: ED 325-02 -4 T/Th 5:30 pm - 6:50 pm Computer 2
ED 325-01-4 T/Th 7:00 pm - 8:20 pm Computer 2

Course Catalog Description:

This course focuses on the best methods of instruction in elementary grade social studies, i.e. in history, geography, cultural anthropology, political science/civics and economics. The course will familiarize the student with the related benchmarks as outlined in the FSM National Curriculum Standards. This is primarily a methods course, but attention will be paid to mastery of the content areas as well.

Course Overview:

In this course you will explore theories of student-centered pedagogy; study diverse methods of delivering instruction, and develop a curriculum focused on social justice issues and grounded in students' experience and interests.

Marianist Values:

This class represents one component of your education at Chaminade University of Honolulu. An education in the Marianist Tradition is marked by five principles and you should take every opportunity possible to reflect upon the role of these characteristics in your education and development:

1. Education for formation in faith
2. Provide an integral, quality education
3. Educate in family spirit

4. Educate for service, justice and peace
5. Educate for adaptation and change

While all five characteristics are present in this course, we will pay particular attention to “education for service, justice, and peace.” This course will demonstrate methods for incorporating complex questions of equality, fairness, and social justice into the social studies curriculum in a way that is age- and grade-level appropriate. You will demonstrate your understanding of these approaches through weekly discussions, reflection essays, and the creation of unit/lesson plans.

Native Hawaiian Values:

Education is an integral value in both Marianist and Native Hawaiian culture. Both recognize the transformative effect of a well-rounded, value-centered education on society, particularly in seeking justice for the marginalized, the forgotten, and the oppressed, always with an eye toward God (Ke Akua). This is reflected in the ‘Ōlelo No‘eau (Hawaiian proverbs) and Marianist core beliefs:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith (Mana) E ola au i ke akua (‘Ōlelo No‘eau 364) May I live by God
2. Provide an Integral, Quality Education (Na‘auao) Lawe i ka ma‘alea a kū‘ono‘ono (‘Ōlelo No‘eau 1957) Acquire skill and make it deep
3. Educate in Family Spirit (‘Ohana) ‘Ike aku, ‘ike mai, kōkua aku kōkua mai; pela iho la ka nohana ‘ohana (‘Ōlelo No‘eau 1200) Recognize others, be recognized, help others, be helped; such is a family relationship
4. Educate for Service, Justice and Peace (Aloha) Ka lama kū o ka no‘eau (‘Ōlelo No‘eau 1430) Education is the standing torch of wisdom
5. Educate for Adaptation and Change (Aina) ‘A‘ohe pau ka ‘ike i ka hālau ho‘okahi (‘Ōlelo No‘eau 203) All knowledge is not taught in the same school

Chuukese Cultural Values:

Education is an integral value in both Marianist and Native Chuukese culture. Both recognize the transformative effect of a well-rounded, value-centered education on society, particularly in seeking justice for the marginalized, the forgotten, and the oppressed, always with an eye toward God (Ewe Popun Manau). This is reflected in the Kapas Ononnoonun Eereni (Chuukese proverbs) and Marianist core beliefs:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith (Ach Achifeuwa) non Pwuung, Wenewen, me Kinammwe. May I live by God.
2. Provide an Integral, Quality Education (Peekin Kaeo mi Masooso). Acquire skill and make it deep
3. Educate in Family Spirit. Iecho, Iechu, me Tipechu non Pungiro. Recognize others, be recognized, help others, be helped; such is a family relationship
4. Educate for Service, Justice and Peace (Angefich, Puung me Kinammwe). Education is the standing torch of wisdom
5. Educate for Adaptation and Change (Etiwa Minafeen Ekiek). All knowledge is not taught in the same school

Model Code of Ethics for Educators:

The Model Code of Ethics for Educators is intertwined throughout the various activities within this course, as well as the other courses you will take within this program. The responsibility to profession, of professional competence, to our students, to the school, and with the use of technology are integral to all aspects of this course.

