COURSE PREFIX: HIED 697.41E
Assessment of Student Learning
COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer II, 2012

Instructor: L. Rusty Waller, Associate Professor
           Interim Department Head
Office Location: EDN 113
Office Hours: Virtual Daily
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Meeting Location: Mesquite Metroplex
Meeting Dates: July 9, July 16, July 23 (online), July 30, August 6
               More information will follow concerning the online meeting
Meeting Time: Monday 6:00 pm to 8:50 pm

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:
No textbook is required.

Course Description:
HIED 697 Assessment of Student Learning (3 semester hours) examines the dynamics of assessing student learning.

Student Learning Outcomes:
HIED 697 Assessment of Student Learning is intended to address the following COURSE learning outcomes.

Learning Outcome #1: The engaged learner will be an active team member within his/her learning community by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the external readings/resources and class activities in order to contribute to and develop an individual philosophy of education.

Learning Outcome #2: The engaged learner will examine strengths and weaknesses associated with the differentiation of instruction;
Learning Outcome #3: The engaged learner will develop methodologies for differentiating assessment;

Learning Outcome #4: The engaged learner will discuss the rationale for class preparation and the collection of resources to facilitate the differentiation of assessment; and

Learning Outcome #5: The engaged learner will examine whole class, group, and individual differentiation of assessment.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Lesson module exams - A grade up to 100 can be earned on each lesson module exam. Please keep in mind that this is a graduate level course. Do not expect the instructor to explain why you missed a problem on the exam. When you take the exams, make notes regarding the questions and your responses. You are responsible for determining the accuracy of your answers. You are also responsible for the identification of reasons a particular question may have been missed. While this is not good pedagogical practice, this is solid andragogical practice. I want you to take responsibility for your learning. Work with and through your study group to master the material.

In Class Quiz - A grade of up to 10 points will be assigned for each in class quiz. These quizzes will be given at the discretion of the instructor based upon the assigned reading material required prior to class meetings. An in class quiz will be given at the beginning of the class and cannot be made up by those not present.

Discussion participation - A grade of up to 10 points will be assigned for participation in each discussion assignment. A grade of 0 is given for failing to participate in the discussion within established timelines.

Reflection - Each module will require that you post thoughts to the journal. A grade of up to 10 points will be assigned for participation in each reflection assignment. A grade of 0 is given for failing to participate in the reflection assignment within established timelines.

Group Module Assignments - Each student will be assigned to a study group. Each group will have a project for each module. A grade of up to 50 points will be assigned for participation in each group assignment. The group should establish rules of operation and hold every member accountable. Please indicate on the first of the project the names of those who participated, as well as, the module for which the project is intended. Group assignments will be awarded a grade from the indicated range.

Keep in mind that I am very insistent on group participation. If your name is not on the group assignment, you will receive a grade of 0. Feel free to comment on the cooperation within your group when completing the reflection assignments in your journal. Only you and I have access to these materials.

Group Presentation - Each group will present on an assigned topic. The presentation will
be assessed for a score of up to 300 points.

**Grading**

The following final grading scale will be utilized to determine the final grade based on the average of the total points earned divided by the total points possible:

- **A** = 90% to 100%
- **B** = 80% to 89%
- **C** = 70% to 79%
- **D** = 60% to 69%
- **F** = under 60%

Again, the final percentage is calculated by dividing the points earned by the total possible points.

Module assignments must be submitted within established open and closing dates. Late work will not be accepted. Modules will not be reopened to permit completion of late work. Assignments not submitted within due dates will receive a grade of zero.

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

This is a hybrid digital course and some obvious technological resources will be required.

Access to a computer with

- Internet access (high-speed preferred);
- Microphone for conferencing sessions throughout the semester (these run about $10);
- Speakers so you can hear the discussion during our conferencing sessions and other audio enhanced assignments throughout the semester;
- Word processing software (Microsoft Word required).

