University of North Texas at Dallas
School of Education

Syllabus for EDLE 5640 Educational Law/Finance

Department of	Teacher Education and Administration	School of	Education
Instructor Name:	**Dr. Elijah Granger**		
Office Location:			
Office Phone:			
Email Address:			
Office Hours:			
Classroom Location:			
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Thursdays 5:30 PM – 8:20 PM		
Course Catalog Description:	5640. 3 hours. (A study of philosophical foundations and principals of school law, the roles, responsibilities, systems, and procedures in school business matters. Includes budgeting, taxation, and statutory programs for school support, fiscal management, business operations, the legal framework for school programming, government structures, and federal, state, and local regulations.		
Prerequisites:	EDLE 5300, EDLE 5330		
Recommended Text:	Walsh, J., Maniotis, L., & Kemerer, F. (2018). The educator's guide to Texas school law: Ninth edition (9th ed.). University of Texas Press. ISBN 9781477315316		
Additional Learning Resources:		Appraisal, nonrenewal, termination. Sixth edition (6th ed.) Legal Digest ISBN 9780985252755	
Course Goals or Overview: The goals of this course are as follows -			
The overall goal of this course is to empower aspiring administrators with an impactful understanding of ethical, legal, and financial responsibilities, including educational law, needed to advocate for children, ensure student access, manage financial resources, quality programs and services, as well as access to effective educators.			

SLO#	Objectives	Domains
1	By the end of the course, students will be able to critically analyze the legal issues surrounding the First Amendment in educational settings through the examination of the Pickering v. Board of Education case study, including ethical standards, human resource matters, declaration of conflicting interests, and funding considerations.	DOMAIN I School Culture Competency 001 DOMAIN III Human Capital Competency 005 DOMAIN VI Ethics, Equity, and Diversity, Competency 011

2	By the end of the course, students will be able to analyze and articulate the complexities and controversies surrounding the legal construct of student discipline in schools through the integration of research, readings, and external resources, as well as examine additional real-life incidents beyond those discussed in class.	DOMAIN V Strategic Operations Competency 010 DOMAIN III Human Capital Competency 006 DOMAIN VI Ethics, Equity, and Diversity Competency 011
3	By the end of the course, students will be able to effectively apply and evaluate various types of revenue funding sources, such as excise tax, property tax, corporate tax, title funds, maintenance and operations tax, interest and sinking tax, and foundation funding, to their campus/district.	DOMAIN V Strategic Operations Competency 010
4	By the end of the course, students will be able to analyze given scenarios and develop comprehensive budget rationales for individual campuses, considering revenue sources such as SCE (Student Compensatory Equivalency) funds and the specific needs of each school, graded based on their evaluation of campus needs and appropriate budget allocations.	DOMAIN V Strategic Operations Competency 010 DOMAIN III Human Capital Competency 005
5	By the end of the course, students will be able to critically analyze and articulate valid rationales for lawmakers' reluctance to explore alternative revenue sources for funding schools in Texas, based on their understanding of the educational funding system in the state.	DOMAIN V Strategic Operations Competency 010 DOMAIN III Human Capital Competency 005
6	By the end of the course, students will be able to critically analyze and articulate valid rationales for lawmakers' reluctance to explore alternative revenue sources for funding schools in Texas, based on their understanding of the educational funding system in the state.	DOMAIN I School Culture Competency 001
7	By the end of the course, students will be able to construct a concise and well-reasoned legal brief that analyzes relevant case law and applies foundational principles of educational law to present a strong argument or defense in a hypothetical scenario.	DOMAIN V Strategic Operations Competency 010 DOMAIN III Human Capital Competency 006 DOMAIN VI Ethics, Equity, and Diversity Competency 011
8	By the end of the course, students will be able to apply a personal tax appraisal analysis to determine the amount they will contribute through local property taxes to their respective school district's budget.	DOMAIN V Strategic Operations Competency 010

Suggested Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Canvas announcement. Additional readings and activities may be added, these will be noted in the Readings and Activities/Assignments sections.

Timeline	SLO	Topic	Assignments Aligned with Competencies

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

GRADING MATRIX

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

•Assignments: 20% of total grade - written assignments designed to supplement and reinforce course material

•Attendance Discussions: 15% of total grade - written assignments designed to engage in discourse and develop student understanding of the topic of theme.

•Projects/Exams: 25% of total grade - assignments designed to measure ability to apply presented course material (Insert rubric into the syllabus)

•Quiz: 15% of total grade - quick assessments designed to measure student understanding of the content.

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total
Assignments	6 assignments	500
Attendance/Discussion	8 discussions	700
Quizzes	4 quizzes	400
Projects	2 projects	200
Final Exam	1 final exam	100
Total		1900

Instrument Total Points

GRADE DETERMINATION:

A = 1900 – 1691 pts 90% or better
B = 1690 – 1520 pts 89 – 80 %
C = 1519 – 1330 pts 79 – 70 %
D =1329 – 1140 pts 69– 60 %
F = 1139 pts or below 60%

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):
Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students:

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see Disability Services Office.

You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDdisability@untdallas.edu or at Building PL, room 1104.

Disruptive Behavior in an Instructional Setting:

Students are expected to engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner at all times to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absent for that class period and any other classes the student misses as a result of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (Policy 7.001) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:
University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is also provided.

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluation Policy:
Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy: (According to the instructor's discretion while working in concert with the division/program's guidelines).

Exam Policy: (Online exams and the ability to retake is solely at the instructor's discretion). NOTE: Online exams may be proctored on campus per instructor's discretion.

Academic Integrity:
Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to UNT Dallas' Student Code of Academic Integrity for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

We are discussing the AI policy …

Classroom Policies

Online Attendance and Participation:
The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Canvas classroom and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency.

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Canvas, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to UNT Dallas' Registrar for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

Inclement Weather and Online Classes: Online classes may or may not be effected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Online "Netiquette":
In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to UNT Dallas Student Code of Conduct. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:
Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

Technology Assistance: In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus.

If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Student Assistance (Distance Learning) at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- [UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements](#)
- [Canvas Instructure Supported & Unsupported Operating Systems](#)