

EDUC 5315.060: School Policies and Texas Students

A. Course Logistics

Term: Fall 2025, 7-week session II, October 13 2025 – December 6, 2025

Instructor: Dr. Woonhee Sung

Office Phone: (903) 565-7175

Office Address: BEP 243, School of Education, 3900 University Blvd. Tyler, TX 75799

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. and by appointment (virtual and in person). I'm here to assist you, so please reach out so we can find a time to ensure your success in this course. You can join through this [Zoom](#) link, phone, or in person.

Class time: Online

Email: wsung@uttyler.edu (Best way to contact)

Communication Policy: Students may email any time when a question arises. Please note for email messages, I typically respond within 24-48 hrs. Weekends may vary. Please indicate course title **[EDUC 5315: School Policies]** in the title line.

Last day to Withdraw: November 12th, 2025

B. Course Overview

Students will explore the national and state policies, including the Texas Education Code, the Code of Ethics, and the Texas school accountability system, to understand the implications state and national policies have on students, teachers and schools. Students will also examine the different student populations and the critical issues associated with diverse students.

C. Student Learning Outcomes

	INTASC Principles	Texas Educator Standards
1. identify state and national policies that impact teaching and learning including state standards, standardized testing, ethics and law.	1	3 (A)(iii)
2. explore the academic, language and socio-emotional needs of diverse student populations, and the critical issues related to language, gender, socioeconomic, ethnic and disability-based diversity and equity.	2, 6	3 (B) (ii)
3. demonstrate an understanding of the impact the studied policies and the needs of diverse students have on curricular and instructional decisions by evaluating scenarios.	2, 4, 5, 7	2 (B) (ii) 6 (A) (i) (iii), (D) (i)

D. Required Textbooks and Readings:

[Newman, B. \(2019\). TExES PPR EC-12 \(160\) with Access \(6th ed\).](#)

ISBN-10: 0738612545

ISBN-13: 978-0738612546

This book will be used towards the end of the course and you will need it throughout the remainder of the program. Please do not plan on returning this book at the end of the course!

E. Course Policies

- Students will access class notes, assignments, grades and course information through Canvas. Any changes to the course schedule, schedule of assignments, or any special assignments will be posted on Canvas. Students are expected to regularly check Canvas for updates and to download any class handouts.

- Academic Integrity

The University's student standards of academic conduct apply to this course, as with any other course. All assignments should be your original work (or original group product, where required). Working together on any graded assignment is forbidden except where otherwise stated. I will be very explicit about which assignments may be done with friends or a group throughout the course, as I do often offer assignments on which I strongly encourage collaboration. If at any point during the semester, you need help understanding this policy or are concerned that you may be breaking this policy, please contact me directly. Violations will be handled in accordance with University policy.

- Code of Conduct

I expect students in this course to conduct themselves as university students of graduate standing. I expect students to participate in class activities. I expect students to meet assigned deadlines. I expect students to behave in an academically honest manner. I reserve the right to penalize students who violate class policies.

F. Grading Scale

Writing Assignments	50%
Quizzes and Class Discussion	25%
Final Exam	25%

G. Modules, Dates, Topics

State Modules	Requirements
Oct 13 th – December 2nd	You need to complete the Required State Modules and Observations by December 2nd, 2025

Dates	Class Topic
Understanding Texas Schools	
1. Understanding Texas Schools (Multiple due dates within the module) Oct 13 th -Oct 26 th	Course overview Introductory Discussion & Quiz Texas schools and student demographics Overview of Texas Education Code & Texas Administrative Code Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System Understanding Texas Schools Quiz
School Accountability	
Oct 27 th – November 2 nd	Federal & state school accountability Texas Academic Performance Report Assignment: Accountability Analysis
State Standards, Teaching & Learning	
November 3 rd – November 16 th	Standards-based instruction Data informed, student-centered instruction Differentiation Assignment: Standards -Based Lesson Plan (Peer Reviews due as specified in the module) Standards, Teaching & Learning Quiz
School Law	
November 17 th – December 5 th (Multiple due dates within the module)	Exploring special student populations & school law Part 1 School Law Quiz Texas Educator's Code of Ethics School Laws for Teachers Module Discussion Board – 3 due dates with this assignment
Professional Responsibilities	
November 17 th – December 2 nd	Pedagogy & Professional Responsibilities Diagnostic Test Learning Plan
December 2 nd	All Required-State Modules Certificates, Observations Time Log & Observation Reflection Papers due
December 5 th	Final Exam

Note: This tentative schedule is subject to change as necessary. However, I pledge to adhere to it as much as possible. In the unlikely event of a prolonged university closing or an extended absence from the University, adjustments to the course schedule, deadlines, and/or assignments will be made based on the duration of the closing and the specific dates missed.

