

**California State University San Marcos  
College of Education**

**Syllabus**

EDAD 634A, Education Law  
(2 units)

Spring, 2003

**Instructor: Ed Heatley**

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**Office Hours By Appointment**

**Classes to be held at the CSU San Marcos Main Campus, Avenue, University Hall, Room # 443, San Marcos from 4:30pm to 9:15pm, Mondays, starting January 27, 2003. Final Class on March 3, 2003**

Mission of the College of Education at CSUSM. The mission of the College of Education Community is to collaboratively transform public education by preparing thoughtful educators and advancing professional practices. We are committed to diversity, educational equity, and social justice, exemplified through reflective teaching, life-long learning, innovative research, and on-going service. Our practices demonstrate a commitment to student-centered education, diversity, collaboration, professionalism and shared governance.

(adopted by COE Governance Community, October 1997)

Authorization to Teach English Learners. This credential program has been specifically designed to prepare teachers for the diversity of languages often encountered in California public school classrooms. The authorization to teach English learners is met through the infusion of content and experiences within the credential program, as well as additional coursework. Students successfully completing this program receive a credential with authorization to teach English learners.

(approved by CCTC in SB 2042 Program Standards, August 02))

Students with Disabilities Requiring Reasonable Accommodations. Students are approved for services through the Disabled Student Services Office (DSS). This office is located in Craven Hall 5205, and can be contacted by phone at (760) 750-4905, or TTY (760) 750-4909. Students authorized by DSS to receive reasonable accommodations should meet with their instructor during office hours or, in order to ensure confidentiality, in a more private setting.

**Course Description, EDAD 634A:** The emphasis of this course is on understanding certain key statutes and regulations pertaining to California public school districts, employees and students. The body of law regulating school districts and their functions is great, the emphasis in this course will be to focus on the laws and regulations most relevant to school site administrators.

**Course Goals, EDAD 634A:** The course will assist new administrators to:

1. Be aware of decisions and actions that are regulated by statute, case law and regulation.
2. Be knowledgeable of legal resources that will guide the administrator in making decisions and taking actions.
3. Be able to apply laws, decisions, and regulations to situations and circumstances typically confronted by school administrators.

**Course Objectives, EDAD 634A:** Upon completion of the course, the administrator will:

- Know what schools can and cannot ask students and parents to provide
- Know the elements of due process to which students and certain employees are entitled
- Know the rights of parents, including non-custodial parents, to be involved in their children's education
- Know how to timely and correctly investigate and respond to citizen complaints
- Know the various classifications of employees and the basic employment rights attached to each classification
- Know how to prevent and correct sexual harassment including conduct between students, employees and student-employees
- Know the circumstances under which suspected child abuse must be reported, how such reports are made and by whom
- Know the basic management obligations concerning collective bargaining and how school site administrators can contribute to positive employer-employee relations

**Required Texts and Materials for EDAD 634A:**

The California Educators' Guide to School Law, third edition, by Ronald D. Wenkart, Esq., LRP Publications, Dept. 430, P.O. Box 980, Horsham, PA 19044-0980 (Product Code 300059; \$37.50 + \$7.50 shipping & handling)

The FRISK Documentation Training Manual, k-12 Edition, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, Attorneys at Law, 17871 Park Plaza Drive, Suite 200, Cerritos, California 90703-8597; \$24.95 + \$3.00 shipping & handling)

Students will be asked to locate and bring to class various artifacts such as district policies as well as use the Internet for research purposes.

**Course Requirements:**

1. Write a paper of no less than 800 words nor more than 1000 words (see writing requirement below) and make a class presentation on the same subject concerning one particular and timely legal issue effecting a specific public school or California public schools generally. The main point of the paper and presentation is to described how the law or legal decision impacted school operations.
2. Fully participate in class discussions from an informed point of view (see attendance policy below).

3. Final examination-written exam in class based on written materials and class presentations/discussions.

**Grading Policy:**

- 40% Based on class attendance and informed participation
- 40% Based on term paper of and presentation described above
- 20% Based on final examination

**Course Outline (calendar of topics):** Attachment 1

**University Writing and Attendance Policies**

**Writing:** In keeping with the All-University Writing Requirement, all courses must have a writing component of at least 2,500 words (approximately 10 pages) for a 3 unit course which can be administered in a variety of ways. EDAD 634A is a 2 unit course, the writing requirement is approximately 1700 words which includes all class assignments, the term paper and final exam. Please use 1" margins, 12 point New Times Roman font, double spaced for all written assignments.

**Attendance Policy:** Due to the dynamic and interactive nature of course in the COE, all students are expected to attend all classes and participate actively. At a minimum, students must attend more than 80% of class time, or s/he may not receive a passing grade for the course at the discretion of the instructor. If two class sessions are missed, or if the student is late (or leaves early) more than three sessions, s/he cannot receive a grade of "A". If three class sessions are missed, the highest possible grade that can be earned is a "C+". If extenuating circumstances occur, the student should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements.

*Class Schedule attached*

CSUSM EdLaw Class  
 Spring Semester, 2003  
 CSU San Marcos, University Hall, Room # 443  
 Monday Evenings, 4:30 PM to 9:15 PM

<b>Date</b>	<b>Major Topic</b>	<b>Sub Topics</b>
1/27/03	Syllabus Review Student/Parent Rights Uniform Complaint Procedures	Constitutional Right to a Free Education Student Due Process Rights Custodial Rights, Student Records Responding to and Processing Parent Complaints (Listening Skills)
2/03/03	Employee Rights Classifications & Conditions of Employment	Classified & Certificated Employee Classifications (Prob Reelections/Non-reelections) Due Process Rights & Documentation (FRISK) Classified and Certificated RIFs
2/10/03	Sexual Harassment Reporting Child Abuse	What is Sexual Harassment & How its Prevented (Impact vs. Intent video) Responding to and Investigating Allegations of Sexual Harassment Requirements to Report Child Abuse
2/17/03	Positive Employer- Employee Relations	Using Interest Based Strategies in Bargaining, Contract Administration, Shared Decision Making and problem Solving ( <i>Getting to Yes</i> )
2/24/03	Student Presentations	Term Papers Due
3/03/03	Final Examination	What We Have Covered & Learned Consequences of Not Knowing What to Do When in Doubt/Using Resources Wisely