



# EAST TEXAS A&M

## **EDAD 697, 01W**

### **LEADING AND MANAGING URBAN SCHOOLS**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Winter Mini (2025)

12/16/24-1/10/25

#### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Professor Kriss Y. Kemp-Graham, PhD  
Office Location: EDN 101  
Office Hours: Virtual (Online) Mondays 11:00am- 1pm  
Office Phone: 903-886-5520  
Office Fax: 903-886-5507  
University Email Address: [kriss.kemp-graham@tamuc.edu](mailto:kriss.kemp-graham@tamuc.edu)  
Form of Communication: email  
Communication Response Time: 24 hours or less

#### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

All Readings and Movie links will be provided during the course

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will introduce students to research based strategies that successful leaders rely on to make a difference at all levels of urban school leadership. Grounded in research, students will be introduced to the multiple challenges that real urban elementary, middle, and high school leaders face as well as the catalysts for improvement. Students will explore the application of critical leadership strategies school leaders employ in high-performing urban schools and will be introduced to the tools urban school leaders

use to move their schools to higher levels of achievement for all students, especially for those who are low-income, English-language learners, and from various racial and ethnic backgrounds.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Students will gain an understanding of how school leaders respond to challenges present in urban schools that impact student success.
- Students will gain an understanding of how school leaders provide ethical leadership by advocating for children and ensuring student access to effective educators, programs, and services in urban school settings.
- Students will gain an understanding of how school leaders promote the success of all students by understanding, responding to, and influencing the larger political, social, economic, legal, and cultural contexts that affect campus operations and student learning in urban school settings.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Student Learning Outcome #1

At the end of this course, students will demonstrate the acquisition of, and mastery of the requisite skills and knowledge expected of a novice school leader in Texas to provide leadership that supports the success of all students by understanding, responding to, and influencing the larger political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context in urban schools by successfully and actively engaging in all course activities including the critical analysis of school level case studies. (*Standard IV-Executive Leadership: Competency 008 -TAC Rule §241.15*)

- Student Learning Outcome #2

At the end of this course students will exhibit the acquisition of, and mastery of the requisite skills and knowledge expected of a novice school leader in Texas to provide leadership that support the success of all students by acting with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical manner in urban schools by successfully and actively engaging in all course activities including the critical analysis of school level case studies. (*Standard VI-Ethics, Equity and Diversity: Competency 011 -TAC Rule §241.15*)

## **DESIGN OF THE CLASS**

This class is designed on constructivist principles. This means that the instructor creates an environment for learning by providing focus and guidance to the content. Assignments are designed to be learning experiences for students, and it is presumed and expected that students actively participate in the class

through the construction of their own learning. As a graduate level course, the instructor expects quality work from each student supported by adequate preparation and involvement.

## **CLASS PARTICIPATION**

Given the constructivist design of the class, this course will be interactive. It is my expectation that all students participate fully for all activities and assignments in order to maximize their learning experience. This web-based course will be made up of several learning activities including (but not limited to) lecture notes and clarification, reflection activities, individual learning activities, written papers. Students must be prepared to lead and/or enter discussions, to ask relevant questions, and to share the results of their study and reflection. This means that each student should be (1) conscious of the class schedule and the requirements for each class (knowing what to be prepared for), (2) self-disciplined (spending time to be fully prepared), and (3) eager to share with your classmates (participating actively by sharing what you have prepared).

## **ONLINE CLASS ENVIRONMENT**

Please practice courtesy, respect the opinions of others, be positive in speech and effort, encourage your classmates, respect confidentiality, and support each other's learning.

## **GRADING**

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

- A = 90%-100%--GOAL!!!
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%

## **ASSESSMENTS**

# **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

## **LMS**

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_supp ort.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_supp ort.htm)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

## 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](mailto: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, East Texas A&M University campus open computer lab, etc.

### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

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

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

#### **EMAIL POLICY**

I am available virtually by email during regular business hours. If you would like to schedule an appointment, the best way is to email. We can then set up a time to chat when it is convenient for you. Please allow 24 hours to receive a response on weekdays. If you email me and do not receive an email response within 48 hours, most likely, your email was not received.

#### **EMAIL GUIDELINES**

To provide a framework for professional communication, emails must contain the following:

- Subject Line: Course (e.g., EDLU 580); additional information if desired (e.g., Assignment Clarification)
- Address the Reader: Open with Dr. Kemp-Graham
- Adhere to writing mechanics rules.
- If asking for assistance with an issue, please list at least 3 things you have done to try and remediate the issue prior to contacting me (these should probably include looking at the syllabus/ course rubrics/ D2L, contacting a colleague, and checking your text, etc.)
- Close with your name

Please send emails from your university accounts. The instructor will not discuss grades over email. If you would like to discuss your grade, please make an appointment.

# **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

## **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 can be found at <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-code-of-conduct/>.

If you believe someone has engaged in behaviors that do not align with the Code of Student Conduct or you have other concerns, please visit the File a Report page at <https://www.tamuc.edu/office-of-student-rights-and-responsibilities/concerns-incident-reporting/>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

## **Academic Integrity**

Students at East Texas A&M University 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 student academic dishonesty policy [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy [Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Graduate student academic dishonesty policy:  
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Graduate student academic dishonesty form:  
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

## **East Texas A&M University Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage.

## **Artificial Intelligence**

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

## **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

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 Services  
Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

**Phone (903) 886-5930**

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

**Website:** <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

### **Mental Health and Well-Being**

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



### **East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)



## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Module	Instructional Assignment	Assignment
1	Article Readings; Movie 1	Video Response
2	Article Readings ; Movie 2	Video Response
3	Article Readings; Movie 3	Video Response

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*