

Teachers Tame the Prairie

Vignettes of Eastern Illinois University
and Education in Illinois

Related Exhibits

Philosophy in a Physics Classroom Booth Library, Ballenger Teacher Center

Based on Matthew Lipman's "Philosophy for Children" program, this exhibit demonstrates how a systematic philosophical instructional approach can be used for the enrichment of a physics classroom. A primary goal of Lipman's program is to foster critical thinking and develop reasoning skills by teaching logic. This exhibit shows how fundamental philosophical questions, such as "what is reality," can inform a science classroom.

Laura Wussow, teacher candidate in Physics Education, Eastern Illinois University, curator
Ms. Bettina Becker, mentor, Department of Secondary Education and Foundations



Re-Visioning Education Booth Library Atrium

Works of art created by students in Chris Kahler's Painting III class at Eastern grace this exhibit. The students' representation of the "*Teachers Tame the Prairie*" exhibition illustrates how their interactions, perceptions, and memories have been influenced during their sojourn. Join Professor Kahler and his students on Wednesday, October 27 at 3:00 p.m. in the Booth Library Conference Room 4440 for an oral interpretation of their artistic responses.

Chris Kahler, professor, Art Department, Eastern Illinois University, curator



Nursing Diploma Education

Booth Library, Circulation Hallway, Main Level 3000



Three-year diploma programs outnumbered university-based programs for the education of registered nurses until the 1970s. Diploma education was hospital based, and students were totally immersed in the art and science of nursing. Unisex dorms housed these students near their clinical site, as there were few male students. Starched cotton uniforms and hats were the norm. The educational environment was restrictive, and many felt that hospitals took advantage of student's inexpensive labor. Nevertheless, diploma students performed well on the national licensure exam, and adapted quickly to the workplace after graduation. Almost all nursing education programs are housed in the college or university setting today, as the profession has outgrown the hospital setting. Nurses function in varied and expanded roles which require a broader background in the arts, sciences, and technology than the diploma program could provide.

Linda Ruholl is a registered nurse and an adjunct faculty member in the nursing program at Eastern Illinois University. Linda received a master's degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago and holds a Ph.D. from Walden University. She teaches nursing research and is conducting historical research on a local Civil War nurse, Mother Mary Newcomb. Her clinical expertise is in gerontology. She has contributed to two nursing pharmacology texts, and is published in a number of long-term care, nursing, and educational journals.



Rebecca Merten is an assistant professor in the nursing program at Eastern Illinois University. She states that she has been a nurse "forever" and a Family Nurse Practitioner for 10 years. She first earned an Associate Degree in Nursing, later completing the registered nurse to B.S.N. program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Rebecca worked as a registered nurse in intensive care, cardiopulmonary, and home health care before returning to graduate school. She completed a M.S. in public health nursing with a family nurse practitioner focus from the University of Illinois, and was in full time primary care practice until she began teaching in 2004. After three years of teaching in the Lake Land College associate degree nursing program, she joined Eastern Illinois University. Rebecca is once again back in school, working toward a Ph.D. in higher education at Indiana State University. Research and practice interests include distance education, adult learners, and the role of motivation in behaviors that impact health.