



## **EDAD 626 - Public School Law Course Syllabus Fall -- 2016**

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Dr. Rick Reeder

**Office Location:** Remote

**Office Hours:** As requested

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**University Email Address:** [Richard.Reeder@tamuc.edu](mailto:Richard.Reeder@tamuc.edu)

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Email

**Communication Response Time:** 24 hours

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

#### **Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:**

Alexander, K., & Alexander, M. D. (2011). *American public school law* (8th Ed.). Belmont CA: Wadsworth.

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publishing manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Kemerer, F., Walsh, J., & Maniotis, L. (2014). *The educator's guide to Texas school law* (8th Ed.). Austin, Texas: University of Texas Press.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **Course Description**

EDAD 626 serves as an in-depth examination federal and state school law for educational leaders addressing legal issues that impact the operation of public schools.

## **STANDARDS ADDRESSED**

### **TAC 241.15 Principal Curriculum Standards**

(1) Principal Standard I – (b) Learner-Centered Values and Ethics of Leadership. A principal is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity and fairness and in an ethical manner.

### **19 TAC Chapter 149 Subchapter BB Administrator Standards**

**Standard 3--Executive Leadership.** The principal is responsible for modeling a consistent focus on and commitment to improving student learning.

### **TEXES Competency: Domain I—School Community Leadership**

**Competency 003.** The principal knows how to act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical and legal manner.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

The learning outcomes for students in EdAd 626 are listed below:

- 1. The student will demonstrate familiarity with terminology in the field of law as it applies to education.** (19 TAC Chapter 149 Subchapter BB Administrator Standards Standard 3--Executive Leadership. *The principal is responsible for modeling a consistent focus on and commitment to improving student learning*).
- 2. The student will articulate an understanding of basic legal concepts through examination and discussion of relevant court cases.** (Competency 003  
*The principal knows how to act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical and legal Manner. The principal knows how to:*
  - model and promote the highest standard of conduct, ethical principles, and integrity in decision making, actions, and behaviors*). TAC 241.15 Principal Curriculum Standards (1) Principal Standard I – (b) Learner-Centered Values and Ethics of Leadership. *A principal is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity and fairness and in an ethical manner.*
- 3. The student will demonstrate critical analysis by differentiating factual and evidentiary data.** (TAC 241.15 Principal Curriculum Standards (1) Principal Standard I – (b) Learner-Centered Values and Ethics of Leadership. *A principal is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity and fairness and in an ethical manner. At the campus level, a principal understands, values, and is able to: (2) implement policies and procedures that encourage all campus personnel to comply with Chapter 247 of this title (relating to Educators' Code of Ethics)*

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4. **The student will comprehend and utilize basic legal tests applied by the judiciary in their application to factual situations and cases.** *(TAC 241.15 Principal Curriculum Standards(1) Principal Standard I – (b) Learner-Centered Values and Ethics of Leadership. A principal is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity and fairness and in an ethical manner. At the campus level, a principal understands, values, and is able to:(1) model and promote the highest standard of conduct, ethical principles, and integrity in decision making, actions, and behaviors; (2) implement policies and procedures that encourage all campus personnel to comply with Chapter 247 of this title (relating to Educators' Code of Ethics); (3) model and promote the continuous and appropriate development of all learners in the campus community;*
5. **The student will gain an awareness of major legal resources and demonstrate the ability to use those resources.** *(Domain I School Community Leadership. Competency 003 The principal knows how to act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical and legal manner. The principal knows how to:
  - model and promote the highest standard of conduct, ethical principles, and integrity in decision making, actions, and behaviors.
  - implement policies and procedures that promote professional educator compliance with The Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators).*
6. **The student will gain an in-depth understanding of landmark cases in various areas of school law.** *(TAC 241.15 Principal Curriculum Standards (1) Principal Standard I – (b) Learner-Centered Values and Ethics of Leadership. A principal is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity and fairness and in an ethical manner. At the campus level, a principal understands, values, and is able to: (4) promote awareness of learning differences, multicultural awareness, gender sensitivity, and ethnic appreciation in the campus community)*

