

Course Number	EDAD 618B
Course Title	Leadership for School Improvement
CRN Number	42975
Days	Mondays
Time	4:30-8:30 pm
Course Location	San Marcos Elementary
Semester / Year	Fall 2015
Instructor	Carol Van Vooren
Phone	760.458.6431
E-Mail	cvanvoor@csusm.edu
Office	UH 401
Hours	TBA

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION MISSION & VISION STATEMENT

(Adopted by SOE Governance Community, January 2013)

Vision

To serve the educational needs of local, regional, and global communities, the School of Education advances innovative practice and leadership by generating, embracing, and promoting equitable and creative solutions.

Mission

The mission of the School of Education community is to collaboratively transform education. We:

- Create community through partnerships
- Promote and foster social justice and educational equity
- Advance innovative, student-centered practices
- Inspire reflective teaching and learning
- Conduct purposeful research
- Serve the School, College, University, and Community

BASIC TENETS OF OUR CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

- Student centered education
- Research and theory specific to the program field inform practice
- Connections and links between coursework and application
- Strong engagement between faculty and candidates
- Co-teaching clinical practice
- Culturally responsive pedagogy and socially just outcomes

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Catalog: Candidates learn how to identify, generate, and use data to make decisions about pedagogy and adjustment of instructional policies and procedures. The effective use of assessment data from the classroom, as well as from system-wide sources, in establishing and using accountability systems is addressed. May not be taken for credit by students who have received credit for EDAD 636. Enrollment restricted to students who have obtained consent of Program Coordinator.

Instructor: This course builds candidate skills and knowledge in selecting and using data in identifying what is working, diagnosing needs, and researching opportunities for school improvement leadership using appropriate and effective theories and strategies. The course provides multiple opportunities for each candidate to learn, practice, and reflect on school improvement leadership.

Course Prerequisites

This course is part of continued progression in the Educational Administration program

Course Objectives

The course objectives, assignments, student learning outcomes, and assessments have been aligned with the following CTC standards:

Category C: School Improvement Leadership

CAPE 9 (California Administrative Performance Expectations): Working with Others to Identify Student and School Needs, and Developing a Data-Based School Growth Plan

The principal understands and implements strategies to institute, manage, and evaluate a school change process, including facilitating the development of a data-based school growth plan. The principal involves, encourages and supports multiple constituencies in sharing and using data to assess and diagnose instructional needs, define student, staff and community goals for continuous improvement, and collaboratively design the school growth plan consistent with the school's vision and goals. The principal uses technology effectively to help support and manage the school growth and improvement processes.

CAPE 10: Implementing Change Strategies Based on Current, Relevant Theories and Best Practices in School Improvement

The principal is knowledgeable about theories and strategies as well as best practices related to school improvement and the management of change to accomplish the school growth plan. The principal determines an appropriate evaluation process to document progress towards achieving the school growth plan and is able to work collaboratively with others to identify and make needed changes based on multiple sources of data, including student outcomes.

CAPE 11: Identifying and Using Available Human, Fiscal, and Material Resources to Implement the School Growth Plan

The principal is knowledgeable about a wide range of resources to help implement the school growth plan, including but not limited to human, fiscal, and material resources. The principal identifies and seeks additional resources as needed from a variety of sources both within and outside of the local community to support the implementation of the school growth plan.

CAPE 12: Instituting a Collaborative, Ongoing Process of Monitoring and Revising the Growth Plan Based on Student Outcomes

The principal uses strategies for continuous progress monitoring of the school's growth plan and outcomes, and collaboratively engages others in the school community in using those data for updating the school growth plan as needed. The principal engages all members of the school community on an ongoing basis in reflecting about student outcomes.

Credit Hour Policy Statement

Per the University Credit Hour Policy:

- Students are expected to spend a minimum of two hours outside of the classroom each week for each unit of credit engaged in learning.

REQUIRED TEXTS, MATERIALS AND ACCOUNTS

Marzano, R., Warrick, P., & Sims, J. (2014). *A handbook for high reliability schools*. Bloomington, IN: Marzano Research Laboratory.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, candidates will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the changing political, fiscal, and student needs in the Era of Accountability, including Common Core assessment and reporting.
- Demonstrate written and oral communication to express data outcomes to the various stakeholders, especially that of low-achieving demographic groups.
- Use research-based data to develop and present a plan of school improvement for a documented achievement gap in a school case study.
- Deliver professional development on school improvement by training cohort peers on the wide variety of testing instruments used in the schools such as the California English Language Development Test (CELDT), psychological tests, and tests of basic skills.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the change process in proposing recommendations for school improvement.

MA IN EDUCATION PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (PSLO)

The Master of Arts in Education Program assesses four (4) Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLO).