As a student enrolled at Texas A&M University-Commerce, you have access to an email account via myLeo - all my emails sent from eCollege (and all other university emails) will go to this account, so please be sure to check it regularly. Conversely, you are to email me via the eCollege email system or your myLeo email as our spam filters will catch yahoo, hotmail, etc. and I will not check for your email in spam.

**The modules will NOT be accessible BEFORE or AFTER the indicated dates.** Each module will include a discussion, group assignment, module exam, and reflection exercise. You will need internet access capable of accessing and viewing the indicated discussions. I am prone to send you out to view additional YouTube presentations as well.

**Students must be able to access YouTube.**
**eCollege Technical Concerns:** Please contact the eCollege HelpDesk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by sending an email directly to helpdesk@online.tamu.org. You may also reach the HelpDesk by calling (toll-free) 1-866-656-5511, or through the Online Chat by clicking on the "Live Support" tab within your eCollege course.

**Course Concerns:** If you have questions pertaining to the content of this course (e.g., questions about an exam, about course due dates, etc.), please contact your instructor via email, through the "Virtual Office," or during office hours. I can be reached by cell phone at 903-815-7926. Please do not call after 9:00 pm unless you want me to return the call before 6:00 am. We, old people, go to bed early and get up early.

**Other Questions/Concerns:** Contact the appropriate TAMU-C office relating to your questions/concern. If you are unable to reach the appropriate office with questions regarding your course enrollment, billing, advising, or financial aid, please call 903-886-5511 between the hours of 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

**Interaction with Instructor Statement:**

*Participation & Communication:* I expect each of you to be active and thoughtful participants within the learning environment (eCollege) and your learning community. You may expect the same of me. This includes completing the extensive readings related to course topics, team and/or individual research proposal topics and participation in proposal revision activities (submission of individual draft sections and evaluation of draft sections from other class members).

1. Email is the best way to reach me as I check it daily. A reply will be sent within 12 hours depending upon the time your message was received. **HOWEVER... in order to avoid duplication of questions and answers I prefer that you post all class related questions in the Student Lounge or Virtual Office forum. It is very likely that your peers will have the same question. Emails of a personal nature should be sent to my email address via eCollege.**

2. Or if you want to talk via phone, you may contact me via my cell phone 903-815-7926. Please do not contact me before 9 am or after 9 pm.

**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/Policies**

**A. Class Participation:**

Systematic and timely face-to-face and on-line participation is expected. University policy notes that excused absences include (i) participation in an authorized university activity,
(ii) illness verified by a physician, (iii) death in the immediate family, and (iv) verifiable, official court appearance. Keep in mind that this course has been developed to allow maximum flexibility in regard to your online access. You are not required to logon at specific times on specific dates. You will work with other members of the class on specific tasks. The group determines the timing and framework for these activities.

**B. Assignments Submitted by Deadlines:**

Assignments are due as stated. Class participants are strongly recommended to participate in their assigned groups. Numbers generate strength. Teaming is an essential soft-skill in every academic environment. Individual team members will be evaluated; however, teams often rise or fall together. Every team should select a lead member. Problems regarding team participation should be discussed with the course instructor. Under no circumstances should team members be allowed a free-ride at the expense of other members.

**C. Courtesy and Respect:**

**Student Conduct:** All students shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (See Student's Guide, Policies and Procedures, Conduct). HIED 697 is a graduate level course. The course will require your best effort. Course demeanor is that which is expected at the university level. Students must complete their team assignments in a timely manner. Historically those who have not done due diligence to course assignments tend to redirect course expectations. Any such variation from class protocol is unacceptable at this level and will result in immediate removal from the course. **PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT THE COURSE E-MAIL IS NOT A FORUM FOR COMPLAINT OR PERSONAL ATTACKS!** Several have been embarrassed when discovering that these e-mails come to the instructor.