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Course Organization**

This course is organized by units based on public school law. The course is organized for a sub-term session. Some topics may be studied across multiple weeks. Unit opening and closing dates are posted in eCollege. All assignments due the assigned timeframe must be submitted by the posted due date. The calendar found in this syllabus describes the modules found in each week of the 7-week course. Be sure to adhere to deadlines. This is a reading intensive course. I recommend you read ahead if at all possible. I will provide study guides to assist you in preparation for exams

### **What to Do First**

Download syllabus, then open and read the Introduction module.

### **How to Proceed with Class Activities Each Module**

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1. Access and follow all course instructions found in the unit content area of the eCollege course (left navigation bar).
2. Read the assigned readings, links, and other resources provided in the syllabus and in the eCollege units. Links to documents are provided in the course units.
3. Respond to class questions or posted discussion board questions using the eCollege discussion tool. Links to the discussion boards are found under each unit content of the course on the left navigation bar of eCollege.
4. Complete and submit assignments electronically using the eCollege drop box tool/tab located in the toolbar at the top of the eCollege course window. Required assignment instructions, due dates, and submission information will be provided by the instructor via eCollege units.
5. View links, briefs, and PowerPoints as assigned.
6. Complete the course assignments according to the instructions provided in this syllabus and the eCollege unit content.

**Participation/Attendance: (3 points)**

A grade will be given based upon your overall participation in this course. Late postings, lack of dialogue with other students within the discussion boards, etc., will affect this grade. This grade will not be entered until the last week of the course.

**Discussion Board Participation (24 points: 12 @ 2 points each)**

This is a very reading and study-intensive course. Each student is expected to participate through E-College, complete all reading and written assignments on time, and actively engage in class by closely connecting class topics and discussions to textbook and other readings.

- **Discussion Board Instructions:** Refer to Course Calendar for due dates. You must enter the discussion and post for each module within the established timeframe. Read each prompt and post at least one substantive response to that prompt. This usually takes around 150 words. Responses that are thoughtful, insightful, and supported by experiences, examples, or sources will be considered as quality responses and will receive credit. The more you involve yourself in the conversation the better your grade is likely to be. Make sure you respond to each topic posted.

**You should also respond to at least one of your peers posting for each prompt.** This can be done by relating real world experiences to the discussions or building on other's comments with alternative solutions; pointing out problems or adding another dimension to the discussion. "I agree" or "yes/no" will not be considered as quality responses and will not receive credit. Make sure to share your thoughts and experiences.

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**Student Learning Outcome:** The student will articulate an understanding of basic legal concepts through examination and discussion of relevant court cases. The student will gain an awareness of major legal resources and demonstrate the ability to use those resources. *(TAC 241.15 Principal Curriculum Standards (1) Principal Standard I – (b) Learner-Centered Values and Ethics of Leadership. A principal is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity and fairness and in an ethical manner). (19 TAC Chapter 149 Subchapter BB Administrator Standards Standard 3--Executive Leadership. The principal is responsible for modeling a consistent focus on and commitment to improving student learning). (Domain I—School Community Leadership Competency 003. The principal knows how to act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical and legal manner).*

**Assessment Method:** Your contributions to the discussion forums will be graded for quality and timeliness.

**Critical Assignment Ethics Paper: (15 points)**

Each student will complete a 15-page paper regarding ethics in public schools.

*(Principal Standard I – Competency 003 - Learner Centered Values and Ethics of Leadership: A principal is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity and fairness and in an ethical manner)*

The Rubric for the Critical Assignment in Doc Sharing will be used for grading.

