



**MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
A Member of the Texas Tech University System

Course Syllabus: School and Society  
College of Education  
EDUC 2013 Section X40  
Summer 2022. July 5<sup>th</sup> to August 4<sup>th</sup>

#### Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Dittika Gupta

Office: Bridwell 220

Office hours: By Appointment. Due to this being an online class in the summer, office hours would be by appointment. I can schedule face to face or zoom meeting times.

Office phone: (940) 397-4269

E-mail: [dittika.gupta@msutexas.edu](mailto:dittika.gupta@msutexas.edu)

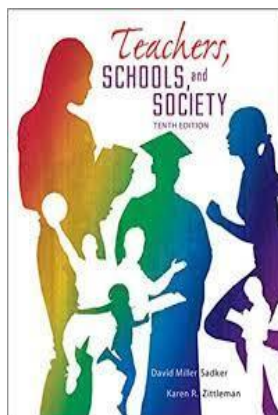
#### Instructor Response Policy

All assignment questions and logistics will be communicated through the “**course question discussion board**”. This discussion board will be on D2L and a place for you to post all your queries, confusions, and questions about the course. This is the FIRST way to contact me for any questions. This will not only allow us to be organized, but also help get input from peers and clarify additional questions for the class. Peers are welcome to answer, add to the query, or follow-up. SECOND way to contact me would be by emailing at [dittika.gupta@msutexas.edu](mailto:dittika.gupta@msutexas.edu). I will respond within 24 hours on receiving your email.

In case you need to talk to me –please use my office phone number (940)397-4269 and leave a message with your phone number and name in case I am not in the office, and I will contact you asap. This would be the third way of communication.

#### Textbook & Instructional Materials

Sadker, D. M. & Zittleman, K. R. (2010). Teachers, schools, and society. (10th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.



## **Course Description**

This course examines the role of the school in a democratic society with an emphasis on educational equity. Students will explore the reciprocal relationship of schools and society and the impact an understanding of student learning has on school structures. Additionally, students will practice observational research to develop their understanding of how students interact with one another, their school setting, and their learning.

## **Course Objectives**

- Students will be able to explain and give examples of how changes in our country's political economy and ideology have impacted public schools.
- Each student will begin to build his/her personal educational philosophy, based on information from Aristotle to contemporary influences.
- Students will be able to explain and give examples of instructional techniques effective with all learners.
- Each student will be able to explain and give examples from the Texas Beginning Educator Support System (TxBESS).
- Students will be able to explain and give examples from the Texas Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Professional Educators.
- Students will promote learner centered instruction as preferable to teacher centered instruction.
- Each student will "sell" the desirability of equity in the classroom.
- Students will become salespersons for choices and differentiation assignments in the classroom.
- When presented with current issues, students will encourage an analysis of both sides of the issue.

See Appendix A for a complete list of WCoE Framework

## **Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance**

The TASP offers a schedule of selected subjects tutoring assistance. Please contact the TASP, (940)397-4684, or visit the ASC homepage for more information. [Tutoring & Academics Supports Programs](#)

## **Student Handbook**

Refer to: [2021-2022 Student Handbook](#)

## **Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures**

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. [Office of Student Conduct](#)

## Grading/Assessment

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Points
Flipgrid Introduction (15 points)	15
Quizzes	100
Discussion Boards	75
Letter to the Editor	50
Ethics Quiz	70
Observation paper	100
Course Quiz	15
Weekly Class Attendance, Participation & Activities	25
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>450</b>
Assignment Punctuality No late assignments - Extra Credit	10

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	90% to 100%
B	80% to 89%
C	70% to 79%
D	60% to 69%
F	Less than 60%

\*\*\*Note that an “A” is 90% to 100%. There will be NO rounding and grades will be calculated with two decimal points.

### Quizzes

You will be taking chapter quizzes that will be worth 50 points each. These are the Chapter Quizzes. Each quiz has 20 questions worth 2.5 points each and is TIMED (30 minutes for each quiz).

For each of the quizzes you will have *TWO attempts* and the highest grade will be recorded. BUT the quizzes (for the two attempts) are **ONLY AVAILABLE** till the DUE DATE specified.