H. Observation & State-Required Modules

As required by the Texas Education Agency, students in initial teacher certification programs must

Syllabus adapted from Oliveras Ortiz's 2024

complete a set of state-required modules and conduct hours of classroom observations early in the certification program. If you have not already done so, you must contact Mrs. Sherman for additional information about the observation requirements and placement in a school to complete the observations. You may NOT reach out a school on your own to conduct these observations.

The state-required modules are included in this course. While the completion of the state-required modules, observation and reflections will not add points to your final grade, documentation that you have completed the state modules, have conducted the observation, and written the 5 reflection papers must be submitted. Observation hours and reflection papers are only required to earn credit for this course if you have been placed at a school for the observations.

Failure to submit the module certificates will result in an 'incomplete' in this course until the required documents are submitted.

NOTE: Failure to complete and document observation hours will prevent us from recommending you for a teaching certificate. These modules and observations are required by the Texas Education Agency, not a university requirement. The observations must be completed prior to starting clinical teaching or an internship.

I. Course Policies

All assignments are expected to be completed to the best ability of the student and adhere to the stated assignment criteria.

Written assignments that require the student to redo and resubmit will be adjusted by 10%. There is no extra credit work. However, students may choose to resubmit written assignments if they are not satisfied with their grade. If a student chooses to resubmit a written assignment, the student may earn up to **90%** of the points. There are no retakes for quizzes or the final exam.

Any late assignments will receive a 10% late submission penalty per week. If the assignment is more than a week late, an additional 10% will be deducted per week.

J. Communication

To contact me via email, you may use the Canvas email. Click on the Inbox on the left side of the Canvas main menu. Through Canvas, you may send a text email or a video message. You may also email me at wsung@uttyler.edu

I will respond to your emails as quickly as possible; my priority is to be supportive of your work to ensure your success. I generally reply to email within a few hours but given other commitment and responsibilities, my goal is to respond to emails sent during the week within 24 hours. While I try to respond to emails over the weekend as promptly as possible, emails sent over the weekend might not be read until Monday morning.

K. Written Assignments, Quizzes & Exams

All written assignments as well as all quizzes and exams are **individual assignments**. Students may not collaborate on the individual assignments. Unauthorized collaboration is considered cheating and will be handled according to University Policies and the Students Standards of Academic Conduct.

Artificial Intelligence Statement

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

In this course,

*You may use AI programs e.g. ChatGPT to help generate ideas and brainstorm. However, you should note that the material generated by these programs may be inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise problematic. Beware that use may also stifle your own independent thinking and creativity.

You may not submit any work generated by an AI program as your own. If you include material generated by an AI program, it should be cited like any other reference material (with due consideration for the quality of the reference, which may be poor). *Any plagiarism or other form of cheating will be dealt with severely under relevant UT Tyler policies.

College of Education and Psychology (CEP) Vision and Mission

Core Purpose of the College of Education and Psychology

To prepare competent, caring, and qualified professionals in the field of education, psychology, and counseling; to foster discovery; and to advance the knowledge base in our respective disciplines.

Vision: The CEP will be a global leader in responding to needs in the fields of education, psychology, and counseling, with a focus on the East Texas region, by creating innovative academic and scholarly pathways and partnerships.

Mission: The mission of the CEP is to prepare competent and passionate professionals in the fields of education, psychology, and counseling; to advance knowledge and expertise; and to impact these fields locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.

UT TYLER'S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS

Texas Education Standards: The School of Education are committed to teaching and implementing the Texas Educator Standards at the highest level. The School of Education faculty use the Texas Education Standards, along with the Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC) standards used by educator preparation programs throughout the United States.

The list of Texas Education Standards can be accessed [here](#).

Access the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators can be accessed [here](#).

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

For a full list of university policies including information related to the topics listed below, click [here](#).

- Students Rights and Responsibilities
- Campus Carry
- Tobacco-Free University
- Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies
- State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
- Disability Services
- Student Absence due to Religious Observance
- Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
- Social Security and FERPA Statement
- Emergency Exits and Evacuation
- Student Standards of Academic Conduct

UT Tyler Resources for Students:

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu, <http://www.uttyler.edu/writingcenter/>
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu, <https://www.uttyler.edu/tutoring/>
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, This is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.

- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254) <https://www.uttyler.edu/counseling/>

[University Guidelines, Links and Policies](#)