**D. Academic Honesty:**

Academic work submitted by you (such as papers, assignments, reports, tests) shall be your work or that of the team and referenced in part or in whole to the correct source. Submission of commercially prepared materials is unacceptable. Moreover, participants shall encourage honesty in others by refraining from providing materials or information with knowledge that these materials or information will be used improperly. Violation of these academic standards may result in removal or failure. Please see the TAMU-C Graduate Catalog and the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Students are expected to use conventions noted in the APA Publication Manual, 6th edition, for citing sources.

Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty, which includes, but is not limited to plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of ideas or words of another and passing them off as one’s own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments) and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. (Texas A&M University Commerce, Graduate Catalog).

**E. Dropping the Class:**

If you need to adjust your schedule by dropping this course, please follow university
procedures to officially drop the class. If you fail to officially drop the class, a failing grade
shall be assigned at the end of the course. Incompletes: Per university policy is granted only
for circumstances beyond student’s control which prevented the student from attending
classes during Finals Week or the preceding three weeks (Policy A 12.07, 1998). The
extension cannot exceed one semester. Failure to fulfill plan requirements within the
specified time will result in an F. As a rule, I do not give a grade of incomplete unless the
circumstances are deemed extreme.

F. Course Communication

Course communication will occur through your MyLeo Account. You will need to regularly
and systematically review your e-mail on a timely basis.

G. Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that
provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other
things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning
environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a
disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

If you are approved for assistance by the Office of Student Disability and Resources
and Services, I will do all in my power to provide the necessary accommodations and
modifications.

HIED 697 will consist of SEVEN modules. The digital extension of these seven modules
will be available on the indicated dates. The module assignments will NOT be accessible
BEFORE or AFTER the indicated dates.

Each module will include discussion, group assignments, content exams, and reflection. You
will need internet access capable of accessing and viewing the indicated materials. I am
prone to send you out to view and investigate other YouTube presentations as well.

Once a module is opened, the module will remain open then close as indicated. This is done
to help the entire class stay on track. While I realize that some may desire to work ahead,
the purpose is to bring the entire class along together. To work ahead simply utilize the
textbook.
Module One: Differentiated Assessment  
Open on July 9, 2012 Closed on July 14, 2012

Module Two: Content Differentiation  
Open on July 15, 2012 Closed on July 22, 2012

Module Three: The Differentiation Process  
Open on July 23, 2012 Closed on July 30, 2012

Module Four: Differentiation Strategies  
Open on July 31, 2012 Closed on August 9, 2012

HIED 697 is a graduate course. This course is rigorous. In graduate level education, the responsibility to learn falls squarely on the student. I want you to be successful. I want each of you to fully master this material. You must assume responsibility for your own learning.

The goal in this course will be to abandon the pedagogical model in which the teacher is the fount of all knowledge. The pedagogical model should be replaced by andragogical model. You must take charge of your own learning. Work in groups. Share your ideas with others. Help each other. By building a viable cohort of friends, companions, and compatriots, you will do more than master this course. You will master all future courses and successfully navigate the waters of graduate education to their desired end.

HIED 697 is an important milestone in your development. The assessment and synthesis of transformational leadership at the graduate level speaks to the very heart of the your educational experience. Avail yourself of the opportunity to engage this important topic. Every member of the class is admonished to keep up with the materials. Do not miss the deadlines. This is a fast paced course. Every learner is individually responsible for staying on track.

Establish rules for the operation for your group. Hold every member accountable. Do not cover for anyone who does not participate! Each group is free to go through the stages of storming, forming, and norming. I suggest getting to the norming stage as quickly as possible. DO NOT LET A NON-PARTICIPANT HOLD BACK THE PROGRESS OF YOUR GROUP. Set due dates and require all members of the group to comply.

I know that working in groups is frustrating; however, the modern workplace is about group work. Teaming is a critical skill for success in today's world.

Best wishes on your journey,

L. Rusty Waller – The Dawg