

EOU debuts trauma-invested teaching program that opens for enrollment this fall

LA GRANDE, Ore. – As families around the world cope with isolation, illness and financial hardship, Eastern Oregon University faculty members shaped a new concentration to prepare teachers to respond to their students’ needs.

The Trauma in Educational Communities concentration is the only program of its kind in Oregon. It’s part of EOU’s Master of Science in Education program, available fully online. The new concentration, which opens for enrollment in fall 2020, offers ongoing education opportunities for working teachers.

Even before the coronavirus pandemic struck, Dean of the College of Education Matt Seimears found that a significant need for trauma-invested teachers existed in the region.

“Superintendents were calling me to ask what we can provide to help with traumatized students,” Seimears said. “We built this because of the demand in our schools.”

A team of EOU faculty began developing trauma-specific courses in September 2019 and worked collaboratively with K-12 schools to refine them.

“Faculty are in the schools seeing things first-hand. Most program developers never see that,” Seimears said. “We

have the potential to be the leading institution in the state of Oregon with trauma and resilience.”

Associate Professor of Education Amanda Villagómez coordinates EOU’s Master of Science in Education Program and led the faculty team. She said many of the graduate students she works with had chosen to address trauma in educational settings as part of their thesis research.

“School districts offer some training, but they’re often expensive or hard to access. Plus, we wanted to dig deeper than a one-time training,” Villagómez said. “The coursework looks at individual and systemic traumas. They consider the intricacies and the role educators can play, as well as self-care and how teachers who engage in this work can proactively take care of themselves.”

Curriculum addresses all student age groups, from elementary through high school. Interactive elements and a flexible start term mean that students can complete all five courses in just three terms. The content is accessible and applicable to a range of educational professionals, from administrators and recent undergraduates to substitute teachers and those who’ve spent years in the classroom.

“We always have the lens of how this affects teachers in our area,” Villagómez said. “EOU is all about relationships and that’s a big part of the coursework. A lot of what EOU stands for aligns well with principles of trauma-invested care.”

The curriculum development team was very intentional about addressing trauma through a culturally responsive and equitable lens. The College of Education has made culturally responsive teaching a priority across areas of study. In light of current global challenges, that inclusive approach has become even more valuable.

“The COVID pandemic is magnifying or bringing trauma to the surface,” Villagómez said. “Certain populations are having higher rates of impact, and it’s bringing inequities to the surface. Students who were stable before have been shaken up by this traumatic event. All that trauma has come to the forefront, according to what we’re hearing from partners and student teachers.”

The College of Education hopes to expand the concentration into a licensure specialization. For now, though, teachers across the region have access to up-to-the-moment relevant coursework that will assist them as they navigate the range of

experiences students will bring back when their classrooms reopen for instruction.

More information about the Master of Science in Education program and the Trauma in Educational Communities concentration is available at online.eou.edu/programs/master-science-education.

About EOU

Prepare for the world beyond college with Eastern Oregon University’s liberal arts and professional programs. Classes are available when and where you need them – at the main campus in La Grande, online almost anywhere in the world or onsite at EOU centers across the state.

Educational, cultural and economic growth is important to the region, state and nation. That’s why the university is committed to providing a personal, student-centered experience. Visit eou.edu for more information.

Tribal construction skills bank being developed

The Siletz Tribe Housing Department is compiling a list of Tribal members who are willing and able to work on the workforce housing construction project that will commence soon in Neotsu.

The project is funded in part with Indian Housing Block Grant funds that require Indian preference in employment and contracting. The list will be provided to the contractor and subcontractors who will ultimately make the decision in hiring.

If you are interested and available to work, please contact Valerie Hibdon at the Siletz Tribal Housing Department office – 541-444-8322; 800-922-1399, ext. 1322; or valerieh@ctsi.nsn.us. You will need to provide your name, phone number, enrollment number and construction trade.

If you do not have construction experience, you will be added as a potential laborer.

Report shellfish harvests to Natural Resources

Spring low tides herald clam, crab and mussel gathering season. Tribal members using a 2020 Cultural Shellfish Gathering license and permit are reminded to report shellfish harvests to the Tribe’s Natural Resources Department within three business days of harvest.

Reports must include the harvest date, type and number of shellfish gathered on each trip. To report your harvest, please leave your name, phone number and details by calling 800-922-1399, ext. 1227, or 541-444-8227.

Shellfish safety hotline

Domoic acid levels make clams and crab unsafe to eat. Before clamming or crabbing, check the Oregon Shellfish Hotline, 800-448-2474, for safety and conservation closures.

2020-2021 Hunting and Fishing Tags Distribution Schedule

Due to the uncertainties of dealing with COVID-19, Tribal members are encouraged to call to have tags mailed to them after the first date of tag issuance (541-444-8227 or 541-444-8232).

Type of Tag		Number Available	Season Dates	Date to Start Tag Issuance	Method of Issuance
Deer	Early Archery	50	8/29-9/27	8/3 at 8:00 AM at Natural Resources Office	First Come First Served*
	General Rifle	375	10/3-11/6**	8/17	First Come First Served
	Antlerless – Adult	8	10/3-11/6	Lottery applications available 8/3; due 8/28; drawing 9/8; tags issued 9/9	Lottery – Open to Elders Only
	Antlerless – Youth	8	10/3-11/8	Lottery applications available 8/3; due 8/28; drawing 9/8; tags issued 9/9	Lottery – Open to Youth Ages 12-17 Only
	Late Archery	50***	11/21-12/13	<i>First Distribution:</i> 10/19 at 8:00 AM at NR Office <i>Second Distribution:</i> 11/2 at 8:00 AM at NR Office (see Note 2 below)	First Come First Served*
Elk	Antlerless - Youth	2	8/1-12/31	Lottery applications available 6/1; due 7/2; drawing 7/6; tags issued 7/7	Lottery – Open to Youth Ages 12-17 Only
	Early Archery	25	8/29-9/27	8/3 at 8:00 AM at Natural Resources Office	First Come First Served*
	1 st Season Rifle	25	11/14-11/17	Lottery applications available 8/31; due 9/25; drawing 10/5; tags issued 10/6	Lottery
	2 nd Season Rifle	25	11/21-11/27		
	Antlerless	11	Various seasons beginning 1/1/21	Lottery applications available 8/31; due 9/25; drawing 10/5; tags issued 11/30	Lottery
	Late Archery Antlerless	56	11/28-12/13	<i>First Distribution:</i> 10/19 at 8:00 AM at NR Office <i>Second Distribution:</i> 11/2 at 8:00 AM at NR Office (see Note 2 below)	First Come First Served*
Salmon	Salmon	200	11/1-12/30 (estimate)	8/17	First Come First Served

* No early calls to “save” an early archery tag for someone. Must physically show up to obtain tag on first day of distribution. May call to have a tag mailed beginning on the second day of distribution.
** Season for youth ages 12-17 is 10/3 - 11/8 (2 additional days at end of general season)
*** Minus number of tags filled in Deer Early Bow Season. Unfilled Deer Early Bow tags must be returned to Natural Resources by 10/9