PSLO 1: Professional Dispositions (EDAD 610, EDAD 618A, EDAD 620)

PSLO 2: Leadership Skills (EDAD 620)

PSLO 3: Analyze Research (EDUC 622)

PSLO 4: Integrate Research (EDUC 698)

PSLO 1: Professional Dispositions

Demonstrate interaction and communication skills that reflect professional dispositions and ethics, such as respect for diversity, educational equity, collaboration, and social justice. In the General Option MA Program PSLO 1 is assessed using a Professional Disposition Rubric in EDAD 610, EDAD 618A, and EDAD 620 and prior to enrollment in EDUC 698. The Educational Administration Master of Arts Program assesses candidates' professional dispositions four times over the course of the program. The assessments include self-assessment as well and course instructor ratings. Candidates must complete this PSLO before advancing to candidacy and enrolling in EDUC 698.

PSLO 2: Leadership Skills

Apply leadership skills to advance the profession. In the Ed Admin MA Program, PSLO 2 is assessed in class EDAD 620 with the Final Portfolio Assignment, using a rubric provided in the Portfolio and Field Experience Handbook.

PSLO 3: Analyze Research

Analyze educational and/or professional research. In EDUC 622: Research Methods in Education, candidates complete a formal paper to summarize and critique an empirical research study. Instructors evaluate the assignment with the use of the Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) Rubric. Candidates have three attempts to pass this PSLO with a minimum of 10 out of 16 points on the GWAR rubric.

PSLO 4: Integrate Research

Integrate research and evidence-based practices into educational and professional settings. The candidates are assessed on their ability to integrate research and evidence-based practices into educational and professional settings through the thesis and thesis defense.

Assessment of Professional Dispositions

Assessing a candidate's dispositions within a professional preparation program is recognition that teaching and working with learners of all ages requires not only specific content knowledge and pedagogical skills, but positive attitudes about multiple dimensions of the profession. The School of Education has identified six dispositions – social justice and equity, collaboration, critical thinking, professional ethics, reflective teaching and learning, and life-long learning — and developed an assessment rubric. For each dispositional element, there are four levels of performance at the Master's level - *unacceptable*, *approaches target*, *meets target*, and *advanced target*. The description and rubric for the four levels of performance offer measurable behaviors and examples.

The assessment is designed to provide candidates with ongoing feedback for their growth in professional dispositions and includes self-assessments by the candidate. The dispositions and rubric are presented, explained and assessed in three designated courses (EDAD 610, EDAD 618A, and EDAD 620) in the Ed Admin Master of Arts in Education Program and again prior to advancement to candidacy and enrollment in EDUC 698. Based upon assessment feedback candidates will compose a reflection and an action plan for improvement. Candidates are expected to meet the level of *advanced target*.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

School of Education Attendance Policy

Due to the dynamic and interactive nature of courses in the School of Education, all candidates (course participants) are expected to attend all classes and participate actively. At a minimum, candidates (course participants) 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. Individual instructors may adopt more stringent attendance requirements. Should the candidate (course participants) have extenuating circumstances, s/he should contact the instructor as soon as possible. (*Adopted by the COE Governance Community, December, 1997*).

CSUSM Academic Honesty Policy

Students will be expected to adhere to standards of academic honesty and integrity, as outlined in the Student Academic Honesty Policy. All assignments must be original work, clear and error-free. All ideas/material that are borrowed from other sources must have appropriate references to the original sources. Any quoted material should give credit to the source and be punctuated accordingly.

Academic Honesty and Integrity: Students are responsible for honest completion and representation of their work. Your course catalog details the ethical standards and penalties for infractions. There will be zero tolerance for infractions. If you believe there has been an infraction by someone in the class, please bring it to the instructor's attention. The instructor reserves the right to discipline any student for academic dishonesty, in accordance with the general rules and regulations of the university. Disciplinary action may include the lowering of grades and/or the assignment of a failing grade for an exam, assignment, or the class as a whole.

Incidents of Academic Dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students. Sanctions at the University level may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

Refer to the full Academic Honesty Policy at:

http://www.csusm.edu/policies/active/documents/Academic_Honesty_Policy.html

Plagiarism

As an educator, it is expected that each candidate (course participant) will do his/her own work, and contribute equally to group projects and processes. Plagiarism or cheating is unacceptable under any circumstances. If you are in doubt about whether your work is paraphrased or plagiarized see the Plagiarism Prevention for Students website <http://library.csusm.edu/plagiarism/index.html>. If there are questions about academic honesty, please consult the University catalog.

Students with Disabilities Requiring Reasonable Accommodations

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations must be approved for services by providing appropriate and recent documentation to the Office of Disabled Student Services (DSS). This office is located in Craven Hall 4300, 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.

All University Writing Requirement

This course meets the university's writing requirement of at least 1700 words (2 units). Students are expected to use academic writing style consistent with graduate level courses. Written assignments will include out of class assignments as well as in class assignments.