**Legal Briefs: (18 points: 2 @ 9 points each)**

Each student will prepare two carefully articulated and thoroughly researched briefs on assigned cases pertaining to the course material and assigned reading. Upload your briefs in written format to eCollege (**Doc Sharing** and **Dropbox**). Failure to post the brief on eCollege by the required time poses a hardship for your class colleagues. **Make sure to select “share file with entire class” when uploading in Doc Sharing. Be sure to also upload a copy of your briefs to the appropriate Drop Box for grading purposes.** Class members will locate the assigned briefs in Doc Sharing. Do not copy or otherwise plagiarize the brief. It should be ***your work in your words***.

Each brief should be a one-page, single-spaced paper (Times New Roman font, 12 point type, one-inch margins) summarizing the case using the following format with at least one paragraph within the conclusion discussing the impact of this case and the decision of the case to administrators. Address each of the questions or statements below. Label each section (for example, Facts, Issues, Ruling) as labeled below.

- **Citation:** List the legal citation for the case. **This should be the title of the paper.**

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- **Fact(s):** Restate the legally relevant facts of the case. Discuss in detail what happened to get this case into the court system.
- **Issue(s):** In one sentence, identify the question to be answered. To pick out the issue, think about who is arguing and what they are arguing about. An issue statement should include the sources of the law (for example, the First Amendment, the Texas Revised Code, IDEA, etc.), the parties involved, and the issue to be decided. For example, “Was the school district guilty of discrimination?” is not significantly detailed to meet the criteria of a good issue statement. “Does the equal protection clause of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment prevent public school districts from maintaining separate schools based on race?” contains the necessary components of an issue statement.
- **Ruling:** What did the courts decide? What were the results? What was the *final* ruling for the case?
- **Rationale:** Why did the court make that particular decision? What precedent or social event brought the court to this particular decision? On what did the court base these answers?
- **Conclusion:** How does this court decision relate to your life as an educator or administrator, and education in general? What does this ruling mean to our profession? How will our lives be altered by this decision? How will the students’ lives be altered by this decision?

**Student Learning Outcome:** The student will comprehend and utilize basic legal tests applied by the judiciary in their application to factual situations and cases. The student will demonstrate critical analysis by differentiating factual and evidentiary data. *(TAC 241.15 Principal Curriculum Standards (1) Principal Standard I – (b) Learner-Centered Values and Ethics of Leadership. A principal is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity and fairness and in an ethical manner). (19 TAC Chapter 149 Subchapter BB Administrator Standards Standard 3--Executive Leadership. The principal is responsible for modeling a consistent focus on and commitment to improving student learning). (Domain I—School Community Leadership Competency 003. The principal knows how to act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical and legal manner).*

**Mid-Term Examination: (20 points)**

Each student will complete a timed mid-term examination over course material from the first half of the semester.

- **Student Learning Outcome:** The student will gain an in-depth understanding of landmark cases in various areas of school law. The student will articulate an understanding of basic legal concepts through examination and discussion of relevant court cases. *(TAC 241.15 Principal Curriculum Standards (1) Principal Standard I – (b) Learner-Centered Values and Ethics of Leadership. A principal is*

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*an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity and fairness and in an ethical manner). (19 TAC Chapter 149 Subchapter BB Administrator Standards Standard 3--Executive Leadership. The principal is responsible for modeling a consistent focus on and commitment to improving student learning). (Domain I—School Community Leadership Competency 003. The principal knows how to act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical and legal manner).*

- **Assessment Method:** The examination will be comprised of True/False Questions.

**Final Examination (20 points)**

Each student will complete a timed examination over the semester’s course material.

- **Student Learning Outcome:** The student will gain an in-depth understanding of landmark cases in various areas of school law. The student will demonstrate familiarity with terminology in the field of law as it applies to education. . (TAC 241.15 Principal Curriculum Standards (1) Principal Standard I – (b) Learner-Centered Values and Ethics of Leadership. A principal is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity and fairness and in an ethical manner). (19 TAC Chapter 149 Subchapter BB Administrator Standards Standard 3--Executive Leadership. The principal is responsible for modeling a consistent focus on and commitment to improving student learning) (Domain I—School Community Leadership Competency 003. The principal knows how to act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical and legal manner).
- **Assessment Method:** The examination will be comprised of true/false questions.