For example, Chapter 7 Quiz is due by July 10<sup>th</sup> – 11:30pm. You can take one or two attempts BUT after 11:30pm (July 10<sup>th</sup>) – the quiz will be unavailable. **NO LATE WORK**

### Course Quiz

There will be one quiz in Week 1 that is a chapter quiz. It is a course quiz and worth 15 points. Details are on D2L.

### Ethics Quiz

There will be one quiz during chapter 5 that is NOT a chapter quiz. This is a core course and thus is a **key assessment**.

You will be watching videos (YouTube link) and answering the questions. The details will be in that week’s folder.

I would strongly advise you to answer the quiz WHILE watching the videos. It is NOT TIMED but you only have ONE attempt. Details will be uploaded on D2L. **NO LATE WORK**

### Letter to Editor

There is one letter to the editor assignment for the class. It will be **short**. This is a key assessment and hence needs to be completed for course credit. Details are provided in the folder on D2L.

### Observation Paper

There will be one observation paper to write for the class. This is a major paper and counts as your final. As you'll know this is a core course and thus is a **key assessment**. The details in terms of requirements and other things will be available D2L and discussed in class.

### Mid-Term and Final Exam

There is no Mid-Term exam. Your observation paper will count as your Final Exam.

### Extra Credit

Extra credit will be conducted as per the needs of the class.

### Late Work

Lateness of the submission will be determined by D2L. Please understand that D2L does not consider holidays or weekends and so do I. For example, if the due date of a particular assignment were 11:30 pm, 6/5/2022, and you submitted the assignment at 11:31 pm, 6/5/2022, the D2L dropbox will mark your assignment as ONE day late. **I will go by the D2L decision and will consider your assignment as ONE day late.** To avoid missing the due date by such hairline margins, I advise you to submit the assignment well ahead.

**25% off per day per assignment (including Saturday and Sunday).** So, if the assignment is for 100 points, you can make a maximum score of 75 after one day, 50 after two days, 25 after three days, and zero after 4 days if all your answers are correct. **There is NO late work on discussion boards, surveys, or zoom meetings!** All this is non-negotiable!!! If there are any issues/confusions, contact me **BEFORE** the assignment is due.

NOTE: *Computer or D2L issues do not provide an excuse.* Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with D2L as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into D2L through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor. *Do not wait till the last minute to submit the assignment.*

### Make Up Work/Tests

There will be no make-up or resubmissions allowed on assignments, quizzes, discussion boards, or any other activity in class.

### Important Dates

Deadline to file for graduation: June 27<sup>th</sup>

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" June 16<sup>th</sup>

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

## Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

***Please note: Assignments are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time for submission. Each time you log into D2L is documented. You should open D2L often to reference content, materials, and updates.***

*Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. **Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!** There are many places to access your class! If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).*

## Attendance

Students should participate in all classes. Logging into D2L at least twice a week and working diligently on assignments will be considered as your attendance for the week. In case of an emergency that will not allow you to log on to D2L, please let me know as early as possible. One week's absence will result in a loss of 50 points from your earned points. Two weeks' absences will result in 100 points loss, contact to the advisor, and alert being issued to student services. Excessive absences might also result in instructor-drop, if required. ***Late work, unless arrangements are made by the student and approved in advance by the instructor, will not be accepted for full credit.***

## Important Course Information

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. Assignments are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered a reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.

Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given) will not be considered. I use turnitin for the assignments as needed and D2L directly syncs with it (you do not have to do anything). You will be able to see the plagiarism percentage and are welcome to make changes and resubmit **BEFORE** the due date. **Any plagiarism of 30% and above is too much and the assignment will not be graded, given a zero, and no make-up allowed!!!**

I will use D2L for posting the syllabus, course communication, course schedule, attendance, and gradebook. There will be flexibility for meetings – either virtually or in person. I will support you to be successful and guide you throughout the course, however that requires you to read feedback, answer emails timely, show growth, and professionalism as needed for a college student. The feedback will help you improve your understanding of the topics in addition to guiding you for your final exam. I am happy to meet individually via phone, virtually, or in person to discuss feedback. I will also be posting regular updates on the D2L news section and you should regularly check D2L.

**Expectations for written work:** Correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling are expected on all written assignments (although web discussions are not held to the high standard of a research project or other written assignment).

