

**Murray State University
Common Course Syllabi**

Revised October 6, 2008

DEPT: ELC

COURSE NUMBER: ADM 663

COURSE CREDIT: 3

I. Title: Public School Law

II. Catalog Description: A study of legal aspects of education. Critical legal content from constitutional law, court decisions, state statutes, state administrative regulations, Attorney General opinions, and local school district policies will be covered.

NOTE: This course may be taken as an elective by a person not pursuing an administrative degree or license (certificate).

III. Purpose: The purpose of this course is for students to understand the history of American Public School law. Further, the student will understand the current status of educational law in a perspective of history and the cultural, social, and political setting of a diverse country. The student will be able to plan and design policies and procedures for the legal operation, management, and control of public schools.

Principles, dispositions and skills consistent with the Interstate School Leader Licensure Standards (ISLLC) and the professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Staff are incorporated into this course in ways consistent with the purpose of the course and individual student readiness. The unit's theme of the reflective decision-maker is emphasized, as students are required to reflect upon course experiences as part of the learning process and the unit's conceptual framework of teacher as leader is addressed as course experiences and the program as a whole are focused upon the development of leaders. NCATE expectations with regard to KERA Initiatives and EPSB themes are incorporated through courses as consistent with the scope of each course. KERA Initiatives: Learner Goals and Expectation; EPSB Themes: Diversity, Technology.

This course will enable the student to become familiar with the legislation of KERA in its official language. Each of the Kentucky Revised Statutes dealing with the reform act will be presented.

IV. Course Objectives:

The student will.....

1. describe what constitutes the body of educational law. ISSLC 4-5
2. define current school laws within a social, political, and cultural perspective. ISSLC 4-5
3. understand the foundation of school law. ISSLC 4-5
4. internalize the difference between law and practice. ISSLC 4-5
5. understand the effect of social change on law. ISSLC 4-5
6. recognize selected legal terminology in order to interpret legal requirements for those affected. ISSLC 4-5
7. understand where and when to obtain assistance in the resolution of legal problems. ISSLC 4-5
8. know and describe references that are used for legal assistance. ISSLC 4-5
9. prepare briefs related to actual school litigation. ISSLC 4-5
10. analyze scenarios presented from actual subpoenas ISSLC 4-5
11. become familiar with the KRS codification system. ISSLC 4-5
12. participate in cooperative settings ISSLC 4-5
13. use KRS, KRA, OAG, and case law to analyze their inter-relationship ISSLC 4-5

V. Content Outline

1. Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS)
2. Kentucky Administrative Regulations (KRA)
3. American Legal System
4. History of Educational Law
5. Role of Federal Government
6. State Governance of Public School
7. Church and State
8. School Attendance
9. Instruction and the Law
10. Student Rights
11. Handicapped Education
12. Desegregation
13. Torts
14. Teacher Contracts
15. Teacher Rights
16. Teacher Dismissal
17. Discrimination in Employment
18. Collective Bargaining
19. Financing Public Schools
20. Property
21. Dual Court System

ALL

ISSLC STANDARDS 4 AND 5

VI. Instructional Activities
Learning Focus

1. Acquisition/Integration
2. Extension/Refinement
3. Application
4. Reflection
5. Professionalism
6. On Demand Tasks
7. Scenarios
8. Role Playing

VII. Field Experience (None Required)

THE PURPOSES, OBJECTIVES, EXPERIENCES AND READINGS WILL PROVIDE MULTIPLE EVIDENCES OF THE SIX ISLLC STANDARDS

VIII. Resources:

KENTUCKY SCHOOL LAWS, State Department of Education, Legal Services
EDUCATION WEEK
Selected Legal Bulletins
Internet Services
Selected Handouts
Journal, law books, and case books

IX. Final Grade Computation

A = 92% to 100%
B = 81% to 90%
C = 70% to 80%

A grade below B does not meet the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling requirements for any degree or licensure program.

X. Attendance Policy

Attendance is expected in this course. Absences will need to be cleared with the professor in advance. Absenteeism is strongly discouraged.

XI. Text

Alexander, K. S. and Alexander, D. M., *AMERICAN PUBLIC SCHOOL LAW*, Sixth Edition(2005), Wadsworth Publishing Company.

XII. Academic Honesty Policy

Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person's material as one's own, or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit) are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, term papers or Presentation of unacknowledged material as if were the student's own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teachers the course in which the cheating took place.

XIII. Prerequisites

None

XIV. Statement of Affirmative Action And Equal Opportunity

Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, marital status, age, or disability in employment, admission, or the provision of services, educational programs and activities, and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities. For information regarding nondiscrimination policies contact the Office of Equal Opportunity, 270 762 3155.