**GRADING**

While the final course grade is the sole judgment of the professor, the following scale will be used as a guide:

Participation	3 points
Discussion Boards	24 points
Legal Briefs	18 points
Mid-Term Examination	20 points
Final Examination	20 points
Critical Assignment	15 points
Total Possible Points	100 points

A	90-100
B	80-89

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C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

### **Quality of Online Course Communication**

We will be sharing personal experiences and individual reflections as we discuss course concepts. You are encouraged to share your personal and professional experiences. However, in order to assure that we can have a free and open discussion, we expect each person to respect the confidentiality of classmates. At the same time, you are asked to exercise good judgment in what you choose to share, avoiding non-public or competitively sensitive information.

Our discussion goal is to be collaborative, not combative. Experience suggests that even an innocent remark in the online environment can easily be misconstrued. We suggest you always reread and edit your responses carefully before posting in order to make certain that the wording in your message will not be seen as a personal attack. Personal attacks and harsh tones will not be tolerated and will negatively affect your grade. We expect you to be positive in your approach to others and diplomatic with your words. Your instructors are also committed to do the same in all of our communications.

### **Interaction with Instructor**

Email is the best way to reach the instructor during weekdays. During the workweek, a reply will be sent within 24 hours, depending upon the time your message was received. If you do not receive a response, please assume your message was not received and email again or contact the instructor via telephone.

This course is an online course technically supported by the Texas A&M University-Commerce campus-wide computer platform eCollege. We will have access to and begin using eCollege the first day of class. If you are not familiar with the use of eCollege or the Library Online Services, please avail yourself of the online tutorials easily accessible through your MyLeo web page.

It is critical for you to check your MyLeo email and e-college announcements everyday, as I will be communicating with you as we go both within the course online environment and through university email.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

- To fully participate in online courses you will need to use a current Flash enabled internet browser. For PC and Mac users the suggested browser is Mozilla Firefox.

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- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones.
  - \*For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- Run a browser check through the Pearson LearningStudio Technical Requirements website. [Browser Check http://help.ecollege.com/LS\\_Tech\\_Reg\\_WebHelp/en-us/#LS\\_Technical\\_Requirements.htm#Browset](http://help.ecollege.com/LS_Tech_Reg_WebHelp/en-us/#LS_Technical_Requirements.htm#Browset)

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - [Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
  - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
  - [Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/)
  - [Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

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- For additional information about system requirements, please see: [System Requirements for LearningStudio](https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical)  
<https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical>

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

### ***Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information***

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to [myLeo](#) and from the top menu ribbon select eCollege. Then on the upper left side of the screen click on the My Courses tab. <http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx>

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** It is strongly recommended you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the My Courses tab, and then select the Browser Test link under Support Services.

### **Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support**

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support for the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24/7 (24 hours, 7 days a week).

If you experience LearningStudio (eCollege) technical problems, contact the LearningStudio helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511 (toll free) or visit [Pearson 24/7 Customer Support Site](http://247support.custhelp.com/) <http://247support.custhelp.com/>

The student help desk may be reached in the following ways:

- **Chat Support:** Click on *'Live Support'* on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

**Accessing Help from within Your Course:** Click on the *'Tech Support'* icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. Then you will be able to get assistance via online chat or by phone.

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**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

### ***Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio***

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure must be followed:

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511.
2. Students must file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and provide me with the helpdesk ticket number.
4. I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your personal computer and internet access problems are not a legitimate excuses for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. Only Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate reasons to contact the Help Desk.

You strongly are encouraged to check for your internet browser compatibility **BEFORE** the course begins and take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform.

