

EDUC 5633- X20 Curriculum Theory and Practice
Course Meets Online March 28, 2026- May 8, 2026
Midwestern State University
Gordon T. & Ellen West College of Education

Instructor/Contact Information:

Christina Wickard, PhD
E-mail: janise.wickard@msutexas.edu
Phone: 940-397-4528
Office: 308H

Office Hours: Tuesday 11AM-1PM, Wednesday 9AM-10AM, Thursday 11AM-1PM.
Appointments are recommended to avoid conflicts. Zoom appointments also available for other times outside of office hours- contact by email to discuss times.

Instructor Response Policy

The best way to contact me is via email. I will check my email between the hours of 8:00AM and 5:00PM Mon-Fri. I will attempt to contact you within 24 hours; however, this does not apply on weekends or holidays. Once you contact me via email, we can then set up a virtual, phone, or in-person meeting, depending on your needs.

Course Description

A study of recent curriculum practices and the ideas underlying them. This course provides students with experiences in evaluating both the pros and the cons for a wide variety of curricular practices.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Boyle, B. & Charles, M. (2016). *Curriculum Development*. Sage Publications Inc.

Students must have access to a current (7th Edition) APA Publication Manual and to professional education journals. (These are best accessed via the Moffett Library Research Data Bases.). Computer and internet access is also required.

Standards

Content and methodological standards for this course are held by West College of Education (WCoE), American Educational Research Association (AERA), the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), and the Midwestern State University Graduate Catalog. Ethical standards are those required by HSRC/OHRP. Manuscript style is set by the *Publication Manual* of the American Psychological Association, 7th Edition. Although the C&I program does not lead to NBPTS certification, all courses are aligned with the following NBPTS Core Propositions.

WCoE Master's degree candidates...

are committed to students and their learning;
know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students;
are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning;

think systematically about their practice and learn from experience; and are members of learning communities.

Objectives and Assessments

Objectives	Assessments
Students demonstrate an understanding of the forces that shape curriculum.	Readings, discussion questions, theories activity, models activity, position activity
Students demonstrate an understanding of and an ability to review curriculum materials.	Readings, discussion questions, review activity, mapping activity, position activity
Students demonstrate an understanding of the necessity and the ability to revise curriculum materials.	Readings, discussion questions, mapping activity, review activity, position activity

Table 1 – Points for assignments and assessments

Assignments	Points
Module Discussions (5 @ 10 points each)	50
Curriculum Theories Activity	50
Curriculum Models Activity	50
Curriculum Review Activity	50
Curriculum Mapping Activity	50
Stance Activity	50
Total Points	300

Table 2- Grading

Percentage of total points will determine final grade.

Percentage of total points	Grade
90%-100%	A
80%-89%	B
70%-79%	C
60%-69%	D
59% or less	F

Assignments/Activities/Assessments

You will engage in five learning activities and five discussions that are tied explicitly to

the course objectives and the student learning Students Understand Forces that Shape Curriculum SACS Student Learning Outcome #3. All written components must adhere to APA 7th edition guidelines.

Curriculum Theories Activity

To demonstrate your understanding and explore the forces that shape curriculum you will construct a visual model and an analysis of several curriculum theories. Assignment specifics are contained in the corresponding D2L folder. All written components must adhere to APA 7th edition guidelines.

Curriculum Models Activity

To demonstrate your understanding and explore the forces that shape curriculum you will construct a visual model and an analysis of several curriculum development models. Assignment specifics are contained in the corresponding D2L folder. All written components must adhere to APA 7th edition guidelines.

Curriculum Review Activity

To demonstrate an understanding of and an ability to review curriculum materials, you will be completing a sample curriculum review activity and analysis. Assignment specifics are contained in the corresponding D2L folder. All written components must adhere to APA 7th edition guidelines.

Curriculum Mapping Activity

To demonstrate your understanding and explore the forces that shape curriculum and ability to review and revise you will be conducting a curriculum mapping activity and analysis. All written components must adhere to APA 7th edition guidelines.

Curriculum Issue Stance Activity

To demonstrate your understanding and explore the forces that shape curriculum and perspectives that may influence reviews and revision decisions, you will be investigating current issues in curriculum and choosing one in which to present your position. All written components must adhere to APA 7th edition guidelines.

Again, make sure all of your writing is free from grammar and punctuation errors and that you are using standard English.

Module Discussions

We will have five online discussions throughout the class, one for each module. These discussions will allow you to further explore topics more in depth, making connections among theories, supplemental readings, and comments from your

peers. Discussion questions are posted on D2L/Brightspace in advance, so you can post your response at any time; however, points will be deducted if you habitually post late in the week preventing classmates to respond to your posts. Initial posts are worth 6 points with 2 points for each response you post for a peer for a total of 10 possible points. Be respectful of one another, and use appropriate language in the discussions.

Instructor Class Policies

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment which is conducive to learning. Inappropriate behavior in the D2L online classroom shall result, minimally, in a request to drop the class and/or a Professional Fitness Form will be filed for review with the college. If the instructor must file a Fitness Alert Form for any reason, including failure to demonstrate appropriate classroom behaviors, the student may receive an instructor drop with an "F" for the course.

