

EDSP 6346

783, Summer, 2020

Syllabus



Basic Information

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OFFICE HOURS: Virtual M- 8-9 PM; T- 8:30-10:30AM; Th- 3-5PM

This course is a Web Course and is conducted within Canvas

<http://utpb.instructure.com>

NOTE: The due dates and times for the activities will adhere to the Central Time Zone.

Course Description

Course Catalog Description: This course will provide students with a history of special education litigation and legislation. Specifically, students will gain a deep understanding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, the major legislation governing the provision of special education services. Students will become familiar with federal statutes and regulations concerning assessment and evaluation procedures, due process and mediation, discipline, individual education plans (IEP's), free appropriate education (FAPE), and least restrictive environment (LRE).

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Evaluate the sources of law that impact public schools including constitutional provisions, statutory enactments, administrative regulations and court decisions.
2. Evaluate the legal framework governing education at the federal, state and local, levels.
3. Analyze various legal principles developed through case studies primarily involving schools and school districts.
4. Synthesize the course materials and legal principles and apply to school problems.

5. Appraise the legal issues involved in a case study as well as "real world" situations and scenarios.
6. Consider and analyze the implications of legislative actions, judicial decisions, and policy mandates for those students who receive special education services and the professionals who provide those services.

Prerequisites: Admission into the Special Education MA Program.

Materials

Required Materials:

Yell, M. (2018). *The Law and Special Education* (5th edition). Pearson. ISBN: 978-0135175361

Texas Education Agency – Special Education Rules and Regulations:
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=2147497444>

CEC Initial Level Special Education Preparation Standards

CEC Special Education Specialist Advanced Preparation Standards:
https://www.cec.sped.org/Standards?sc_lang=en

Webcam, additional tools are noted in the corresponding modules.

Minimum Technical Skills Needed:

1. Using Canvas Learning Management System.
2. Using email with attachments.
3. Creating and submitting files commonly used in word processing program formats (.doc, .docx).
4. Copying and pasting
5. Downloading and installing software.
6. Using webcams and video tools.

Important Academic Dates

UTPB [Academic Calendar](#)

Course Overview

*This course is divided into 7 units. All units are open at the beginning of the course, however, there are **specific due dates** for each assignment. Information regarding those due dates can be found by viewing the **Course Schedule** in the Syllabus and in the Start Here module in Canvas. Each week you will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, discussions, readings, and research. Assignment due dates, with the exception of the Court Case Analysis are on Sundays at 11:59PM CST. The Court Case Analysis is due by Friday, June 25 11:59PM CST. More information regarding each assignment can be found within the corresponding module.*

Readings: Prior to completing assignments, you are expected to read the material provided in each module, including articles, websites, or chapters. The expectations for each module may vary according to the topic and available online resources, but information is still necessary for completion of the assignments and discussion.

Exams/Quizzes: There are seven quizzes and one final exam. You will take one per week. At the end of the session, you will take the final exam. You will have one hour to complete module quizzes and three hours to take the final exam.

Assignments: Assignments may vary for each module. Assignments are reflective activities that allow you to analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and apply the information/knowledge covered in the module. Directions and rubrics are available online. Times New Roman, 12-point font should be used on all written assignments. Additionally, all of your assignments must be in APA format unless otherwise stated, and saved/uploaded as a .doc, docx, or PDF.

Discussion Topics: You will participate in 2 group discussions. You will need to carefully review the rubrics provided in order to fully understand the grading expectations for the discussion.

Grading:

Course Activity	Points
Assignment 1	50
Assignment 2	50
Assignment 3	50
Midway Checkpoint	10
Court Case Law Paper	100
Quiz 1	23
Quiz 2	23
Quiz 3	23
Quiz 4	23
Quiz 5	25
Quiz 6	25
Quiz 7	10
Final Exam	75

Course Activity	Points
Discussion participation Topic # 1 Topic # 2	20
	20
Total	527

Grading Scale:

Grade Range	Letter Grade
90 and above	A
80 to 89	B
70 to 79	C
60 to 69	D
Less than 60	F

**Unless otherwise stated, all materials, activities, and assessments are required and are not optional.*

Communication, Grading & Feedback:

I will have your work graded and returned to you with feedback within 1 week of the submission date for each assignment. On the grading of each assignment I will use the rubric to indicate where points were earned/lost. I may also provide you with comments and feedback to help you improve your performance. Please review your assignment once it has been graded in order to improve your performance in the future if necessary. If there is any discrepancy in the grade, you must contact me immediately. You can check your grades by going to "Grades". You can also see recently graded assignment on the right hand column under "recent feedback."