#### **myLeo Support**

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu) or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at [myLeo](http://myLeo). <https://leo.tamuc.edu>

#### **Learner Support**

The [One Stop Shop](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/) was created to serve you by providing as many resources as possible in one location. <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/>

The [Academic Success Center](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/) provides academic resources to help you achieve academic success.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/>

### **FREE Mobile APPS**

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The Courses apps for phones have been adapted to support the tasks students can easily complete on a smaller device. Due to the smaller screen size course content is not presented.

The Courses app is free of charge. The mobile Courses Apps are designed and adapted for different devices.

	<b>App Title:</b>	<b>iPhone</b> – Pearson LearningStudio Courses for iPhone <b>Android</b> – LearningStudio Courses - Phone
	<b>Operating System:</b>	<b>iPhone</b> - OS 6 and above <b>Android</b> – Jelly Bean, Kitkat, and Lollipop OS
	<b>iPhone App URL:</b>	<a href="https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pearson-learningstudio-courses/id977280011?mt=8">https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pearson-learningstudio-courses/id977280011?mt=8</a>
	<b>Android App URL:</b>	<a href="https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pearson.lsphone">https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pearson.lsphone</a>

Once downloaded, search for Texas A&M University-Commerce, and it should appear on the list. Then you will need to sign into the myLeo Mobile portal.

The Courses App for Android and iPhone contain the following feature set:

- View titles/code/Instructor of all Courses enrolled in online
- View and respond to all discussions in individual Courses
- View Instructor Announcements in individual Courses
- View Graded items, Grades and comments in individual Courses
- Grade to Date
- View Events (assignments) and Calendar in individual Courses
- View Activity Feed for all courses
- View course filters on activities
- View link to Privacy Policy
- Ability to Sign out
- Send Feedback

## LearningStudio Notifications

Students can be alerted to course activities via text on their mobile phones or up to two email addresses.

Based on their preferences, students can automatically receive a push notification with every new: course announcement, threaded discussion post, grade, and/or assignment without having to login to the course. Enrolled students will automatically receive email notifications for announcements and can opt out of this feature. To receive text notifications, students must opt in.

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To begin setting up notifications, go into your course in LearningStudio and click on the bell-shaped Notifications icon on the main menu ribbon.

By default the student's university email address will appear. This cannot be changed in LearningStudio. Additional email addresses may be added by clicking the Add button. After all of the other selections are completed be sure to click the Save and Finish button.

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

### ***Interaction with Instructor Statement***

Email is the best way to reach the instructor during weekdays. During the workweek, a reply will be sent within 24 hours, depending upon the time your message was received. If you do not receive a response, please assume your message was not received and email again or contact the instructor via telephone.

This course is an online course technically supported by the Texas A&M University-Commerce campus-wide computer platform eCollege. We will have access to and begin using eCollege the first day of class. If you are not familiar with the use of eCollege or the Library Online Services, please avail yourself of the online tutorials easily accessible through your MyLeo web page.

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### **Quality of Online Course Communication**

We will be sharing personal experiences and individual reflections as we discuss course concepts. You are encouraged to share your personal and professional experiences. However, in order to assure that we can have a free and open discussion, we expect each person to respect the confidentiality of classmates. At the same time, you are asked to exercise good judgment in what you choose to share, avoiding non-public or competitively sensitive information.

Our discussion goal is to be collaborative, not combative. Experience suggests that even an innocent remark in the online environment can easily be misconstrued. We suggest you always reread and edit your responses carefully before posting in order to make certain that the wording in your message will not be seen as a personal attack. Personal attacks and harsh tones will not be tolerated and will negatively affect your grade. We expect you to be positive in your approach to others and diplomatic with your words. Your instructors are also committed to do the same in all of our communications.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

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## **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

### **Assignments**

You will be able to check your grades in the grade book throughout the course. You will be graded on assignments, participation, and assessments, so be sure to turn in assignments on time. **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**. The grade will also be affected (either positively or negatively) by the mechanics of writing (i.e. spelling, punctuation, grammar, organization, flow, format, etc.). In order to maintain spontaneity in discussions, you will not be graded on spelling or grammar on any material sent to the discussion group board but this does not mean you should not proofread. Proofreading in online classrooms is a form of courtesy to your reader. Please proofread for tone and mechanics.

