

EDAD 5313 SYLLABUS

Instructor:

Texas A&M San Antonio
College of Education
Department of Educator and Leadership Preparation
One University Way
San Antonio, TX 78224

Office location/hours:

Office Telephone #:

E-mail:

Course Title:

EDAD 5313 Public School Finance

Credits:

3

Time/Location:

Course Description: This course has been developed to assist current educators and future school administrators to understand the link between legal and policy requirements to assess continuous student learning needs based on a variety of data streams and the actual planning, allocation, encumbrance, and expenditure of resources from a variety of revenue streams.

Course Requirements:

1. **Discussion Board Participation:** Each week, a discussion question will be posted. All students are expected to participate in every online discussion. After each class (and before the class next meets), students are expected to answer the initial open-ended discussion and respond separately to at least one of the comments/observation made by another student in the course. (10% of total grade)
2. **268 Test Prep Quizzes:** This course includes preparation for the 268 TExES exam. Students will complete 6 quizzes which have been formatted to match the state exam. Students can retake the quizzes as many times as they wish (10% of total grade).
3. **Mid-Term Exam:** Students will complete a mid-term exam which summarizes the learning for the first half of the course (15% of total grade).
4. **School Finance Research Paper:** Students will complete a 5-7 page research paper (not counting title page or reference section) with a minimum of 10 citations. The purpose of this assignment is to increase your knowledge and understanding of a particular case or funding plan relevant to school finance. This assignment is explained in more detail later in the syllabus including pre-approved research topics and a scoring rubric. (30% of total grade).
5. **School Finance Research Presentation:** Students will lead a 15 minute presentation with a minimum of 5 slides presenting the results of their research findings. There is a scoring rubric provided later in the syllabus (15% of total grade)

6. **Final Exam:** Students will complete a final exam which summarizes the learning for the semester (20% of total grade).

Lecture or Discussion Topics:

- General Overview of Budgeting
- 9 Myths of public school finance in Texas
- How economic inequality harms societies - Richard Wilkinson
- House Bill 3 Overview
- Budget Development Process and sources of school funding
- Principal's perspective on campus budgeting process
- Campus Budgeting and Coding
- Developing a local budget
- Budgeting and Ethical and Moral Behaviors
- Budgeting Processes
- CIP and Budgeting
- Small group activity – analyze CIP/TAPR/Budget for sample schools – make recommendations

Required Readings:

Texas Education Agency: Office of Finance and Grants (2020). Texas Public School Finance Overview.

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/texas-public-school-finance-overview.pdf>

Texas Taxpayers and Research Association (TTARA) (2022). An Introduction to School Finance in Texas, 5th edition.

https://www.ttara.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/IntroToSchoolFinance_Fifth_Edition_2022.pdf