As an online course you can expect email response to questions from the instructor within 48 hours. You may also call during my posted office hours. If I am going to be out due to ill health, attending a conference, etc., I will notify you using email and the announcements page on Canvas. There is a communication tools file in the start here portion of the website. This will provide you with all of the instructors contact information.

Please check Canvas announcements frequently for general communication about assignments and other feedback or class wide concerns. I generally try to make a class

announcement at the beginning of each week to provide you with feedback on assignments and upcoming due dates. You will be able to see upcoming due dates on the right hand column of the screen in Canvas. Also, if you click the “view course stream” you will be able to see announcements, assignment notifications, and discussions added to the course since your last login.

Time Management:

Each semester credit hour at U. T. Permian Basin represents a commitment on an average of three hours of "out of class" preparation and one hour of class attendance (or its equivalent) per week. For example, enrolling in a three semester credit hour class commits the student to a total of twelve hours of work per week. Students who are employed or who have family responsibilities are especially encouraged to bear this commitment in mind and to seek guidance from their academic advisors in determining a suitable academic schedule.

I do not necessarily expect you to put in a full twelve hours toward my course each week. But if you have mapped out two hours the night before an assignment is due, you will most likely not be able to complete it on time...at least not with the quality I am looking for in your work.

Policies

Discussion Board

Discussion Board is primarily for discussing course related topics and issues. Best practices are:

- Read all message postings in online discussion.
- Respond to the question directly
- Reply to minimum of two other student posts.
- Use a person's name in the body of your message when you reply to their message.
- Avoid postings that are limited to 'I agree' or 'great idea', etc.
- Ensure responses to questions are meaningful, reflective.
- Support statements with concepts from course readings, refer to personal experience, examples.
- Follow **Rules of Behavior (below)**.

Rules of Behavior

Discussion areas are public to every student in this class (including your instructor) who will see what you write. Please pay attention to the language you use and adhere to the following guidelines:

- Do not post anything too personal.
- Do not use language that is inappropriate for a classroom setting or prejudicial in gender, race, or ethnicity.
- Do not use all caps in the message box unless you are emphasizing (it is considered shouting).
- Be courteous and respectful to other people on the list
- Do not overuse acronyms like you would use in text messaging. Some of the list participants may not be familiar with acronyms.
- Use line breaks and paragraphs in long responses.
- Write your full name at the end of the posting.
- Be careful with sarcasm and subtle humor; one person's joke is another person's insult.

Make-Up/Late Submission Policy

All course activities must be submitted before or on set due dates. No late work will be accepted without requesting an extension. Extensions will only be provided to individuals who provide sufficient evidence of need at least 24 hours in advance of the deadline. I understand that life happens beyond our control and if you are in an unexpected situation, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor immediately. All assignments must be submitted through Canvas. Emailed assignments will not be accepted without prior permission. Discussion posts will not be accepted passed the due date.

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism/Cheating

The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. Any suspicion of academic dishonesty will be reported and investigated. A student who engages in scholastic dishonesty that includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and collusion will receive an "F" for the course.

All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. For complete information on UTPB student conduct and discipline procedures consult the [University's Handbook:Scholastic Dishonesty](#).

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor, or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the appropriation of, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, other expression and media, and presenting that material as one's own academic work being offered for credit.

Attendance and Class Participation

Regular and active participation is an essential, unmistakably important aspect of this online course. Students will log on a minimum of three times every seven days. All students are expected to do the work assigned, notify the instructor when emergencies arise.