I hope to make this course a positive learning experience for all involved including myself. I assure you that I will do everything I can to promote your success. Studying is a lonely, difficult task, but with the support from others in this course, it can be very rewarding.

Check your MyLeo email regularly (at least once each weekday) for information. I will be sharing information as we go. We will be using discussions groups in this course. You will need to participate within each module with responses to the discussion questions/issues.

### **Writing Style**

All papers must be written according to the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of the APA Manual. Papers must include references formatted using the APA style manual. All citations and references must be made using the APA style manual (6<sup>th</sup> edition). Please use the following format for all your documents: New Times Roman, double-spaced, one-inch margins, and 12-point type.

### **Dropping a Course**

A student may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled “Drop a class” from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the Web page.

### **Administrative Withdrawal**

Students who miss two sections of class (virtually or in person, depending on the status of the course) may be administratively dropped for excessive absences.

### **Incomplete Grades**

Per university policy, you must visit with the instructor, develop, and sign “Plan for Completing the Grade of X” before you may receive an incomplete for the course. The reason for such requests is limited to “circumstances beyond student’s control which prevented student from attending classes during Finals Week or the preceding three weeks” (Policy A 122.07, 1998). You are notified that the deadline date for all plans is

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not to exceed one semester. Failure to fulfill plan requirements within the specified time will result in a course grade of F.

### **Academic Honesty**

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the 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.

Please see the *TAMU-C Graduate Catalog* (2001-02, pp. 17-18) and the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* for the discussion of academic honesty. Academic honesty is especially important when it comes to citing/quoting sources in research papers and assignments. Students are responsible for reading this material and becoming familiar with the conventions for acknowledging sources of information.

Recommended websites to review include:

<http://www.plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html> or

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

### **Common Decency**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance. **Caveat: This syllabus represents a relationship between the two of us regarding the evaluative measures and the content included in EDAD 626. I reserve the right to amend, revise, or change the content of the syllabus as deemed necessary.**

### **University Specific Procedures**

#### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)  
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

### **ADA Statement**

#### **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- Room 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Email: [Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### ***Nondiscrimination Notice***

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### ***Campus Concealed Carry Statement***

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

### **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

<b>Module</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter Readings</b>
1	Introduction and Structure of Law  Educational Governance & Sources of Law Module activities and readings Submit briefs on assigned dates.	Alexander 1,2,3 Kemerer 1

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

- Participate in discussion board.
- |                               |   |                               |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 2                             | Students and the Law Part I<br>Discipline; Student Rights<br>Module activities and readings<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board.               | Alexander 4,10<br>Kemerer 8   |
| 3                             | Students and the Law Part II<br>Module activities and readings<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board.  | Alexander 8,9<br>Kemerer 7    |
| 4                             | Students and the Law Part III<br>Module activities and readings<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board.   | Alexander 6<br>Kemerer 2      |
| 5                             | Teachers and the Law Part I<br>Teacher Rights<br>Module activities and readings<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board.                           | Alexander 16,17<br>Kemerer 6  |
| 6                             | Teachers and the Law Part II<br>Certification; Employment; Contract Law<br>Module activities and readings<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board. | Alexander 15<br>Kemerer 4     |
| 7                             | Teachers and the Law Part III<br>Discrimination; Personnel<br>Module activities and readings<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board.              | Alexander 18<br>Kemerer 5     |
| <br><b>Take mid-term exam</b> |   |                               |
| 9                             | The Instructional Program<br>Module activities and readings<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board.   | Alexander 7                   |
| 10                            | Educator and School District Liability (Torts)<br>Module activities and readings  | Alexander 12,14<br>Kemerer 10 |

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Submit briefs on assigned dates.  
Participate in discussion board.

