I. Course Description

EDAD 5363  3 sem. hrs.
Classroom Management and Legal Issues
Legal and managerial aspects of classroom management and basic principles of school law and school board policy.

II. Rationale

This course is designed to assist current and future faculty, staff, and administrators who have an interest in the legal issues in the K-12 public schools. Students will acquire knowledge related to the historical and philosophical underpinnings of public school law. Past and current legal issues will be analyzed to determine application possibilities and liabilities. This course is also designed to provide educational administration graduate students with knowledge regarding legal issues that impact k-12 public school education and to help develop competencies in public school education governance. Students will develop expertise as consumers of legal services. A further purpose is to provide students with information and background necessary to recognize and deal with legal issues as they emerge in the public schools. Current legal cases in public school education will be discussed; however, no attempt will be made to arrive at definitive judgments involving on-going legal cases.

III. State Adapted Proficiencies Administrators- TExES Competencies

Domain I – School Community Leadership – Competencies 1, 2, 3
Domain II – Instructional Leadership – Competencies 4, 5, 6
Domain III – Administrative Leadership – Competencies 8, 9

1. **Campus Culture** – The principal knows how to shape campus culture by facilitating the development, articulation, implementation, and stewardship of a vision of learning that is shared and supported by the school community.

2. **Communication** – The principal knows how to communicate and collaborate with all members of the school community, respond to diverse interests and needs, and mobilize resources to promote student success.

3. **Ethics** – The principal knows how to act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical and legal manner.

4. **Instructional Leadership** – The principal knows how to facilitate the design and implementation of curricula and strategic plans that enhance teaching and learning; ensure alignment of curriculum, instruction, resources, and assessment; and promote the use of varied assessments to measure student performance.
5. **Instructional Program** – The principal knows how to advocate, nurture, and sustain an instructional program and a campus culture that are conducive to student learning and staff professional growth.

6. **Staff Development** – The principal knows how to implement a staff evaluation and development system to improve the performance of all staff members, select and implement appropriate models for supervision and staff development, and apply the legal requirements for personnel management.

7. **Organization** – The principal knows how to apply organizational, decision-making and problem solving skills to ensure and effective learning environment.

8. **Leadership** – The principal knows how to apply principals of leadership and management to the campus physical plant and support systems to ensure a safe and effective learning environment.

**IV. TExES Competencies**
(Please see Section III above)

**V. Course Objectives and Outcomes**

*This course is designed to enable students to:*

1. describe in general terms education law, Texas schools and parent rights (TExES Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8).
2. discuss the legal issues of school attendance and the instructional program (TExES Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 5, 7).
3. describe special education and the applicable federal laws (TExES Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8).
4. discuss employment relationships (TExES Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8).
5. analyze personnel issues (TExES Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7).
6. compare and contrast educator and student expression and associational rights (TExES Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8).
7. discuss religion in the schools (TExES Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8).
8. discuss student discipline (TExES Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8).
9. compare and contrast privacy issues related to the community, educators, and students (TExES Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8).
10. compare and contrast the various legal liability issues related to state torts and civil rights (TExES Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8).

**VI. Course Topics**

*The major topics to be considered are:*

1. An overview of education law, Texas schools, and parents’ rights
2. Student attendance and the instructional program
3. Special education
4. The employment relationship
5. Personnel issues
6. Expression and associational rights  
7. Religion in the schools  
8. Student discipline  
9. Privacy issues: community, educator and students  
10. Legal liability

VII. Instructional Methods and Activities

*Methods and activities for instruction include:*

This course will be delivered primarily online and will include PowerPoint presentations, discussions and course assessments. We will have biweekly quizzes, a mid-term examination and a final examination. This course is reading intensive and therefore it is critical that the assigned chapters are read prior to answering questions on the quizzes, mid-term examination and final examination.

VIII. Evaluation and Grade Assignment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Quizzes</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Examination</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IX. Course Schedule and Policies

See Course Schedule and Policies

X. Textbook

*The textbook adopted for this course is:*


XI. Bibliography

*Suggested Supplemental Reading:*


XII. Grade Appeals

As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties
involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

XIII. Disabilities Accommodations

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 accommodations of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at (361) 825-5816 or visit the office in Driftwood 101.

XIV. Course Expectations

1. Students are expected to engage as co-participants in this course working closely and consistently with professor and student colleagues.
2. Students are expected to show human concern for each of those with whom they work and study, while presenting a positive attitude and professional demeanor.
3. Students are expected to engage respectfully in a dynamic classroom environment, creating and maintaining a safe place in which ideas can be explored, shared, and evaluated.
4. Students are expected to submit work that meets the academic honesty standards of Texas A&M Corpus Christi.
5. Students are expected to respect the rights and dignity of each member of the campus community.
6. Students are expected to contact the instructor with questions, concerns, or issues that need to be addressed.

XV. Course Requirements

1. Students are required to read the chapters delineated on the following page (page 6) prior to completing each quiz.
2. Students are required to submit the answers to each quiz no later than midnight (12:00 am) on the dates delineated on the following page (page 6).
3. Students are required to submit their answers to the mid-term examination by midnight (12:00 am) on Friday, July 27, 2012.
4. Students are required to submit their answers to the final examination by midnight (12:00 am) on Thursday, August 9, 2012.
Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 9</td>
<td>Introductions, Course Expectations and Importance of Knowing Texas Law</td>
<td>An Overview of Education Law, Texas Schools, and Parents Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 13</td>
<td>Quiz on Chapter 1 Due by Midnight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>Quiz on Chapter 2: Student Attendance and the Instructional Program Due by Midnight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>Quiz on Chapter 3: Special Education and Chapter 4: The Employment Relationship Due by Midnight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>Quiz on Chapter 5: Personnel Issues Due by Midnight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 27</td>
<td>Mid-Term Examination on Chapters 1-5 and Chapter 6: Expression and Associational Rights Due by Midnight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 30</td>
<td>Quiz on Chapter 7: Religion in the Schools Due by Midnight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 3</td>
<td>Quiz on Chapter 8: Student Discipline Due by Midnight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 6</td>
<td>Quiz on Chapter 9: Privacy Issues Due by Midnight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 9</td>
<td>Final Examination on Chapters 1 – 9 Due by Midnight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Policy

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in an” F” in the course.