



**EDCI 597.01W Project Based Learning
Web Based
COURSE SYLLABUS: May Mini 2022**

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Melanie J. Fields, Assistant Professor
Office Location: Commerce Campus – Sower Education South 218
Office Hours: By appointment
Office Phone: n/a
Office Fax: 903.886.5581
Email Address: melanie.fields@tamuc.edu
Response Time: 48 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Below is the list of textbooks and readings for this course. Carefully look at the textbook list to ensure you are buying the correct materials **for your field of interest.** The articles listed will be available on ecollege or provided in class.

Required Textbook for All Students

Larmer, John, & Mergendoller, John (2015). *Setting the Standard for Project Based Learning: A Proven Approach to Rigorous Classroom Instruction*. Buck Institute for Education. ASCD. ISBN (paperback). 978-1-4166-2033-4, there is a PDF ebook available.

Required Textbook by Grade Level

****Choose one of the two books in the Project Based Learning Toolkit Series based on the grade you teach.**

Elementary Teachers (k-5): PBL in the Elementary Grades. (2016). Second Edition. ISBN: 978-0-9968598-2-0

By Buck Institute: Primary Authors: Sara Hallermann and John Larmer

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Middle School and High School Teachers (6-12): PBL Starter Kit Second Edition (2017). ISBN: 978-0-9740343-2-4.

By Buck Institute: Primary Author: John Larmer

Course Description

Project Based Learning. Three semester hours. This course is designed to aid in understanding the difference in Problem Based Learning and Project Based learning. The overall goal is to examine and identify the key components in Project Based Learning. Additionally, the students will gain an understanding of the teacher role, student role, and assessment throughout a PBL unit.

Student Learning Outcomes

Course Goals

- To obtain an awareness of the Project Based Learning (PBL) model of teaching as defined by the Buck Institute.
- To explain the difference in Project Based Learning vs. Problem Based Learning.
- To explore ways of probing learner understanding through multiple types of assessment, including pre-assessment, formative assessment, performance and authentic assessment.
- To facilitate reflective practice and lifelong learning as professionals.
- To create a complete PBL unit, including an overall unit plan, objectives/goals, assessment components, and unit calendar to incorporate into their classrooms.

Course Objectives

Students will:

- Develop and enact a multiple week unit of instruction based on a problem in a project-based learning school.
- Develop multiple types of assessments to determine what students know and how to help them reach learning goals.
- Use content and equity as lenses to analyze and reflect on their own teaching and learning interactions.
- Discuss and reflect upon beliefs and beliefs systems regarding educational practices.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students should be able to proficiently use the learning management system, Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, and online presentation and graphics programs.

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Instructional Methods

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

This online course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes/objectives for the course. Each week you will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, discussions, readings, research, etc.

Completion of all assigned readings from the text and any supplemental materials and **on-time delivery** is expected. **No late work will be accepted.** The completion of all written assignments and projects exhibit your scholarship and professionalism. Some examples of the assignments that may be expected of you are: written reflections from field experiences and textbook content, self-assessments, thoughtful participation in class discussions, debates, group sessions, group activities, chapter quizzes, reflective written assignments, lesson plans, and completed PBL project presentation.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

- Assignments and points are subject to change, this is just a preview of the upcoming semester. Based on the needs of the class, assignments will be added or removed.
- Late work will be significantly reduced, at minimum 20 percent of the points deducted. The professor retains the right to accept/refuse late work.
- All work must be submitted – late or not – to receive an A.

Activities/Assessments

Module Assignments (e.g. quizzes/activities/reflections/PBL unit pieces)	50 points each
Online postings on readings for each module	25 points each
Final Project	300
**Other assignments, online zoom meetings, bonus point opportunities	Various points

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Due Date System

- Assignments for each module will be due at midnight of the last night of the module, which is Friday each week. (see specific listing of dates on the calendar provided in D2L.)
- There will be opportunities for Thursday submissions to allow for feedback prior to final submission of some assignments. See the course calendar in D2L for the specifics.
- Saturdays are assignment free, “catch up” days. All work due during the prior week may be submitted by midnight on Saturday of that week for partial credit. Saturday midnight is the **UNEDD “Ultimate No Excuses Due Date.”** Late work submitted after the UNEDD will not be accepted. There will be a 20 percent deduction of your work if submitted on Saturday.

It is my desire that you have all work done by Friday so that you can enjoy your weekends homework free. It is summer time and we all need a couple of days off.

Class Online Discussions

The class will be heavily based on discussion postings. **The postings will be due in two parts; original posts will be due by Wednesday to allow for your group to post responses by Friday each week.** The posts are due by midnight respectively. You will have a one day extension for any work to be completed by Saturday each week. After Saturday, the work for the previous week will not receive credit. This should allow for homework free weekends. **I will provide a calendar in D2L.**

Group Work for Final PBL Unit

As part of the course, you will ultimately design a complete unit meant for you to implement into your classroom. You may choose to work independently or choose a partner based on your grade-level and common interest. The final product will need to have a clear reflection on how everyone in the group contributed.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

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Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports

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Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
			iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.
JavaScript is enabled.
Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\)](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
 - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>

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- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "[click here](#)" to submit an issue via email.



System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Use my contact information: cell phone and email address to reach me outside of class. Expect a reply within 48 hours.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Attendance Policy

The work in this course is accomplished in collaborative work groups and with independent assignments. Punctuality, dependability, and the ability to accomplish group goals and individual goals are considered effective ways to demonstrate the professionalism required for success in the field-based teacher education program. **If you miss a class, you will receive a zero for that day's attendance and participation grade (total of 10 points for class). You may be allowed to make up the in-class work for that class period for 80% credit, if the make-up work is feasible. If you miss more than three classes, you may be withdrawn from the course.** Extenuating circumstances will be taken into consideration, if the student initiates a conference with the instructor.

University Related Excused Absences: When absences are related to an **approved** University event, your supervisor will need to contact the instructor with the details of the absence **before** the date. You will need to meet with the instructor to receive class notes and assignments to be completed prior to the next class meeting. **Grading procedures:** For an approved/excused absence you will receive full credit for attendance. The participation grade will be reflective of your completion of the make-up work of the day's assignments.

Tardy Policy: It is important that you be on-time (early) to class. You should be in the classroom, seated and ready to begin the day's lesson. Coming late to class is distracting to the instructor and your classmates. Three tardies will count as one absence; three absences may have you withdrawn from the class.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

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Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

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Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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