EDCI 525.01W Project Based Learning
Web Based
COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer II 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Janet Kimbriel
Office Hours: By appointment
Email Address: janet.kimbriel@etamu.edu
Response Time: 24 hours Monday - Friday

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook(s) Required:

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.

Course Description

Project Based Learning. Three semester hours. This course is designed for a student to examine the project based learning teaching model. The overall goal is to examine and identify the key components of effective project based learning. Students will explore elements of best practice for designing and implementation of a project. Also, within the course, students will examine the variety the roles in project based learning, specifically the teacher, student, and community.

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 identify assessments such as 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.

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

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

Instructional Methods

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. Students will experience many types of instructional strategies in an online setting. There will be opportunities for collaboration, group work, and independent activities. Use of text, videos, and reflection will be used throughout the course.

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.

Activities/Assessments

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

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

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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.

Modules will begin on Monday, have midweek checkpoints for initial discussion posts, and all assignment components due on Friday by midnight.

Dual Due Date System
- Work for each module will be due at midnight of the last night of the module (see listing of dates on the calendar provided in D2L.)
- 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. Sunday midnight is the UNEDD "Ultimate No Excuses Due Date." Late work submitted after the UNEDD will not be accepted.

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 it 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

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Note: This course is 100% online. Please review the technology requirements carefully. A reliable high speed access to the internet will be necessary to complete this course. Highly recommended that students develop a backup plan for both equipment and internet access -technology issues are not a valid excuse for missing assignment deadlines.

Technical Skills Needed

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

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.

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

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Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
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, D2Lsupports 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

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- o Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
- o Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
  - o Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - o Speakers or headphones.
  - o *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

- 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:
  - o Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/
  - o Adobe Flash Player *(version 17 or later)* https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
  - o Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
  - o Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

- 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.

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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

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

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

Academic Honesty Policy

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Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.   Plagiarized assignments will receive no credit.

See *http://www.plagiarism.org/* for more details about how to avoid plagiarism.

University Specific Procedures:

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 Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).*

Attendance Policy:

As per University Policy B-19: Students are expected to be present for all class meetings for any course in which they are enrolled. Students are responsible for learning about and complying with the attendance policy stated in the catalog, Student's Guidebook, and/or faculty syllabus. Students will be allowed to make up missed work if the absence is determined excused by the instructor. **"Faculty members may recommend to the appropriate college dean that a student be dropped from a course when unexcused absences reach approximately 20% of total scheduled class meetings for the term."**

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Campus Carry Policy :

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(http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf) and/or consult your event organizer). 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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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

See Course Requirements for a list of course assignments.

Dates:	Modules:
July 7	One
July 14	Two
July 21	Three
July 28	Four
Aug 4	Five & Final Project

Due dates for Module Assignments will be each Friday at midnight, with the UNEDD being Sunday each week.

Module Assignments will be based on Chapters and Activities that align with the two textbooks. They will be blended dependent on content and context.

Disclaimer:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the schedule of the class. Any alterations will be announced in class or via email by the instructor. Students who do not attend class or check their email assume responsibility for missing alterations to the course.

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