- Written assignments should be done in Microsoft Word and turned in as an attachment in dropbox on D2L.
- Discussions should be completed within the D2L discussion space and NOT uploaded as an attachment.
- Due dates should be honored in order to receive the highest grade.
- When referring to the ideas of others, works should be cited using the APA format.

### **Change of Schedule**

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) can do so by June 16<sup>th</sup> by 4:00pm. There is no change of schedule during the summer. Academic calendar is available [here](#). Dates are published in the [Schedule of Classes](#) each semester.

### **Refund and Repayment Policy**

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

### **Services for Students with Disabilities**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

### **Students with Disabilities:**

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from the University's Disability Support Services (DSS) Office during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation(s) to a student until appropriate verification from DSS has been provided.

### **College Policies**

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

### Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

### Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state, and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

### COVID

Scientific data shows that being fully vaccinated is the most effective way to prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19 and has the greatest probability of avoiding serious illness if infected in all age groups. Although MSU Texas is not mandating vaccinations in compliance with Governor Abbott's executive orders, we highly encourage eligible members of our community to get a vaccination. If you have questions or concerns about the vaccine, please contact your primary care physician or health care professional. Given the recent rise in cases, individuals are also strongly encouraged to wear facial coverings when indoors among groups of people, regardless of vaccination status. Although MSU Texas is not currently requiring facial coverings, they have been an effective strategy in slowing the spread.

### Other Expectations

**Participation** – It is not enough to just “show up”. In other words, you cannot just sit there and breathe. You need to be prepared to discuss the readings that are assigned, contribute appropriately and encourage the participation of your peers.

**Preparation** – Complete all assignments on time. Complete readings assigned prior to class in order to be able to participate in class discussions and activities.

**Attitude** – Demonstrate the following dispositions that are essential for learning:

- Curiosity (ask questions, look for additional answers, probe, reflect)
- Flexibility (take alternate points of view, be open-minded)
- Organization (plan ahead – literally, GET A PLANNER!)
- Patience (take time to reason, be persistent in efforts)
- Risk-taking (try things beyond your current repertoire)
- Passion (invest in ideas, processes, products, and most of all – other people)

Be aware that your attitude is conveyed to others by body language, conversation, neatness, completeness of work, willingness to assist and contribute and many other ways. A sense of humor and the ability to be flexible are crucial – not just in this class but from now on – that is the nature of the classroom.

**Respect** – Be considerate of others. Do not talk while others are talking; do not use foul language; behave in an ethical manner.

### Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

### Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

## Course Schedule

Disclaimer Notice: Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor to meet the needs of the class appropriately. *All assignments are due on SUNDAY by 11:30pm*

See attachment for the complete schedule

## Appendix A

### WCoE Conceptual Framework

The outcomes for graduates of professional programs are based upon knowledge, skills, and dispositions in the following elements:

- **Learner Development** - understand how learners grow and develop, recognizing that patterns of learning and development vary individually within and across the cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical areas, and design and implements developmentally appropriate and challenging learning experiences.
  - **Learning Differences** - understand individual differences and diverse cultures and communities to ensure inclusive learning environments that enable each learner to meet high standards.
  - **Learning Environment** - work with others to create environments that support individual and collaborative learning, and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.
    - **Content Knowledge** - understand the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches and creates learning experiences that make the discipline accessible and meaningful for learners to assure mastery of the content.
  - **Application of Content** - understand how to connect concepts and use differing perspectives to engage learners in critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.
    - **Assessment** - understand and use multiple methods of assessment to engage learners in their own growth, to monitor learner progress, and to guide the teacher's and learner's decision making.
  - **Planning for Instruction** - plan instruction that supports every student in meeting rigorous learning goals by drawing upon knowledge of content areas, curriculum, cross-disciplinary skills, and pedagogy, as well as knowledge of learners and the community context.
  - **Instructional Strategies** - understand and use a variety of instructional strategies to encourage learners to develop deep understanding of content areas and their connections, and to build skills to apply knowledge in meaningful ways.
  - **Professional Learning and Ethical Practice** - engage in ongoing professional learning and use evidence to continually evaluate his or her practice, particularly the effects of his or her choices and actions on others (learners, families, other professionals, and the community), and adapts practice to meet the needs of each learner.
  - **Leadership and Collaboration** - seek appropriate leadership roles and opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with learners, families, colleagues, other school professionals, and community members to ensure learner growth, and to



advance the profession.

