

Texas A&M University-San Antonio  
College of Education and Human Development  
EDEC 5315 Advocacy  
(HB 2504 Syllabus)

**A. Major Course Assignments**

- Attendance and class participation
- Reflective notebook on guest speakers
- Mini Inquiries
  - i. Mini Inquiry 1: Reflected Best Self Exercise
  - ii. Mini Inquiry 2: Proposal for final advocacy project
- Weekly Responses
- Quizzes
- Final advocacy project
- Final advocacy reflection

**B. Learning Objectives**

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify a challenge in the field of early childhood that is of personal and professional interest and communicate through verbal and written formats the research, theories and policy implications associated with this challenge.
2. Seek external funding opportunities that support positive outcomes for challenges facing the field.
3. Describe contemporary issues impacting the field of early childhood, including, the alternative views that generate tension around that issue and the research and theoretical foundations for those issues.
4. Identify the professional roles and responsibilities of Early Childhood Professionals as they are related to advocacy work.

**C. Lecture or Discussion Topics**

Contemporary issues in early childhood; advocacy; types of advocacy; dispositions & pathways; activism; change; innovation; improvement; quality improvement; professional development; educator leadership; courageous leadership; collaborative leadership; leadership from within; sustainability; leadership ecosystem; systems thinking; policy; external funding and grant writing.

**D. Required Readings**

- Douglass, A. (2017). *Leading for Change in Early Care and Education*, New York: Teachers College Press.
- Long, S., Souto-Manning, M. & Vasquez, V. (2016). *Courageous Leadership in Early Childhood Education*, New York: Teachers College Press.
  - Both books are available at the TAMUSA library (CAB building, room 202)
- Additional Readings as assigned and posted on Blackboard under.

**E. Recommended Websites:**

- A list of over fifty links is provided with access to city, state, nation, and world-wide organizations and programs dedicated to advocate for children, families, and educators.