EDL 664  
Seminar V: School Leader as Change Agent

Credit hours: 6  
Prerequisites: EDL 663

Course Description

School improvement will be explored with particular attention to the importance of change, data analysis, and risk-taking.

Southeastern Louisiana University  
College of Education  
Conceptual Framework

The COE’s Conceptual Framework provides direction for the development of effective professionals. It is a living document that continuously evolves as opportunities and challenges emerge. All aspects of this course are aligned with the Conceptual Framework, including the course objectives, field experiences and assessments. The four components of the Conceptual Framework are the institutional standards used for candidate assessment in undergraduate and graduate programs. They are Knowledge of Learner (KL), Strategies and Methods (SM), Content Knowledge (CK), and Professional Standards (PS). Diversity (DV) and Technology (TY).

The following is the link to the conceptual framework on the COEHD website:  
http://www.selu.edu/acad_research/colleges/edu_hd/about/conceptual_framework/

Course Objectives

1. Lead change by facilitating and using research findings to plan school improvement initiatives, pace the implementation of these changes, and evaluate their impact on teaching and learning (KL, CK, SM, D)
2. Choose one area in which a school or district is undergoing change and determine:  
   a) How is this change affecting all stakeholders, b) what criticism or obstacles to change are evident, and, c) how are these obstacles being handled? Outline a plan of action for gaining internal and external support (SM, PS, D)
3. Lead the faculty through the change process by selecting one strategy in the school improvement plan for implementation, and design an action research project to determine the effectiveness of this strategy (KL, CK, PS, T)
4. Foster the genuine, continuous involvement, and commitment of the school community in promoting the progress of all students toward attaining high standards (KL, CK, SM, D)
5. Be a critical consumer of research and be able to interpret and apply current research within the educational setting (KL, CK, SM, T, D)
6. Make ethical decisions for improving the school program (KL, CK, SM, and D).
Diversity
Students will be prepared to function in a diverse environment and/or community.

Technology
Students will be prepared to utilize technology in their professional environment or practice.

Methodologies
Teaching strategies may include, but is not limited to discussions, lecture, demonstrations, group work, field experiences, and online instruction. Course content will be drawn from theory and research, from student experiences, and from discussions in and out of class sessions.

Field Experiences
Field experiences are required in this course in order to meet the course objectives.

Course Assessment/Evaluation Method
Students will be evaluated through a combination of methods including, but not limited to written examinations, practical examinations, projects, and class participation. Each instructor reserves the right to establish additional methods of assessment.

Unit (COE) Assessment
A strategic action plan will be placed in the student’s Capstone Portfolio on PASSPORT, the unit’s required electronic portfolio system. The Capstone Portfolio must also contain one example field experience and professional development that was completed during EDL 664.