Tracking

Learning management systems have tracking features. Statistics are collected that quantifies how often and when students are active in the course and provides information if the student has accessed different pages of the course.

Absenteeism

All the course activities have set dates to be completed and submitted. After the due dates the activities will not be available for the students. Not logging into an online course is considered absenteeism. Contact instructor immediately in case of emergency medical situation.

Course Incomplete/Withdrawal/Grade Appeal

All students are required to complete the course within the semester they are signed up. Incomplete grades for the course are rarely given and will only be considered if the student has met all of the following conditions:

- Completed 75% or more of the coursework,
- Earned (at the time of the Incomplete request) a B or better average on all coursework,
- Submitted a valid, documented excuse for not being able to complete the course on time, and

- Has contacted the instructor prior to the last day of regular classes (full semester/face-to-face students) or one week prior to the last week of classes (online/8 week session).

Students must submit a written (electronic) petition for an extension and sign a contract that lists the remaining coursework to be completed and due dates. If the assignments and activities identified in the petition are not completed by the agreed upon due date, the student's grade will revert to a "F" two semesters after the original "I" grade was submitted.

Students are advised to review the University policy on Satisfactory Academic Progress and Financial Aid Probation that may result from course withdrawals or incompletes.

Find information and dates regarding drops and withdrawals consult the University Handbook: [Drops and Withdrawals](#) and [Appeal Process](#).

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Students with Disabilities: The University of Texas Permian Basin in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provides "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities. Only those students, who an Instructor has received an official Letter of Accommodation (LOA) sent by the Office of ADA for Students, will be provided ADA academic accommodations.

ADA Officer for Students: Mr. Paul Leverington

Address: Mesa Building 4243/4901 E. University, Odessa, Texas 79762

Voice Telephone: 432-552-4696

Email: ada@utpb.edu

For the accessibility and privacy statements of external tools used within courses, go to [Accessibility and Privacy Statements](#).

Computer Skills, Technical & Software Requirements

Students will need to create word processing documents, save files, and submit files. Additionally, students will need access to YouTube for uploading and sharing videos.

Students can use cloud version of Word, PowerPoint and other Microsoft products through use of their UTPB Outlook 365 and UTPB email address. For more information refer to [UTPB Office 365 Page](#).

Computer Technical Requirements

See [Technical Requirements](#).

Online Student Authentication

UTPB requires that each student who registers for an online course is the same student who participates in, completes, and receives credit for the course. UTPB's Distance Education Policy requires faculty members to employ at least two methods of verification to ensure student identities. To access online courses students must login to the UTPB learning management system using their unique personal identifying username and secure password. UTPB's Distance Education Policy requires at least one additional student identification method within the course that has been determined and approved by the faculty or academic program.

This course satisfies the second method of student authentication by uploading a clear image of **yourself holding an approved picture ID**; approved picture IDs include: passport, government issued identification, driver's license, or military ID from DoD.

Your picture must be: (1) in color, (2) in a well-lit place with no shadows on your face or your ID that can obscure your image, (3) taken on the day that you submit the photo to reflect your current appearance, (4) take in full-face view directly facing the camera, (5) with a neutral facial expression and both eyes open. Submit your picture in either JPEG or PNG format to the assignment BEFORE you submit it.

Preparation for Emergencies

Computer Crash

Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the semester will NOT be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing course activities at a scheduled time. NOTE: Identify a second computer before the semester begins, that you can use when/if your personal computer crashes.

Complete Loss of Contact

If you lose contact with course connectivity completely (i.e. you cannot contact me via Canvas or email), you need to call instructor, and leave message regarding connectivity loss and contact information.

Lost/Corrupt/Missing Files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external drive, UTPB Outlook 365 OneDrive, or personal computer. In the event of any kind of failure (e.g. virus

infection, student's own computer crashes, loss of files in cyberspace, etc.) or any contradictions/problems, you may be required to resubmit the files.

End-of-Course Evaluation & Instructor Evaluation

Every student is encouraged to complete an end of course evaluation survey provided by UTPB. During the last two weeks of class, there will be an announcement in Canvas, an email, and a button in your course navigation that will take you to any available surveys.

