

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – SAN ANTONIO

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Semester: Fall 2023
Course: EDCI 1301 – Introduction to Education
Class Time: Mondays: 2:00 – 4:45pm
Location: Madla #236

Instructor: Dr. Robin Robinson Kapavik
Office: Madla 336
Office Hours: Anytime by appointment, F2F or Virtual
Email: robin.kapavik@tamusa.edu
Office Phone: 210-784-2545

Required Textbook:

None

Course Description:

This course is designed as an introduction to the American public education system, the history of education and the foundations of education, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, and Texas teacher certification. Students will develop the skills necessary for analyzing written lesson plans and meaningful student learning objectives based on relevant content and appropriate assessment.

Course Objectives

Students will:

- Reflect on their understanding of themselves as students and as teachers.
- Explore and discuss the history of the American public school system and the foundation of education nationally and in Texas.
- Explore their opinions on contemporary issues of education.
- Gain an understanding of Texas teacher certification and reflect on which types of certification they may want to pursue.
- Become aware of the various teacher evaluation systems in Texas.
- Develop an awareness of diverse student populations.
- Gain an understanding of the content and pedagogical knowledge necessary to obtain certification.

Major Course Requirements:

Assignment	Points	Due
Introduction Assignment	5	9/18/23
Educator Interview & Reflection	15	9/25/23
Writing Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)	15	10/23/23
Lesson Planning Quiz	25	10/30/23
Analyzing Lesson Plan Assignment	15	11/6/23
**Extra Credit Due (if needed)	TBD	11/6/23
Influential Educators Presentation	15	11/20/23
Career Reflection Paper	10	12/11/23

Final Grade Distribution:

Final Grade	# of Points
A	100 – 90 points
B	90 – 80 points
C	80 – 70 points
D	70 – 60 points
F	59 points or below

Course Assignments:

All assignments must be submitted in Blackboard by the due date & time listed in the syllabus. Assignments may not be submitted via email for grading. If a student is absent on a due date, the assignment is still due by the scheduled deadline as a submission in Blackboard. Grammar and spelling count towards the grading in all written work.

Late Work Policy for Assignments:

Any work submitted to Blackboard after the posted deadline will be considered late – no matter the circumstances. Blackboard will continue to accept late assignments; however, all late work will receive a 10% deduction per day that it is late.

Attendance Policy:

You are expected to attend every class session. Activities and discussions that occur in class are essential for your learning experience.

- Class attendance will be checked during every class session.
- Punctuality is expected as part of professional responsibility and courtesy. *Arriving late and/or leaving early in a class period is considered unprofessional. If you will be absent or late to class, please let the professor know in advance.*
- More than two absences may result in a letter grade deduction in the Final Grade.

- There is no such thing as an “excused” absence, as you have been given two “discretionary” absences. Save your absences in case of emergency or illness late in the semester. Documentation of illness is not necessary. It is still a good idea, however, to save medical documentation in case of a prolonged illness. You are strongly encouraged to save your absences for emergencies.

Important Course Policy:

You are responsible for knowing when all assignments are due. Become well acquainted with your course syllabus and consult your course schedule regularly. The following Course Schedule may change during the semester, due to unforeseen circumstances. If the schedule changes, your professor will send out an announcement and will change the schedule on Blackboard. The syllabus on Blackboard always contains the official schedule. Check your Jaguar email daily, and consult your Blackboard syllabus whenever you have a question about a due date.

University Policy and Syllabus Statement

Academic Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights protection for individuals with disabilities. Title II of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act require that students with disabilities be guaranteed equal access to the learning environment through the provision of reasonable and appropriate accommodation of their disability. If you have a disability that may require accommodation, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) for the coordination of services. The phone number for DSS is (210) 784-1335 and email is dss@tamusa.edu.

Academic Learning Center: All currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio can utilize the Academic Learning Center for subject-area tutoring. The Academic Learning Center is an appointment based center where appointments are made through the Navigate platform. Students access Navigate through Jagwire in the Student Services tab. The Center is active on campus outreaching to students to highlight services offered. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu or calling (210)-784-1332. Appointments can also be made through JagWire under the services tab.

Counseling Resources: As a college student, there may be times when personal stress interferes with your academic performance and/or negatively impacts your daily functioning. If you or someone you know is experiencing life stressors, emotional difficulties, or mental health concerns at Texas A&M University – San Antonio, please contact the Student Counseling Center (SCC) located in Modular C, Room 166 (rear entrance) or call 210-784-1331 between the hours of 8:00AM and 5:00PM, Monday – Friday. After-hours crisis support is available by calling 210-784-1331 (select option “2”). Please contact UPD at 911 if harm to self or harm to others is imminent.

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free, confidential (as the law allows), and are not part of a student's academic or university record. SCC provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information, please visit www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling

Emergency Preparedness: JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email and/or phone call with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>
More information about Emergency Preparedness and the Emergency Response Guide can be found here: <https://www.tamusa.edu/upd/index.html>

Meeting Basic Needs: If you face challenges securing food, housing or other basic needs, you are not alone, and A&M- San Antonio can help during this time of crisis. We invite you to learn about the many resources available to support you by visiting the [Dean of Student's website](#) or by reaching out via dos@tamusa.edu. Additionally, it is not unusual for students to encounter temporary illness or injuries that may interfere with your academic success. Students may request temporary illness/disability assistance by reaching out to the [Dean of Student's Office](#) (210) 784-1354. If you are comfortable doing so, please notify the professor of any issues so that they may provide additional resources.

Military Affairs: Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, and in special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations). You are also encouraged to visit the Patriots' Casa in-person room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military.va@tamusa.edu, or (210)784-1397.

Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center: The Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center supports graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as eportfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. Students can schedule appointments through JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. The Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at <https://bit.ly/WLDCCenter>.

University Policies

Academic Integrity: Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Code of Academic Integrity. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. You are encouraged to study together and to discuss information and concepts covered in the lecture and the sections with other students. Should copying or other forms of misconduct occur, both the student who copies the work from another student and the student who gave the material to be copied would both automatically receive a zero for the assignment. Penalty for violation of this Code can also be extended to include failure of the course and University disciplinary action

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Statement:

Writing, reflection, and critical thinking skills are essential learning outcomes of your coursework experience at TAMU-SA. Developing strong competencies in these areas will prepare you for future academic, personal, and workplace success. All work submitted in this course must be your own. You may not engage in unauthorized collaboration or make use of ChatGPT or other AI composition software. AI-generated submissions are not permitted and will be treated as plagiarism.

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance: According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

Religious Observances: Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

Respect for Diversity: We understand that our students represent diverse backgrounds and perspectives. When we are equity-minded, we are aware of differences and inequalities and are willing to discuss them so we can act to resolve them. The University is committed to building cultural competencies, or the attitudes, skills, and knowledge that enable individuals and organizations to acknowledge cultural

differences and incorporate these differences in working with people from diverse cultures. Respecting and accepting people different than you is vital to your success in the class, on campus, and as a future professional in the global community. While working together to build this community we ask all members to:

- Share their unique experiences, values, and beliefs.
- Be open to the views of others.
- Honor the uniqueness of their colleagues.
- Value each other's opinions and communicate respectfully.
- Keep confidential discussions that the community has of a personal (or professional) nature.
- Use this opportunity together to discuss ways in which we can create an inclusive environment in this course and across the A&M-San Antonio community.

The Six-Drop Rule: Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student's GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "F" grades and will impact the student's GPA.

Statement of Harassment and Discrimination: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity, and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality, diversity, pluralism, and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the appropriate offices within their respective units.

- Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the university as a whole. If you have experienced any form of sex- or gender-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. A&M-San Antonio has staff members trained to support survivors in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The university strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the university. Please be aware that all A&M-San Antonio employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as counselors and other healthcare providers) are required to report information about such

discrimination and harassment to the university. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment, sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator. If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331, Modular C.

Students' Rights and Responsibilities: The purpose of the following statement is to enumerate the essential provisions for the student freedom and responsibility to learn at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. All students are required to follow all policies and regulations as set forth by The Texas A&M University System. This includes the [A&M-San Antonio Student Code of Conduct](#).

Students' Rights

1. A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no university rule or procedure that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.
2. Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the university, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, gender identity, or gender expression in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
3. A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
4. Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of university student rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

Students' Responsibilities

1. A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty and the administration.
2. A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published University Student Rules found in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct, on our website, University Catalog and students must comply with them and the laws of the land.
3. A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire university community.
4. A student has the responsibility to recognize the University's obligation to provide an environment for learning.
5. A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official university notification.
6. We expect that students will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin,

religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

University Email Policy and Course Communications: All correspondence between professors and students must occur via University email accounts. You must have Jaguar email account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at sahelp@tamusa.edu or at 210-784-4357.

COURSE SCHEDULE

This schedule is subject to change

Week	Date	Class Topic & Assigned Reading (should be completed before class)	Assignment Due (by 11:59PM on due date)
Week 1	8/28	<p>Topic: Introduction to Course</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Syllabus, Policies, Assignments <p>Assignment Introduced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction Assignment ● Educator Interview & Reflection Assignment 	
Week 2	9/4	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – NO F2F CLASS	
Week 3	9/11	<p>Topic: The Teaching Profession</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Certification in Texas ● Types of Certification ● Professional Organizations ● Professionalism 	
Week 4	9/18	<p>Topic: Student Similarities & Differences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs ● Piaget’s Cognitive Development ● Kohlberg’s Character Development ● Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences ● RTI ● Differentiated Instruction 	Due: Introduction PowerPoint posted under Discussion Board in BB by 11:59pm on 9/18/23
Week 5	9/25	<p>Topic: TEKS & Writing Student Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TEKS ● ABCD Format 	Due: Educator Interview & Reflection Paper in BB by 11:59pm on 9/25/23
Week 6	10/2	<p>Topic: Lesson Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purpose of Lesson Planning ● Types of Lesson Plans <p>Assignment Introduced: Writing Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)</p>	

Week 7	10/9	No F2F Class Today – Use the time to work on your Writing Student Learning Objectives Assignment	
Week 8	10/16	Topic: Curriculum, Assessment, & Accountability Assignment Introduced: Analyzing Lesson Plan Assignment	
Week 9	10/23	No F2F Class Today – We will have an Asynchronous Class Today (Extra Credit Offered for Assignment) Topic: Ethical Issues in U.S. School	Due: Writing Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) Assignment in BB by 11:59pm on 10/23/23
Week 10	10/30	In Class Quiz Today	Due: Quiz during class
Week 11	11/6	Topic: Ethical & Legal Issues in U.S. Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Ethics • Case Law Assignment Introduced: Influential Educator Presentation	Due: Extra Credit (if needed) in BB by 11:59pm on 11/6/23 Due: Analyzing Lesson Plan Assignment in BB by 11:59pm on 11/6/23
Week 12	11/13	Topic: Continued Ethical & Legal Issues in U.S. Schools	
Week 13	11/20	Student Presentations	Due: Influential Educator Presentation in BB by 11:59pm on 11/20/23
Week 14	11/27	Student Presentations	
Week 15	12/4	Student Presentations	
FINAL EXAM PERIOD	12/11	No Classes – Final Exam Period	Due: Career Reflection Paper in BB by 11:59pm on 12/11/23