- |    |  |                           |
|----|--|---------------------------|
| 11 | Special Education<br>Individuals with Disabilities and the Law<br>Module activities and readings<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board. | Alexander 11<br>Kemerer 3 |
| 12 | Privacy<br>Module activities and readings<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board.  | Alexander 13<br>Kemerer 9 |
| 13 | Religion in Public Schools<br>Module activities and readings<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board.                                     | Alexander 5<br>Kemerer 7  |
| 14 | School Desegregation<br>Module activities and readings.<br>Submit briefs on assigned dates.<br>Participate in discussion board.  | Alexander 20              |

**Take final exam**

\*\*See E-College for additional assignment information and specific dates for assignments.

**EDAD 626**  
**Public School Law**  
**Preliminary List of Assigned Cases**

**Module**

**1 Introduction and Structure of Law; Ed. Governance & Sources of Law**

*Plyler v. Doe* 457 US 202 (1982)

**2 Governance/Students and the Law Part 1**

*Pierce v. Society of Sisters* 268 US 510 (1925)

*Citizens for Better Education v. Goose Creek C.I.S.D.* 719 SW2d 350 (1986)

*Shoffner v. Goose Creek C.I.S.D.* Docket Number 331-Rio-694  
(Commissioner of Education 1995)

*Clear Creek Educators Association TSTA/NEA v. Clear Creek I.S.D.* Docket  
Number 059-R8-1193 (Commissioner of Education 1995)

*Hartzell v. Connell* 679 P.2d 35 (1984)

*Berg v. Glen Cove City School District* 853 F.Supp. 651 (1994)

*Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District* 393 US 503 (1969)

**3 Students and the Law Part II**

*Bethel School District No. 403 v. Fraser* 478 US 675 (1986)

*Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier* 484 US 260 (1988)

*Sherman v. Community School District 21* 980 F.2d 437 (1992), *cert.*  
*Denied*, 508 US 950 (1993)

*Palmer v. Merluzzi* 868 F.2d 90 (1989)

*Beeson v. Kiowa County School District RE-1* 567 P.2d 801 (1977)

*Goss v. Lopez* 419 US 565 (1975)

**4 Students and the Law Part III**

*New Jersey v. T.L.O.* 469 US 325 (1985)

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

*Gonzales v. McEuen* 435 F. Supp. 460 (1977)

*Ingraham v. Wright* 430 US 651 (1977)

*Board of Education of Rogers Arkansas v. McCluskey* 458 US 966 (1982)

*Ryan G. v. Navasota I.S.D.* Docket No. 113-R5-598 (Commissioner of Education, 1999)

## **5 Teachers and the Law Part I**

*Dodge v. Board of Education* 302 US 74 (1937)

*Beilan v. Board of Public Education* 357 US 399 (1958)

*Board of Regents of State Colleges v. Roth* 408 US 564 (1972)

*Pickering v. Board of Education of Township High School District* 205 391 US 563 (1968)

## **6 Teachers and the Law Part II**

*Mt. Healthy City School District Board of Education v. Doyle* 429 US 274 (1977)

*Collins v. Faith School District #46-2* 574 N.W.2d 889 (1998)

*Milkovich v. Loraine Journal Co.* 497 U.S. 1 (1990)

*Skinner v. Railway Labor Executives Association*

## **7 Teachers and the Law Part III**

*East Hartford Education Association v. Board of Education of Town of East Hartford* 562 F.2d 838 (1977)

*Gaylord v. Tacoma School District No. 10* 559 P.2d 1340 (1977), cert. Denied, 434 US 879 (1977)

*Gillett v. Unified School District* 605 P.2d 105 (1980)

*Geller v. Markham* 635 F.2d 1027 (1977), cert. Denied, 451 US 945 (1981)

## **9 The Instructional Program**

*Sandlin v. Johnson* 643 F.2<sup>nd</sup> 1027 (1981)