Use of Technology

Candidates (Course participants) are expected to demonstrate competency in the use of various forms of technology (i.e. word processing, electronic mail, Moodle, use of the Internet, and/or multimedia presentations). Specific requirements for course assignments with regard to technology are at the discretion of the instructor. Keep a digital copy of all assignments for use in your teaching portfolio. All assignments will be submitted online, and some will be submitted in hard copy as well. Details will be given in class.

Electronic Communication Protocol

Electronic correspondence is a part of your professional interactions. If you need to contact the instructor, e-mail is often the easiest way to do so. It is my intention to respond to all received e-mails in a timely manner. Please be reminded that e-mail and on-line discussions are a very specific form of communication, with their own nuances and etiquette. For instance, electronic messages sent in all upper case (or lower case) letters, major typos, or slang, often communicate more than the sender originally intended. With that said, please be mindful of all e-mail and on-line discussion messages you send to your colleagues, to faculty members in the School of Education, or to persons within the greater educational community. All electronic messages should be crafted with professionalism and care.

Things to consider:

- Would I say in person what this electronic message specifically says?
- How could this message be misconstrued?
- Does this message represent my highest self?
- Am I sending this electronic message to avoid a face-to-face conversation?

In addition, if there is ever a concern with an electronic message sent to you, please talk with the author in person in order to correct any confusion.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADED COURSE COMPONENTS

Grading Standards

The following factors will be considered in determining a final grade:

Assignment	Due date	Grade points
Participation and engagement: Students will complete a brief KWL chart each week based on assigned readings to pose an inquiry with a small group in class discussions.	On-going	25
Current events: Three times during the semester students will contribute to an online threaded discussion on current events related to K-12 school improvement. Respond to two other postings for full credit.	Nov. 9, Nov. 23, Dec. 7	5 points each = 15
618A Assignment Part Two: Compare school or district data you collected with the “best practices” research from your (or your colleague’s) annotated bibliography.	Nov. 16	20
Develop a culturally proficient action plan Write a culturally proficient action plan from the Local Control Accountability Plan or Single Plan for Student Achievement format that addresses the gaps revealed in your research of your demographic group. Focus on improving student achievement through instructional strategies that meet the needs of all learners. If your school is a model of student achievement with no gap in achievement scores, write how your current data and support systems exemplify good instruction.	Nov. 30	20
Power Point or other type presentation: Prepare and present a 5 minute summary of your Action Plan as you would for a leadership team at your school site. Bring handouts to share with classmates.	Dec. 7	20
Total		100

Note: All assignments must be submitted electronically on Cougar Courses on or before due dates and times.

Grading Standards

Final course grades will be based on the following grading scale:

- A = 93% - 100%
- A- = 90% - 92%
- B+ = 87% - 89%
- B = 83% - 86%
- B- = 80% - 82%
- C+ = 77% - 79%
- C = 73% - 76%
- C- = 70% - 72%

Policy on Late/Missed Work

Assignments are given based on expectations of “mastery” of the content and academic format for the assignments. Based on the instructor’s early grading feedback, students may make improvements on assignments and may resubmit an assignment for additional grade consideration before the deadline date. Late assignments will lose one point for each day they are late.

SCHEDULE/COURSE OUTLINE

Date	Topic	Assignment
Session 1 Oct 26	What is this class about? What are the assignments and what will be the measures of achievement? What does a high-achieving school look like? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components and factors • Luck or determination? • Sustainability What are the indicators of a high reliability school?	Read and KWL: Marzano, Introduction and Chapter 1
Session 2 Nov 2	What does a low achieving school look like? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components and factors • Who gets the blame? What is a safe and collaborative culture? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we know? 	Read and KWL: Marzano, Chapter 2
Session 3 Nov 9 4:30-6:30 Dr.Lindsey Guest	What does a turn-around school look like? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components and factors • Mindful pathways • What can be borrowed and replicated in a different context? What does effective teaching look like?	Read and KWL: Marzano, Chapter 3 Due: Cougar Course current events blog
Session 4 Nov 16	Turn around school continued with articles, case studies, and a guest speaker What is a guaranteed and viable curriculum?	Read and KWL: Marzano, Chapter 4 Due: Case Study Part Two, submit on Moodle
Nov 23 (holiday week)	Cougar Course Blog <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current events on leading school improvement 	Due: Cougar Course current events blog
Session 5 Nov 30	Putting the five stages of school reliability together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at our sites • Developing recommendations • Completing an action plan 	Read: Marzano, Chapter 5 Due: Action Plan, Submit on Moodle Due: EDAD 626A Field Experience Reports
Session 7 Dec 7	Presentations of the Researched Based Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final comments and reflections 	Due: Final power point presentation to class Due: Cougar Course current events blog
Dec 14	There is no final exam for this course.	