Welcome to ELED/SEED 766 Technology Applications for Effective Instruction. My name is Don Versteeg and I will be your instructor for this course. I look forward to getting to know each of you in this course. The course will start on June 12 and end on July 7, 2017.

This course investigates the teaching/learning process and how emerging technologies can be used to support the process. Goals of this class will be accomplished through modeling, discussion, simulations, and practical hands-on experiences. This course is focused on the teaching/learning process in a K-12 school environment for K-12 educators.

The course will consist of researching topics, reading assignments, discussion prompts and working together to build and show your understanding. You will be required to work collaboratively with other students. Daily and frequent communication with other students will be important. Collaborative learning is a shared learning process in which the relationship of a group of students requires positive interdependence (a sense of sink or swim together), individual accountability (each of us has to contribute and learn), interpersonal skills (communication, trust), leadership, decision-making, and processing (reflecting). It is my belief that by learning together, students will learn more in a shorter amount of time while developing and refining social skills and teamwork.

This course will be delivered on-line using Desire2Learn (D2L). Students will receive from USD Continuing Education instructions on how to access D2L as well as the correct userid and password for D2L. Along with using D2L, we will be using a web-based program called Black Board Collaborate. BB Collaborate will allow us to have synchronous (live) conversations and help sessions. In order to use BB Collaborate successfully, I strongly suggest that you purchase an external microphone to connect to your computer. You can purchase an external microphone for little money from many different stores. Students may be expected to participate in scheduled synchronous (live) class events using BB Collaborate and for communicating with other students on collaborative projects and assignments.

You will also want to become familiar the comprehensive student support services provided by the Division of Continuing & Distance Education at http://www.usd.edu/continuing-and-distance-education/student-resources.cfm

The text book for this course will be:

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Don Versteeg
USD School of Education
Division of Curriculum & Instruction
Phone: 605-677-5839
e-mail: dverst@usd.edu