

**Texas A&M University – San Antonio**  
**College of Education & Human Development**  
**Department of Curriculum & Instruction**

**EDCI 5301 Building Successful Community Partnerships**

**Course Description:** This course focuses on the ways in which successful community partnerships are built, fostered, and strengthened. A critical aspect of this course will be focusing on how P-12 schools interact with, and respond to the needs of, the local community. The course will also examine types of university and P-12 partnerships, how those partnerships develop, and different ways to make those partnerships successful. In addition, students will research various non-profit organizations, governmental agencies, and community-wide programs to determine the effectiveness of those programs on the community

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into Texas A&M University – San Antonio Graduate School and the Department of Curriculum and Instruction master's program.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Engage in dialogue and discussion regarding community partnerships, equity and access of programs and services, and the best ways to engage in and interact with the local community.
2. Examine the ways in which community partnerships are developed and strengthened.
3. Critique and assess successful and unsuccessful university and P-12 partnerships.
4. Research non-profit organizations, governmental agencies, and community-wide programs and initiatives that are intended to improve the lives of local community members.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of community partnerships for example, how they are developed, what is needed for them to be successful, how those partnerships are funded, etc.
2. Identify the structures and support needed for successful community partnerships.
3. Critique and evaluate various non-profit organizations and other types of community partnership initiatives to determine effectiveness.
4. Reflect on personal practice as it relates to personal involvement in the local community.

**Recommended texts:**

Coleman, M. (2013). *Empowering Family-Teacher Partnerships: Building Connections within diverse communities*. Thousand Oak, CA: Sage Publications.

Glasgow, N. & Whitney, J. (2009). *What successful schools do to involve families: 55 partnership strategies*. Thousand Oak, CA: Sage Publications.

**Other Required Course Materials:**

1. Additional scholarly articles, works of literature, movies, etc. as deemed appropriate by the instructor

2. Access to blackboard

**Course Topics:**

- I. Introduction/Overview of Community Partnerships
  - A. Introduction to current and relevant research concerning community partnerships
  - B. Examining different types of community partnerships and how success of those partnerships is determined
- II. Understanding University and P-12 Partnerships
  - A. PDS models
  - B. Lab Schools
  - C. Other types of P-12 Partnerships
- III. Non-Profits and Their Role in the Community
  - A. Examining various non-profit organizations and agencies
  - B. Critiquing and evaluating the effectiveness and authenticity of non-profits in their community work

**Course Assignments:**

1. Community Picture Walk Presentation
2. Book Study & Presentation
3. Reflections
4. Community Partnership Case Study
5. Socratic Seminar Preparation and Facilitation