



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER
School of Education

EDLR 5330 – The Principalship
Fall 2026

Instructor Information

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Office: Online
Office Hours: By Appointment
Credit Hours: 3

Catalog Course Description

An examination of the role and responsibilities of the principal as a leader in the elementary, middle, and/or secondary school.

School of Education Mission

The School of Education prepares educators and leaders who transform lives through learning. Through excellence in teaching, scholarship, innovation, and partnership, we strengthen the educator workforce, advance educational opportunity, and improve outcomes for learners, schools, and communities across East Texas and beyond.

Course Overview

This course is part of the UT Tyler Texas Education Agency (TEA) approved Principal Educator Preparation Program. It develops the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary for instructional leadership through authentic applications aligned to the Texas Principal Standards. Weekly activities, assignments, due dates, and supplemental resources are maintained in Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, candidates will:

- Apply the Texas Principal Standards to authentic leadership situations.
- Promote high-quality teaching and learning through instructional leadership.
- Use multiple sources of data to support continuous school improvement.
- Develop systems that support professional learning and educator effectiveness.
- Demonstrate ethical leadership and effective communication.
- Analyze governance, accountability, and organizational systems.



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Texas Educator Preparation Program and Certification

This course contributes to preparation for the Texas Principal as Instructional Leader (EC–12) certificate. Completion of this course alone does not result in certification. Candidates must complete all requirements of the TEA-approved Educator Preparation Program, meet all TEA/SBEC requirements, and successfully complete the TExES Principal as Instructional Leader (268) examination and the Performance Assessment for School Leaders (PASL).

EDLR 5330 – Course Assignments

Students will demonstrate mastery of course outcomes through a variety of graduate-level learning experiences. Assignments may include:

- Professional discussions
- Case studies
- Reflective writing
- Leadership self-assessments
- School improvement analyses
- Instructional leadership activities
- Teacher evaluation and coaching activities
- Data analysis
- Leadership simulations
- Professional presentations
- Applied field-based leadership experiences
- Leadership interviews or observations
- Quizzes or knowledge checks
- Professional artifacts
- Principal certification preparation activities
- Performance Assessment for School Leaders (PASL) preparation activities
- Culminating leadership project

Evaluation Category	Percentage
Professional Engagement and Participation	15%
Leadership Discussions and Reflections	15%
Applied Leadership Activities and Case Studies	30%
Leadership Projects and Professional Artifacts	25%
Culminating Leadership Assessment or Project	15%
Total	100%



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Category Descriptions

Professional Engagement and Participation (15%)

- Active participation in discussions
- Professional collaboration
- Preparation for class
- Meaningful contributions to learning activities

Leadership Discussions and Reflections (15%)

- Online discussions
- Reflective journals
- Leadership self-assessments
- Professional reflections

Applied Leadership Activities and Case Studies (30%)

- Leadership case analyses
- Data analysis
- School improvement activities
- Leadership simulations
- Instructional leadership applications

Leadership Projects and Professional Artifacts (25%)

- Campus leadership projects
- Professional presentations
- Leadership plans
- Field-based activities
- Portfolio artifacts

Culminating Leadership Assessment or Project (15%)

- Comprehensive leadership project
- Capstone presentation
- Certification preparation artifact
- Other culminating assessment



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Specific assignments, point values, grading rubrics, and due dates are maintained in Canvas. The instructor may modify individual assignments or their weighting within each evaluation category to support course objectives and respond to current issues in educational leadership, provided that the overall evaluation categories remain substantially consistent.

Required Course Resource

Odell, M., & Simmons, D. (2026). Learning to See School Systems: Power, Practice, and Improvement in Public Education. Kendall Hunt Publishing.

Paperback ISBN: 978-1-975509-77-4

eBook ISBN: 978-1-975509-78-1

Required Professional Resources

Current links to all resources are maintained in Canvas.

Certification and Professional Standards

- Texas Educator Certification
- Texas Principal Standards
- Texas Teacher Standards
- Texas Principal Evaluation and Support System (T-PESS)
- TExES Principal (268)
- Performance Assessment for School Leaders (PASL)
- State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC)

Curriculum and Instruction

- Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
- High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM)

Accountability and Improvement

- Accountability Manual
- Texas Academic Performance Reports (TAPR)
- Texas School Report Cards
- Effective Schools Framework (ESF)
- Texas Strategic Support Plan (TSSP)

Law and Governance

- Texas Education Code (TEC)
- Texas Administrative Code (TAC)
- Commissioner Rules



Professional Organizations

- TASA
- TEPSA
- TASSP
- TASB
- Texas Public Charter Schools Association

Suggested Certification Resources

- Dr. Cindy Woody's UT Tyler Principal Certification YouTube Series
- ETS PASL Candidate Resources
- Official TExES Principal (268) Preparation Materials

Course Organization

The course is delivered over a fifteen-week semester through instructional modules. Canvas contains the official course calendar, assignments, rubrics, announcements, and supplemental resources.

Learning Activities

Learning activities may include discussions, case studies, simulations, leadership reflections, projects, presentations, data analysis, applied leadership artifacts, and other activities identified in Canvas.

Assessment

Grades are based on successful completion of required learning activities. Assignment descriptions, grading criteria, rubrics, and due dates are maintained in Canvas.

Professional Expectations

Candidates are expected to demonstrate professionalism, ethical conduct, collaboration, reflective practice, effective communication, and leadership behaviors consistent with the Texas Principal Standards.

Communication and Canvas

Canvas and UT Tyler email are the official communication tools for this course. Students are expected to monitor both regularly. Canvas is the authoritative source for course content, schedules, assignments, and grades.

University Policies

Students are responsible for complying with current UT Tyler policies regarding academic integrity, accessibility, student conduct, Title IX, FERPA, attendance, and other



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university requirements. Official policies and student resources are available through the UT Tyler policy and resource pages.