CUS Core Competencies:

- 1. Written Communication
- 2. Oral Communication
- 3. Quantitative reasoning
- 4. Critical Thinking
- 5. Information Literacy

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs):

Upon completion of the undergraduate B.S. program in Elementary Education, students will be able to:

- 1. Apply knowledge of learner development, learner differences, diverse students and the learning environment to optimize learning for Elementary students.
- 2. Describe central concepts, tools of inquiry and structures of the subject matter disciplines for Elementary students.
- 3. Utilize formative and summative assessments, to determine, select, and implement effective instructional strategies for Elementary students.
- 4. Analyze the history, values, commitments, and ethics of the teaching profession within the school community.
- 5. Explain the Marianist tradition of providing an integral, quality education within diverse learning communities.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs):

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Define social studies education and explain its role in the K-6 curriculum.
- 2. Design cross-curricular, thematic lessons infused with social studies themes.
- 3. Develop a pedagogical vision grounded in social justice education that could be implemented in an elementary classroom.
- 4. Articulate strategies to help students make informed decisions as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society and interdependent world.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes:

	CLO 1	CLO 2	CLO 3	CLO 4
Marianist Values	2	2	4	4

CUS Core Competencies	1, 4	1, 4	1, 4	1, 4
Program Learning Outcomes	2, 4	2	4, 5	4, 5

Professional and Organizational Standards:

- [NCSS National Standards for the Preparation of Social Studies Teachers](#)
- [College, Career, and Civic Life \(C3\) Framework for Social Studies State Standards: Guidance for Enhancing the Rigor of K-12 Civics, Economics, Geography, and History](#)

Required Texts:

None - All reading assignments will be provided on Canvas.

Course Website:

This course can be accessed through your Canvas dashboard at <https://chaminade.instructure.com/>

Technical Assistance for Canvas Users:

- [How do I get help with Canvas as a student?](#)
- [Live chat with Canvas Support for students](#)
- Canvas Support Hotline for students: +1-833-209-6111
- [Watch this video to get you started](#)
- [Online tutorials](#): click on “Students” role to access tutorials
- Contact the Chaminade IT Helpdesk for technical issues: helpdesk@chaminade.edu or call (808) 735-4855

Tutoring and Writing Services:

Chaminade is proud to offer free, one-on-one tutoring and writing assistance to all students. Tutoring and writing help is available on campus at Kōkua ‘Ike: Center for Student Learning in a variety of subjects (including, but are not limited to: biology, chemistry, math, nursing, English, etc.) from trained Peer and Professional Tutors. Please check Kōkua ‘Ike’s website (<https://chaminade.edu/advising/kokua-ike/>) for the latest times, list of drop-in hours, and information on scheduling an appointment. Free online tutoring is also available via TutorMe. Tutor Me can be accessed 24/7 from your Canvas account. Simply click Account – Notifications – TutorMe. For more information, please contact Kōkua ‘Ike at tutoring@chaminade.edu or 808-739-8305.

Assessment:

Assignments should be turned in on the due date noted on the course Canvas page or otherwise indicated in class. Each assignment is worth ten points and your overall grade will be calculated based on the total number of points you earn divided by the number of points possible.

I will grade all assignments within three school days of submission. If you submit on Monday, it will be graded by the end of the day on Thursday. Weekends and holidays will take longer for a response.

In this course, letter grades are defined as follows:

A (100-90%)	B (89-80%)	C (79-70%)	D (69-60%)	F (59-0%)
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Letter grades are given in all courses except those conducted on a credit/no credit basis. Grades are calculated from the student's daily work, class participation, quizzes, tests, term papers, reports and the final examination. They are interpreted as follows:

- A Outstanding scholarship and an unusual degree of intellectual initiative
- B Superior work done in a consistent and intellectual manner
- C Average grade indicating a competent grasp of subject matter
- D Inferior work of the lowest passing grade, not satisfactory for fulfillment of prerequisite course work
- F Failed to grasp the minimum subject matter; no credit given

Late Work Policy:

All assignments should be turned in by the due date if possible. I am willing to accept late work; however, all late assignments must be submitted by the end of the semester.