An instructor may drop a student any time during the semester for failure to participate, for consistently failing to meet class assignments, for an indifferent attitude, or for disruptive conduct. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to dropping the student from the class. An instructor's drop of a student takes precedence over the student-initiated course drop of a later date. The instructor will assign a grade of either WF or F through the first 8 weeks of a long semester, the first 6 weeks of a 10 week summer term, or the 11th class day of a 4 or 5 week summer term consisting of 20 days. After these periods the grade will be an F. The date the instructor drop form is received in the Office of the Registrar is the official drop date.

Late Work

Assignments are expected to be turned in by the due date. Late work will receive 50% maximum credit.

Written Work

All written work should be completed in a professional style. Using correct spelling and grammar are important communication skills. Therefore, all written assignments will have 10% -20% of the grade based on spelling and grammar. Expectations are for quality work.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)/Brightspace

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. All assignments must be submitted to D2L/BRIGHTSPACE for this course and should be in a PDF unless otherwise specified in the

assignment guidelines. I will not accept assignments via email. 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. Computer issues are not an excuse for missing a deadline. There are many places to access your class! Our online classes may be accessed from any computer, 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 be connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

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](#)

Plagiarism

"By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a 'limited right' in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The 'limited right' shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality, authenticity, and educational purposes." from [Student Handbook](#). All assignments submitted in BRIGHTSPACE will also be checked through Turn It In for originality. Assignments with more than 50% match will be given a 0.

Acceptable Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

Since writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, all writing assignments should be prepared by the student. Developing strong competencies in this area will prepare you for a competitive workplace. Therefore, AI-generated submissions are not permitted and will be treated as plagiarism.

AI is an amazing tool and can be a powerful reference and resource; however, it should be used as a reference/resource only. Passing another person or entity's work off as your own is dishonest and can also prevent you from properly learning the material you should in this course. Therefore, using AI to compose/create your assignments for you will not be tolerated. Assignments in which the professor suspects the majority was composed by AI will receive a zero. If a student receives a zero, the student may resubmit the work, revised in their own writing for half credit. The following are acceptable ways to use AI in this course but a citation must be provided to give credit to the AI program used: providing you an example answer to a question

(put answer into your own words), give you a template or provide you a format to follow, assist with wording difficult concepts (then put into your own words for your assignment), researching topics to give you additional information or other viewpoints on a topic, or ideas for lesson activities.

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor. Teaching is about being responsive to student needs, as such, the topic dates may change as there may be more or less time needed for particular concepts. However, assignment due dates will not be moved up.

Ideas and opinions expressed in course materials are those of the respective authors and do not imply endorsement by the professor or university.

MSU-TEXAS Policies and Procedures and Dates:

Refer to: Academic Calendar for all deadlines.

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) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request). For specific information and information regarding financial aid policies, contact the MSU business office.

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.

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. 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 MSU. 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

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

Appendix A

Inclement Weather

In the event that the university is closed for a short time due to inclement weather, course work that is posted in the course calendar is still due unless a notification is posted in D2L on the News page stating otherwise. In most cases courses will not be offered digitally synchronously unless the closing extends beyond a brief period and is otherwise noted on the D2L News page. Students enrolled in courses with observations, internships, and field work, will be handled on a case by case basis.

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [Safety / Emergency Procedures](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "*Run. Hide. Fight.*" which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: "[Run. Hide. Fight.](#)"

Obligation to Report Sex Discrimination under State and Federal Law

Midwestern State University is committed to providing and strengthening an

educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. State and federal law require University employees to report sex discrimination and sexual misconduct to the University's Office of Title IX. As a faculty member, I am required to report to the Title IX Coordinator any allegations, personally observed behavior, or other direct or indirect knowledge of conduct that reasonably may constitute sex discrimination or sexual misconduct, which includes sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, or stalking, involving a student or employee. After a report is made, the office of Title IX will reach out to the affected student or employee in an effort to connect such person(s) with resources and options in addressing the allegations made in the report. You are also encouraged to report any incidents to the office of Title IX. You may do so by contacting:

Laura Hetrick

Title IX Coordinator

Sunwatcher Village Clubhouse

940-397-4213

laura.hetrick@msutexas.edu

You may also file an online report 24/7 at [this online reporting link](#).

Should you wish to visit with someone about your experience in confidence, you may contact the MSU Counseling Center at 940-397-4618. For more information on the University's policy on Title IX or sexual misconduct, please visit [this link for the university policy](#).

Course Calendar and Topics

Module	Topic/ Assignment	Due Date
1	Curriculum Theories: D2L readings Discussion 1 Curriculum Theories Activity	4/8 11:59 PM
2	<i>Curriculum Development</i> Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 3 Discussion 2 Curriculum Models Activity	4/15 11:59 PM
3	<i>Curriculum Development</i> Chapters 4, 5, 6 Discussion 3 Curriculum Review Activity	4/22 11:59 PM
4	<i>Curriculum Development</i> Chapters 7, 8, 9 Discussion 4 Curriculum Mapping Activity	4/29 11:59 PM

Module	Topic/ Assignment	Due Date
5	<i>Curriculum Development</i> Chapters 10, 11, 12 Discussion 5 Curriculum Issue Stance Activity	5/6 11:59 PM

This calendar and syllabus are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. In the event that an update must occur, the newest version will be posted on D2L in the Read Me First tab and a News item will notify students.

References and Additional Reading

Marzano, Robert J. (2017) The New Art and Science of Teaching. Bloomington, IN: ASCD.

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition. 2020. APA

Appendix C

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 Abbot'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.