SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY
Department of Educational Leadership and Technology
EDL 721: School Law
Revision Date: Spring 2007

GENERIC SYLLABUS

TEXTS:


Armenta, T.  *School Law Student Handbook*. (7th ed.). (Available at SLU Bookstore)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

3 hours credit. Prerequisite: Advanced standing in the graduate program. The course shall encompass an examination of the constitutional and legal bases of public education in the United States and Louisiana.

GENERAL GOALS OF THE COURSE:

After completion of the course, the student will have an understanding of the basic legal requirements of managing the public schools, its programs, teachers and students. Priority focus will be given to landmark Supreme Court decisions in the areas of finance, religion, student rights, rights of the disabled, employee rights, and discrimination. This course will also address major current legal issues in education.

COEHD CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK: The COEHD’s Conceptual Framework provides direction for the development of effective professionals. It is a living document that continuously evolves as opportunities and challenges emerge. The four components of the CF are the institutional standards used for candidates assessment in undergraduate and graduate programs. They are *Knowledge of the Learner* (KL); *Strategies and Methods* (SM); *Content Knowledge* (CK); and *Professional Standards* (PS). *Diversity* (D) and *Technology* (T) are included in the assessment process as themes that are integrated throughout all programs in the educational unit.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon course completion, students will be able to:

1. Describe key legal issues and decisions in landmark Supreme Court cases related to education (CK).
2. List strategies for avoiding litigation in a school setting (CK, PS).
3. Identify key legal issues/questions in given scenarios related to education (CK, PS).
4. Explain the legal rights of various groups relative to ethnicity, gender, age, disability, and socioeconomic status (CK, PS, SM, D).
5. List the requirements of due process (CK, PS).
6. List the criteria for determining negligence (CK, PS).
7. Explain what types of questions are inappropriate for employment interviews (CK, PS, D).
8. Define various legal terms relative to education law (CK).
9. List legitimate criteria for dismissing a teacher (CK, PS).
10. Use the Internet to access court cases; state law; articles on school law (CK, T).

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. **Supplemental Case Reports:** Each student will be assigned two Supreme Court cases on which to write a supplemental case report. These reports will provide additional information (e.g., dissenting opinions) for cases discussed in class. Students will also present the information to the rest of the class when their particular cases are discussed. (CK, T)

2. **Participation:** Regular attendance and active participation is expected. The grade for participation will also take into account the quality completion of enrichment assignments.

3. **Mid-term Exam**

4. **Comprehensive Final Exam**

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**KNOWLEDGE BASE**