Grade of Incomplete:

If students are unable to complete the course due to circumstances beyond their control, the instructor will consider offering a grade of "incomplete". This will provide the student with 90 days beyond the end of the term to complete all outstanding course requirements. Please note that a grade of "incomplete" must be discussed with the instructor before the end of the term. If a student does not contact the instructor by the end of the term to discuss the possibility of an incomplete, they will be awarded the grade they have earned to that point.

Instructor and Student Communication:

Questions for this course can be emailed to the instructor at scott.wylie@chaminade.edu. Zoom or phone conferences can be arranged. I will answer all emails by the next school day (usually within 24 hours, though weekends may take longer).

Email Guidelines:

- Use your Chaminade email account.
- Always include a subject line.

- Remember without facial expressions some comments may be taken the wrong way. Be careful in wording your emails. Use of emoticons might be helpful in some cases.
- Use standard fonts.
- Special formatting such as centering, audio messages, tables, html, etc. should be avoided unless necessary to complete an assignment or other communication.

Community of Practice Communication Guidelines:

- Do not make insulting or inflammatory statements. Be respectful of others' ideas.
- Be patient and read the comments of others thoroughly before posting your remarks.
- Be positive and constructive.
- Consider how your posts help to further the discussion and/or meet course learning outcomes.

University Policies

Disability Access:

If you need individual accommodations to meet course outcomes because of a documented disability, please speak with me to discuss your needs as soon as possible so that we can ensure your full participation in class and fair assessment of your work. Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations from Kōkua 'Ike: Center for Student Learning by the end of week three of the class, in order for instructors to plan accordingly. If a student would like to determine if they meet the criteria for accommodations, they should contact the Kōkua 'Ike Coordinator at (808) 739-8305 for further information (ada@chaminade.edu).

Title IX and Nondiscrimination Statement

Chaminade University of Honolulu is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes the dignity of all people, inclusivity and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator.

Nondiscrimination Policy & Notice of Nondiscrimination

Chaminade University of Honolulu does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and its regulations, including in admission and employment. Inquiries about Title IX may be referred to the University's Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both and contact information may be found at the [Chaminade University Title IX Office Contact Information and Confidential Resources website](#). On-campus Confidential Resources may also be found here at [CAMPUS CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES](#).

The University's Nondiscrimination Policy and Grievance Procedures can be located

on the University webpage at:

<https://chaminade.edu/compliance/title-ix-nondiscrimination-policies-procedures/>.

To report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination or make a complaint of sex discrimination under Title IX, please refer to the [Campus Incident Report form](#). Chaminade University of Honolulu prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates. The NOTICE of NONDISCRIMINATION can be found here: [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#)

Attendance Policy:

The following attendance policy is from the 2019-2020 Academic Catalog (p. 54-55). Faculty members should also check with their divisions for division-specific guidelines.

Students are expected to attend regularly all courses for which they are registered. Student should notify their instructors when illness or other extenuating circumstances prevents them from attending class and make arrangements to complete missed assignments. Notification may be done by emailing the instructor's Chaminade email address, calling the instructor's campus extension, or by leaving a message with the instructor's division office. It is the instructor's prerogative to modify deadlines of course requirements accordingly. Any student who stops attending a course without officially withdrawing may receive a failing grade.

Unexcused absences equivalent to more than a week of classes may lead to a grade reduction for the course. Any unexcused absence of two consecutive weeks or more may result in being withdrawn from the course by the instructor, although the instructor is not required to withdraw students in that scenario. Repeated absences put students at risk of failing grades.

Students with disabilities who have obtained accommodations from the Chaminade University of Honolulu Tutor Coordinator may be considered for an exception when the accommodation does not materially alter the attainment of the learning outcomes.

