



## Course Syllabus: **School and Society**

West College of Education  
EDUC 2013 Section X22 part of term A  
Spring 2024  
January 16 - March 8, 2024

### Contact Information

Instructor: Kym Acuña, Associate Professor

Office: Bridwell 104E

Office hours: Tuesday 2:00-4:00pm, Wednesday 2:00-3:00pm, Thursday 2:00-4:00pm, and By appointment

Office phone: (940) 397-6220

E-mail: [kym.acuna@msutexas.edu](mailto:kym.acuna@msutexas.edu)

### 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.

### Textbook & Instructional Materials

Sadker, D. M. (2022). *Teachers, Schools, and Society: A brief introduction*. (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill. 9781264169979

### How to access your textbook(digital)

1. Log into MSU portal and click on the GMAIL app.
2. Find the email from BRYTEWAVE/RED SHELF date of 08-14/22 and follow the instructions.

**NOTE\*\*\* Your book is only associated with your my.msutexas.edu email.**

## 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.
- Students examine the varied views on the purpose of education and will be able to explain and give examples of how schools work to shape society.
- 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.
- Students will develop observational skills as a research technique and demonstrate ability to apply this technique to draw conclusions.
- Students will interpret state school testing data and discuss what it means about student learning.
- Students will identify and interpret comparative data regarding schools from other countries and schools from the US and make an argument regarding strengths and areas of opportunities in those schools.
- Students will examine laws related to schools and how they relate to laws that apply to larger society.
- 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 differentiated assignments in the classroom.
- When presented with current issues, students will encourage an analysis of both sides of the issue.

## Content

- This course is an examination of the role of the school in a democratic society with an emphasis on educational equity.
- Specifically, students will understand how schools are influenced and developed as a reflection of society while also cultivating and changing that same society.
- Students will learn how schools respond to federal, state and local expectations of constituents.
- Students will evaluate the role of school systems in the nation's place in a global economy in light of federal, state and local objectives/outcomes.
- Students will gain an understanding of social issues of poverty, inequality in race and gender, and educational discrimination.
- Students will compare the historical context/rationale of the public educational system in relation to current trends.
- Students will analyze the role of curriculum, assessment and instructional practice in relation to global, federal, state and local governance expectations.

## Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

Instructor is available to meet virtually or in person by appointment. Please email Dr. Acuña with any questions you have. Responses/answers will be provided promptly via email or a time can be set up for a phone call or appointment via Zoom.

### Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook 2023-2024](#)

#### 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 individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

### Grading

Course Grade -

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment.

Assignments	Points
Quizzes (9 at 50 pts each)	450
Chapter Assignments (9 at 50 pts each)	450
Video Observation	99
Self Introduction	1
Total Points	1000

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	900 to 1000
B	800 to 899
C	700 to 799
D	600 to 699
F	Less than 600

### Chapter Assignments

During this semester you will study 9 chapters. There will be one assignment for each chapter. Each of the assignments should be submitted to the corresponding dropbox. These will appear on the Course Schedule in more detail.

### Quizzes

There will be one quiz for each chapter studied. That means there will be 9 chapter quizzes in D2L. These will appear on the Course Schedule in more detail.

### Video Observation

There will be 1 video observation paper due. It will appear on the Course Schedule in more detail.

### Extra Credit

No extra credit assignments will be given or accepted.

### Late Work

Work must be turned in when it is due for full credit. Late work will only be accepted in emergency situations that have been cleared with Dr. Acuña. This means only illness or family emergency.

### 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.

### Attendance

Students are required to complete assignments within the timeframes established for each assignment. Attendance for this online course is determined by logins to D2L and timely completion of assignments

### Online Computer Requirements

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 and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.** 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! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. 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.

### Instructor Class Policies

It is expected that all course communication and assignments will be professional. Offensive language, slang, and informal language are not appropriate.

### Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. 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) exists 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 Services](#).

### 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.

### Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

### Notice

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

### Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: January 19, 2024.

Deadline to file for graduation: February 12, 2024.

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" April 24, 2024.

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

### Inclement Weather

In the case of campus closure due to inclement weather, the online portion of the course should not be impacted. However, if there are any concerns regarding this course related to inclement weather, please contact me.

### Course Schedule:

Details for each quiz, assignment, or activity can be found in the corresponding folder found in the folder for the week.

Week	Chapter	Assignment Due Date
Week 1 Jan 16-21	Introduction to Course	Read Syllabus and explore course content- <b>January 16</b>
		Self-Introduction on Discussion Board – <b>January 17</b>
	Chapter 5 <i>The Multicultural History of American Education</i>	Chapter 5 Poster – <b>January 20</b>
		Chapter 5 Quiz - <b>January 21</b>
Week 2 Jan 22-28	Chapter 6 <i>Philosophy of Education</i>	Chapter 6 Quiz – <b>January 25</b>
		Chapter 6 Philosophy of Education – <b>January 28</b>

Week	Chapter	Assignment Due Date
Week 3 Jan 29- Feb 4	Chapter 7 <i>Financing and Governing America's Schools</i>  Video Observation	Chapter 7 Quiz – <b>February 1</b>  Chapter 7 Question Video – <b>February 3</b>  Video Observation – <b>February 4</b>
Week 4 Feb 5-11	Chapter 8 <i>School Law and Ethics</i>	Chapter 8 Quiz – <b>February 8</b> Chapter Ethics Assessment – <b>February 11</b>
Week 5 Feb 12- 18	Chapter 2 <i>Different ways of Learning</i>	Chapter 2 Quiz – <b>February 15</b>  Chapter 2 Learning Styles – <b>February 18</b>
Week 6 Feb 19- 25	Chapter 3 <i>Teaching Your Diverse Students</i>	Chapter 3 Quiz – <b>February 22</b>  Chapter 3 Opinion Assignment – <b>February 25</b>
Week 7 Feb 26- Mar 3	Chapter 4 <i>Student Life in School and at Home</i>  Chapter 9 <i>Purposes of America's Schools and the Current Reform Movement</i>	Chapter 4 Quiz – <b>February 27</b>  Chapter 4 Public Service Announcement – <b>February 29</b>  Chapter 9 Quiz – <b>March 1</b>  Chapter 9 Five Factor Theory of Public Schools – <b>March 3</b>
Week 8 Mar 4-8	Chapter 10 <i>Curriculum, Standards, and Testing</i>	Chapter 10 Quiz – <b>March 6</b>  Chapter 10 Current Events Article Reflection – <b>March 8</b>