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

*Meyer v. Nebraska* 262 U.S. 390 (1923)

*Andrews v. Webber* 108 Ind. 31 (1886)

*Steirer v. Bethlehem Area School District* 987 F.2d. 989 (1993)

*Board of Education, Island Tree Union Free School District No. 26 v. Pico* 457 U.S. 853 (1982)

*Epperson v. State of Arkansas* 393 U.S. 97 (1968)

*Keefe v. Geanakos* 418 F.2d. 359 (1969)

*Cornwell v. State Board of Education* 314 F.Supp. 340....et al. (1969)

## **10 Educator and School District Liability (Torts)**

*Wood v. Strickland* 420 US 308 (1975)

*Carey v. Piphus* 435 US 247 (1978)

*Franklin v. Gwinnett County Schools* 503 US 60 (1992)

*Peter W. v. San Francisco Unified School District* 131 Cal. Rptr. 854 (Cal. St. App. 1976)

*Cannon v. University of Chicago* 441 US 677 (1979)

*Barr v. Bernhard* 562 S.W. 2d. 844 (Tex. 1978)

*Hopkins v. Spring* 736 S.W. 2d. 617 (Tex. 1987)

*Johnson v. School District of Millard* 573 N.W. 2d 116 (1998)

*Spears v. Jefferson Parish School Board* 646 So.2d 1104 (1994)

*Wagenblast v. Odessa School District No. 105-157-166J* 110 Wash 2d 845 (1988)

## **11 Special Education; Individuals with Disabilities and the Law**

*Board of Education of the Hendrick Hudson Central School District v. Rowley* 458 US 176 (1982)

*Clyde K. v. Puyallup School District* 35 F.Supp. 231 (Tex. 1990)

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

*Texas City Independent School District v. Jorstad* 752 F.Supp. 376 (1987)

*Thomas v. Atascadero Unified School District* 662 F.Supp 376 (1987)

*Grube v. Bethlehem Area School District* 550 F.Supp. 418 (1982)

## **12 Privacy**

*Point Isabel Independent School District v. Hinojosa* 797 S.W. 2d 176 (Tex. App. Corpus Christi 1990)

*Cox Enterprises v. Board of Trustees of Austin Independent School District* 704 S.W 2d 956 (1986)

*Kylie H. v. Marble Falls Independent School District Dkt. No. 068-R5-198* (Comm'r Educ. 1998)

*Guzman v. Harlandale Independent School District Dkt. No. 485-R2-895* (Comm'r Educ. 1999)

*Roberts v. Houston Independent School District* 788 S.W.2d 107 (Tex. App.—Houston [1<sup>st</sup> Dist.] 1990)

*Ryans v. Gresham* 6 F.Supp.2d 595 (E.D. Tex. 1998)

*Smith v. Holley* 827 S.W.2d 433 (Tex. App.—San Antonio 827 S.W.2d 433 (Tex. App.—San Antonio 1992)

*Merriken v. Cressman* 364 F.Supp. 913 (E.D. Penn. 1973)

*Fay v. South Colonie Central School District* 802 F.2d 21 (1986)

## **13 Religion in Public Schools**

*Engel v. Vitale* 370 US 421 (1962)

*School District of Abington Township v. Schempp & Murray v. Carlett* 374 US 203 (1963)

*Lee v. Weisman* 505 US 577 (1992)

*Edwards v. Aguillard* 482 US 578 (1987)

## **14 School Desegregation**

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

*Plessy v. Ferguson* 163 US 537 (1896)

*Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* 347 US 483 (1954) & *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* 349 US 294 (1955)

*Green v. County School Board of New Kent County* 391 US 430 (1968)

*Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education* 402 US 1 (1971)

*Columbus Board of Education v. Penick* 443 US 449 (1979)

*Milliken v. Bradley* 418 US 717 (1974)

*Missouri v. Jenkins* 515 US 70 (1995)

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*