The survey is anonymous and your responses are confidential. Your feedback is critical to us and to your instructor as we strive to improve our offerings, and our support of you, the students.

Student Support Services

SERVICE	CONTACT
ADA Accommodation/Support	Services for Students with Disabilities (432) 552-4696
Testing Services	Testing Services & Academic Accommodations Department (432) 552-2630
Advising	(432) 552-2661 UTPB Academic Advising Center
Bookstore	UTPB Campus Bookstore (432) 552-0220
Email, Office 365, my.utpb.edu	Information Technology
Financial Aid and Scholarship	UTPB Financial Aid (432) 552-2620
Library	The J. Conrad Dunagan Library Online at (432) 552-2370
Registrar	UTPB Registrar (432) 552-2635

SERVICE	CONTACT
Student Services	Student Services (432) 552-2600
Technical Support	Canvas 1-866-437-0867
Tutoring & Learning Resources	If you are taking courses through UTPB the following links provide services: Smarthinking Online Tutoring (provides tutoring services), SmarterMeasure (measures learner readiness for online course).

Disclaimer & Rights

Information contained in this syllabus was to the best knowledge of the instructor considered correct and complete when distributed for use in the beginning of the semester. However, the instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of UTPB to make changes in the course content or instructional techniques without notice or obligation. The students will be informed about the changes, if any.

Copyright Statement

Many of the materials that are posted within UTPB courses are protected by copyright law. These materials are only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for the purpose of the course. They may not be further retained or disseminated.

Schedule

DATE	Assignments/Activities/Topics		Due Date
5/11	Course syllabus Summary of the history of special education	Overview of the Course Chapter 1. Intro to American Legal System Federalism Chapter 3. The History of the Law and Children with Disabilities Written Assignment 1: Seminal Court Case Timeline Module 1 Assessment	Introduce yourself to the class and instructor via the discussion board. Complete Module Assessment #1 and Assignment #1 (Due by 5/17 at 11:59 PM PM)

DATE	Assignments/Activities/Topics		Due Date
5/18	Special Education Rules and Regulations Free, Appropriate Public Education in the Fourth Circuit	Chapter 8. Free Appropriate Public Education Chapter 11. Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) and Procedural Safeguards Module 2 Assessment	Complete Module Assessment #2 Due by 5/24 at 11:59PM Start working on Written Assignment #2
5/25	IEP Due Process Notice of Procedural Safeguards	Chapter 10. Individualized Education Program Chapter 12. Procedural Safeguards Written Assignment 2: Parents' Rights Brochure Module 3 Assessment	Complete Module Assessment #3 Written Assignment #2 (Due by 5/31 at 11:59 PM)
6/1	Assessment Procedures Manifest Determination Discipline	Chapter 9. Identification, Assessment, and Evaluation of Students Chapter 13. Student Discipline Final Paper Midway Checkpoint Module 4 Assessment	Complete Module Assessment #4 Midway Checkpoint for Final Paper Due by 6/7 at 11:59 PM
6/8	Reauthorization of the ESEA and Policy Issues at Stake ADA	Chapter 6. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Chapter 7. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Discussion 1 Module 4 Assessment	Complete Module Assessment # 5 Complete Discussion #1 Due by 6/14 at 11:59 PM
6/15	IDEA Purpose of the Act Section 504	Chapter 4. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Chapter 5. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973	Complete Module Assessment #6 and Complete Discussion #2

DATE	Assignments/Activities/Topics		Due Date
		Begin Reading for the Court Case Analysis Written Assignment 3: IEP vs. 504 Module 6 Assessment	Due by 6/21 at 11:59PM
6/22	Case Law Paper Due FINAL EXAM	Chapter 14. Bullying, Response to Intervention, Educational Records, and Liability for Student Injury Analysis of Special Education Law and IDEA	Complete Module 7 Assessment Complete Final Exam Seminal Court Case Law Paper Due June 25 at 11:59PM

Sample Syllabus