

DOWNEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Middle School Course Outline

**Course Title:** Cross Age Teaching (One Semester)  
**Grade Level:** 7, 8  
**Prerequisites:** Counselor and/or teacher approval

**Course Description:**

Students enrolled in Cross Age Teaching will be assigned to assist younger students and/or other students of their age who are experiencing learning difficulties. Students will act as tutors for individual students and perform other duties assigned by the supervising teacher. This course is designed to help the assistants in improving their own skills as well as those students they may tutor.

**Student Performance Objectives for this Course:**

Students will

1. demonstrate the ability to teach an individual or a small group.
2. demonstrate the ability to evaluate student progress.
3. plan lessons for students.
4. recognize if he/she has a desire and/or aptitude for working with children.

## **Cross Age Teaching - continued**

### **Sample Instructional Units**

(Each unit is planned for a one-week period.)

#### **Unit I:ORIENTATION**

Students learn the goals of cross age teaching, how to form good tutor-student relationships, what some common learning problems are, and how school work is relevant to later life. They also become familiar with characteristics of good teachers.

#### **Unit II: ORIENTATION**

Students learn several good teaching techniques and special techniques for teaching reading skills. They also do role playing to become comfortable with these techniques. Students are then tested. Those not passing with a "C" or above do not go to assigned classes until they have mastered the orientation materials.

Unit III: Students are assigned to teachers and classes at their school and at nearby elementary schools.

Unit IV: Students work in assigned classes and turn in summaries of their work.

Unit V: Students work in assigned class.

Unit VI: Students work in assigned classes and turn in summaries of their work.

Unit VII: Students work in assigned classes. They also turn in a description of the bulletin board they will make for their classes.

Unit VIII: Students work in assigned classes and turn in summaries of their work.

Unit IX: Students work in assigned classes and complete bulletin board.

Unit X: Students work in classes and turn in summaries of their work.

Unit XI: Students work in classes and turn in descriptions of their learning games they will make and use in their classes.

Unit XII: Students work in classes and turn in their summaries of their work.

Unit XIII: Students work in classes and turn in their completed learning games.

Unit XIV: Students work in classes and turn in summaries of their work.

## **Cross Age Teaching - continued**

### **Sample Instructional Units - continued**

Unit XV: Students work in classes. They also use their learning games in the classroom.

Unit XVI: Students work in classes. They also fill out a critique of his/her game after using it in the classroom.

Unit XVII: Students work in classes. They also take a semester test.

Unit XVIII: Students complete their work in assigned classes.