EDCI 655. (1SW, 41B, & CRW): ASSESSMENT of LEARNING and the LEARNER

COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Laura Slay
Course Classroom: Mesquite MPLX Center Classroom
Office Hours: I will be available by appointment.
University Email Address: Laura.Slay@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: email
Communication Response Time: 48 hours maximum (Monday-Friday)

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: Course texts will be available in the Water's Library
Software Required: D2L Brightspace
Optional Texts and/or Materials:

Course Description

Assessment of Learning and the Learner. Three semester hours. A study in evaluating the total elementary school program. Attention is given to available evaluation tools, including measurement devices of all types. Particular attention is given to construction of appropriate classroom tests to insure accountability according to Texas' Essential Knowledge and Skills, and to the development of plans for school improvement.

Perspectives in Educational Assessment and Evaluation: The course prepares doctoral students to critically analyze and contribute to the evolving field of educational assessment. In this course, students will explore the philosophical, theoretical, and methodological foundations of assessment and evaluation in education. It provides a critical examination of various perspectives, including historical, cultural, psychological, and technological, to assess their influence on current practices and policies. Students

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will analyze educational assessment relative to a problem of practice, including systems that promote equity, validity, and reliability in diverse educational settings.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze historical and contemporary trends in educational assessment.

2. Evaluate emerging technologies and their impact on assessment practices.

3. Examine the interplay between (conditions that frame) cultural, social, and political influences on assessment practices.

4. Critically examine policy implications of assessment trends.

5. Audit & report a critical analysis of assessment across various levels of the education system.

6. Describe (the nonlinear and) the dynamical nature of educational assessment relative (to determine future directions in assessment relative) to a problem of practice.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Access to a Computer with:

- Internet access
- Microsoft Office Software, including Word Processing and PowerPoint
- Google Suite of office tools and apps
- Zoom video conferencing software
- Adobe or Foxit Reader to open PDF File
- Padlet

Instructional Methods

This course will meet face-to-face at the Mesquite MPLX Center every other Monday from 5:00 – 8:pm (see course schedule for exact dates). It uses a flipped classroom model where students are expected to complete readings, activities, and assignments before each in-person meeting. Instructional methods include lectures, instructor and

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student led discussions, student presentations, and writing assignments. Video conferencing will be available during class meetings.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Students are responsible for engaging in their own learning. This includes being aware of and meeting deadlines, checking class emails, course announcements posted in D2L, asking questions to clarify understanding, and actively participating in course activities.

Participation, Preparation & Professionalism are minimal expectations. Because this course is designed as a seminar, it depends on students' timely participation and engagement. As a firm believer in Vygotsky's notion of the social construction of knowledge, I will work towards creating a learning community that is interactive and continuously invites input from each of you as well as input from other scholars and forms of media. It is expected that students will attend or respond to prompts related class meetings, as well as actively engage in discussions and activities throughout the course. It is expected that students will demonstrate knowledge and behavior appropriate for doctoral studies. Lack of preparation and late discussion submissions may result in a lower grade.

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

Assessments

The assignments for the course are listed below along with its weighted value towards the final grade. Specific instructions for each assignment are included in detail in D2L (see assignments for each unit).

- **Participation and Discussion** (20%): Engage in seminar-style discussions.

- **Reflective Learning Log** (20%): Synthesize, reflect, and respond to course content and resources.

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- **Thematic Analysis Paper** (20%): Analyze a major theme, trend or innovation in educational assessment and evaluation (e.g., equity, validity).

- **Assessment Audit & Evaluation** (20%): Conduct an audit, evaluation and describe future directions in educational assessment relative to a problem of practice.

- **Presentation** (20%): Present audit findings on future of educational assessment.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M 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_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool
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.

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 campus open computer lab, etc.

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COMMUNICATION AND 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. Other support options can be found here:

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

Interaction with Instructor Statement

You should expect responses to questions and concerns posted in my virtual office or sent by email within 48 hours. In most cases, I respond within 24 hours. Please email me only for personal concerns. Questions about the class should be posted in my virtual office for the benefit of the class.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

This course allows students to work through each unit at their own pace, prior to the scheduled class meeting. However, all assignments be submitted by the due date. No late work will be accepted after the due date except for in extenuating circumstances. Examples of extenuating circumstances include a verified illness, death in a student's immediate family, and obligation of a student at legal proceedings in fulfilling responsibility as a citizen. Documentation is required to be granted an exception to the late work policy. Make-up work, re-writes, and extra credit are not permitted.

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.

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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

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

ETAMU 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 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 Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03
Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf

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

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

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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
East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu
Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

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.

ETAMU 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

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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/counseling-center**

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.

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

This is a web-based class that meets every other Monday, face-to-face at the Mesquite MPLX Center classroom from 5:00 – 8:00 pm. Video conferencing will be available during all class meetings.

Course Zoom Link: https://tamuc.zoom.us/my/lauraslay

Assignments are due in D2L by 4:00 pm on the day of each class meeting unless otherwise noted.

Class Meetings	Module Topics	Assignments
Jan. 13	Introductions 1. Foundations of Assessment & Evaluation	Positionality Statement & *State of the Union* on Assessment due Fri, Jan 17
Jan. 27		RL Log 1 due Mon, Jan 27
Feb. 10	2. Frameworks & Models in Educational Assessment	RL Log 2 due Mon, Feb 10
Feb. 24	3. Cultural & Social Perspectives	RL Log 3 due Mon, Jan 27
Mar. 10 (Online Work Week/ ETAM Spring Break)	Work Period Status of the Class Meetings	
Mar. 17 (Online-Work Week)		Thematic Analysis Paper due Fri, Mar 21
Mar. 24	4. Contemporary Issues in Assessment & Evaluation	RL Log 4 due Mon, Mar 24
Apr. 7	5. Policy, Ethics, & Global Perspectives	RL Log 5 due Mon, Apr 7
Apr. 21	6. Future Directions in Assessment & Evaluation	Assessment Audit Report due Mon, Apr 21
May 5	Presentations	Audit Discussion & Final Presentation due Mon, May 5

In a doctoral seminar, there is always room for negotiation and flexibility for change in our proposed schedule if we find our time better used in one direction than another. *It is expected that we will interact as a community of learners.*

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