

F26.17 Physical Education Teacher Curriculum Beliefs

Overview

Research suggests physical education teachers make content and instructional decisions based on their curriculum beliefs. Four curriculum beliefs include Physical activity/fitness, self-actualization, social learning, and motor skills. No research to date has observed and measured teacher interactions and student engagement during physical education lessons for each of these four curriculum beliefs. The purpose of this research project will be to observe physical education lessons using the System for Observing Fitness Instruction Time - Curriculum Beliefs (SOFIT-CB) to determine the extent to which teacher reported curricular beliefs correlate with lesson content and teaching methods.

What the student will DO and LEARN

The I2S student involved in this research project will do and learn the following:

1. SOFIT-CB Training

I2S will complete training for using the SOFIT-CB protocol for observing physical education lessons. This training will take approximately 10 hours of effort. The I2S student will learn how to use a validated research protocol to collect data through real time observations of physical education lessons. 2.

Collect SOFIT-CB data

The I2S student will conduct 10-20 observations of physical education lessons and code observations using the SOFIT-CB protocol. The student will learn how to apply a research protocol training to actual data collection for research purposes.

3. Data Analysis

The I2S student will help enter data into a database for data analysis. They will learn how to identify errors in data entry and data coding. They will also see how data can be analyzed and help with analysis as appropriate.

4. IRB and Research Approval

The student will need to provide materials to be included in an IRB amendment for inclusion as "research personnel". The student will learn the basics of research approval and the requirements for NAU's IRB.

Additional benefits

Data/Results will be available for the student to put together a research poster for the NAU Undergraduate Symposium. There will be an acknowledgement of the student in any presentations and manuscripts that Steve Palmer prepares. Opportunity for contributing to manuscripts and professional presentations will be available as a co-author.

Additional qualifications

Ability to travel to participating schools for observations. The location of the I2S student will be considered when selecting observation sites.

Time commitment

6 hrs/week for 30 weeks