Federal regulations require continued attendance for continuing payment of financial aid. When illness or personal reasons necessitate continued absence, the student should communicate first with the instructor to review the options. Anyone who stops attending a course without official withdrawal may receive a failing grade or be withdrawn by the instructor at the instructor's discretion.

Academic Conduct Policy:

From the 2019-2020 Undergraduate Academic Catalog (p. 39):

Any community must have a set of rules and standards of conduct by which it operates. At Chaminade, these standards are outlined so as to reflect both the Catholic, Marianist values of the institution and to honor and respect students as responsible adults. All alleged violations of the community standards are handled through an established student conduct process, outlined in the Student Handbook, and operated within the guidelines set to honor both students' rights and campus values.

Students should conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the ideals of the University. This includes knowing and respecting the intent of rules, regulations, and/or policies presented in the Student Handbook, and realizing that students are subject to the University's jurisdiction from the time of their admission until their enrollment has been formally terminated. Please refer to the Student Handbook for more details. A copy of the Student Handbook is available on the Chaminade website.

For further information, please refer to the Student Handbook:

<https://chaminade.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/NEW-STUDENT-HANDBOOK-19-20-Final-8.20.19.pdf>

Academic Honesty Policy:

Academic honesty is an essential aspect of all learning, scholarship, and research. It is one of the values regarded most highly by academic communities throughout the world. Violations of the principle of academic honesty are extremely serious and will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for promoting academic honesty at Chaminade by not participating in any act of dishonesty and by reporting any incidence of academic dishonesty to an instructor or to a University official. Academic dishonesty may include theft of records or examinations, alteration of grades, and plagiarism, in addition to more obvious dishonesty.

Questions of academic dishonesty in a particular class are first reviewed by the instructor, who must make a report with recommendations to the Dean of the Academic Division. Punishment for academic dishonesty will be determined by the instructor and the Dean of Academic Division and may include an "F" grade for the work in question, an "F" grade for the course, suspension, or dismissal from the University.

For the most up to date information, please refer to the [Academic Honesty Policy](#) on the CUH website.

Credit Hour Policy:

The unit of semester credit is defined as university-level credit that is awarded for the completion of coursework. One credit hour reflects the amount of work represented in the intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement for those learning outcomes. Each credit hour earned at Chaminade University should result in 45 hours of engagement. This equates to one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester, 10 week term, or equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time. Direct instructor engagement and out-of-class work result in total student engagement time of 45 hours for one credit.

The minimum 45 hours of engagement per credit hour can be satisfied in fully online, internship, or other specialized courses through several means, including (a) regular online instruction or interaction with the faculty member and fellow students and (b) academic engagement through extensive reading, research, online discussion, online quizzes or exams; instruction, collaborative group work, internships,

laboratory work, practica, studio work, and preparation of papers, presentations, or other forms of assessment. This policy is in accordance with federal regulations and regional accrediting agencies.

This course is made up of 15 weeks of instruction. Each week you will be in class for 2.5 hours and will have an additional 7-8 hours of work to do. This work can be completed at the CCPI campus or at home when you print out the PDFs and watch the lectures on your phone. This time will consist of reading, watching recorded lectures, and working on course assignments.

Activities Schedule

Week	Assigned Readings
1	Topic: Course Introduction
2	Topic: Civic Ideals and Practices
3	Topic: Civic Ideals and Practices
4	Topic: Understanding FSM Standards and Benchmarks
5	Topic: History - Family Stories (Part 1)
6	Topic: History - Family Stories (Part 2)
7	Topic: Geography - Humans and the Environment (Part 1)

8	Topic: Geography - Humans and the Environment (Part 2)
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9	Topic: Civics - Responsibility in the Community (Part 1)
10	Topic: Civics - Responsibility in the Community (Part 2)
11	Topic: Economics - International Trade (Part 1)
12	Topic: Economics - International Trade (Part 2)
13	Topic: Developing an Inquiry Lesson (Part 1)
14	Topic: Developing an Inquiry Lesson (Part 2)
15	Topic: Sharing Classroom Observations / Course Reflection