

EDUL 6338
The School Principalship
COURSE SYLLABUS
Fall Semester, 2009

Class meetings: Wednesday 7:10 – 9:55 RM# EDCC 2.222

Instructor: Dr. George Padilla gpadilla629@yahoo.com
Office: EDCC 1.514

Required Textbook: Ubben, G., Hughes, L., and Norris, C., *The Principal: Creating leadership For excellence in schools* (6th Ed.). Boston: Pearson and Allyn and Bacon.

Course Description: This course will examine the function, processes and best practices involved in effective PK-12 school principal leadership.

Services for Students With Disabilities: If you require assistance or have special needs due to a disability, please notify the instructor. Additionally, the office of services for persons with disabilities (956-316-7005) provides supportive services that meet the educational, career, and personal needs of persons with disabilities.

Course Objectives:

1. Develop an understanding of the principal's role within the total school organization.
2. Develop a working knowledge of social systems theory and how it relates to the function of the school principal.
3. Develop an understanding of various leadership/management theories and styles
4. Develop a working understanding of group dynamics and the principal's role in dealing with the psychological and social nature of groups.
5. Develop a working understanding of effective decision-making processes.
6. Develop a working understanding of systematic planning processes.
7. Develop an understanding of the principals role in developing a positive culture and environment for teaching and learning

8. Develop and understanding of the principals role in curriculum administration.
9. Develop a thorough understanding of the legal system as it relates to the campus principal.
10. Develop an understanding of ethical and policy issues that impact the principalship.
11. Develop an understanding of the particular issues in the administration of special programs.
12. Develop an understanding of human resource administration as it relates to the principalship.
13. Develop an understanding of the requirements for educator accountability in Texas to include student testing and effective teaching and leadership.

Course Outline:

Sep. 2

Course Introduction

Sep. 9ject preparation

June 4

Guest speaker

Sep. 9

Ch. 1: The Principal: A creative blend of substance and learning

Sep. 16

Ch. 2: The learning community

Sep. 23

Ch 3: Decision processing and decision making at the school site

Sep. 30

Ch. 4: School improvement through systematic planning

Oct. 7

Ch 5: Creating a positive learning climate

Oct. 14

Ch. 14: Technology Applications for School Management

Oct. 21

Ch. 6: The school curriculum

Oct. 28

Ch. 7: Promoting student achievement

Nov. 4

Ch. 8: Special students and special services

Nov. 11

Ch. 9: Human resource development

Nov. 18

Ch. 10: Staffing the school: Recruitment, selection and the termination process (Texas Education Code)

Nov. 25

Research Activity

Dec. 2

Ch. 15: The School and Community

Dec. 9

Final Activity

Course/Grade Requirements:

Attendance: Students are expected to attend every class. **20%**

Class Participation and Presentations: This class is interactive. Students will present and participate in activities during each class meeting. **40%**

Readings: Each student will review 7 journal articles that relate to the principalship and write a reflection (at least one-half page) on each. The reflections will be submitted to the instructor by June 25th. **40%**

Principal Certification Competences Addressed:

1.1 create a campus culture that sets high expectations, promotes learning and provides intellectual stimulation for self, students, and staff

1.2 ensure parents and other staff members of the community are an integral part of the campus culture

1.3 implement strategies to ensure the development of collegial relationships and effective collaboration

1.5 use strategies for involving all stakeholders in planning processes to ensure collaborative development of shared campus vision focused on teaching and learning

1.7 Align financial, human and material resources to support implementation of a campus vision

1.8 establish procedures to assess and modify implementation plans to ensure achievement of the campus vision

1.9 support innovative thinking and risk taking within the school community and view unsuccessful experiences as learning opportunities

1.10 acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of students, staff, parents and community members toward realization of the campus vision

5.3 create conditions that encourage staff, students, families/caregivers and the community to strive to achieve the campus vision

5.10 Analyze the implications of various factors (e.g., staffing patterns, class scheduling formats, school organizational structures, student discipline practices) for teaching and learning

6.7 engage in ongoing professional development activities to enhance one's own knowledge and skills and to model lifelong learning

9.2 Apply strategies for ensuring the safety of students and personnel and for addressing emergencies and security concerns

9.3 Develop and implement procedures for crisis planning and for responding to crises