

EDUC 4320 110
Integrated Social Studies Methods, EC-8
CRN 80789
Fall 2021
Texas A&M University-Central Texas

COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION

This course meets face-to-face on Tuesday/Thursday from 2-3:15 pm in Warrior Hall Room 312, from August 24, 2021 to Thursday December 9, 2021, with supplemental materials made available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System <https://tamuct.instructure.com/>

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Linda Black, PhD

Office: WH 322P

Phone: 254-519-5795; outside of office at 832-372-7640.

Email: linda.black@tamuct.edu

Online & In Person Office Hours:

Monday	11-12:15 pm
Tuesday	11:00-2, 3:30-5 pm
Wednesday	11-12:15 pm
Thursday	11:00-2, 3:30-5 pm

Student-instructor interaction You can meet with me online during scheduled office hours or by appointment. Often, multiple students ask the same questions via email. In these instances, I typically respond through Canvas in an announcement to clarify concerns for the entire class. I respond to emails within 24 hours. Whether texting or leaving a voice mail, please tell me your name and which class you are taking. I usually respond to phone calls or text messages the same day, unless in a meeting or at a conference.

WARRIOR SHIELD

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login) [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES

Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan. For the most recent campus information regarding COVID-19 see the Texas A&M University-Central Texas Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan at <https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview and Description

This methods course is concerned with providing experience for preservice educators to plan, organize, deliver, and evaluate developmentally appropriate educational strategies and instructional techniques in teaching Social Studies to diverse learners. The students design responsive instruction appropriate for all learners which reflects an understanding of relevant content, promotes active engagement, and is based on continuous and appropriate assessment. Emphasis is on integration of content.

Prerequisite: Admission to Educator Preparation Program.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course the pre-service teacher will understand and apply knowledge social studies to create interesting, relevant, and rigorous integrated lessons.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Develop a comprehensive understanding of the social sciences and recognizing the value of social science (geography game, cultural presentation, and literature circle).
2. Integrate the multiple strands of content knowledge and skills of social studies, as defined by the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), with each other and with other selected disciplines in planning and implementing effective curriculum, instruction, assessment, and evaluation (micro-teach, lessons)
3. Design responsive instruction appropriate for all learners which reflects an understanding of relevant content, promotes active engagement, and is based on continuous and appropriate assessment (lesson-plan, quizzes, final).
4. Deliver, and evaluate, developmentally appropriate educational strategies and instructional techniques in teaching Social Studies to diverse learners (LP, microteach, quizzes, final).

Social Studies Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter113/ch113a.html>

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

<https://www.socialstudies.org/standards/strands>

TExES Core Subjects test information

<http://cms.texas-ets.org/texas/core-subjectsgeneralisttests/>

Social Studies Standards 4-8

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/4-8socstu.pdf>

Social Studies EC–6 Standards

https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/EC_6SocialStudies_Committee%20Revisionsfinal%20%282%29_0.pdf

ISTE Technology Standards

<https://www.iste.org/standards/iste-standards-for-teachers>

Required Textbooks

Conklin, W. (2015). *Analyzing and writing with primary sources*. California: Shell Education.

ISBN 978-1-42581478-6.

Zarnowski, M. (2006). *Making sense of history: Using high-quality literature and hands-on experiences to build content knowledge*. New York, NY: Scholastic Inc.

ISBN 978-0-439-66755-5.

*Other required readings will be posted on the course website throughout the course.

Course Website through TAMUCT Library

<https://tamuct.libguides.com/SocialStudies>

Suggested Readings

Maxim, G. W. (2018). *Dynamic Social Studies* (11th ed). New York, New York: Pearson.

Course Requirements/Assignments/Assessments

a. Authentic Assessment, Course Design: *Getting to Know You* Sheet (100 pts.)- Students will complete a *Getting to Know You* sheet for themselves (50 pts.) and share with the class, as well as create a *Getting to Know You* sheet for a future classroom (50 pts.). ****Supports the Dept. of C&I Goals #2, 4, & 10, Student Learning Outcomes #5, and ISTE Technology Standards 7a, 7b, 7c.**

b. Summative Assessments: Two Quizzes (200 pts.)- Each student will be assessed on (1) Social Studies standards, (2) social studies/historiography skills, (3) social studies content, and other topics from the texts and research-based articles about social studies topics. ****Supports the Dept. of C&I goals #2, 6, 9, 10, Student Learning Outcomes #1, 2, 4, 5 & 6, Social Studies EC–6 Standards I, and ISTE Technology Standards 1c.**

c. Summative Assessment: A Gallery Walk of Six Stations or Centers for 4th grade Texas History (100 pts.)- Working with a partner or group, students will create a lesson incorporating a gallery walk with six total stations, four stations must identify and analyze the significance of leaders important to the founding of Texas as a republic and state, including José Antonio Navarro, Sam Houston, Mirabeau Lamar, and Anson Jones; one timeline activity station, and one station that asks students to analyze a primary source. ****Supports the Dept. of C&I goals #3, 4, 7, Student Learning Outcomes #1-4, Social Studies EC–6 Standards II, III, & IV, and ISTE Technology Standards 1, 4, & 5.**

d. A Unit Plan for a combined social studies/ELA unit (100)- Working with a partner or group, students will design a unit of 1-2 weeks that incorporates a non-fiction children's history book, historical thinking activities, and hands-on experiences during the unit which will also include a fine arts component (100 pts.) This assignment will be reviewed by the instructor for feedback and revision. Final version is due at end of semester. ****Supports the Dept. of C&I goals #3, 4, 7, Student Learning Outcomes #1-4, Social Studies EC–6 Standards II, III, & IV, and ISTE Technology Standards 1, 4, & 5.**

e. Partner Presentation about a World History/Cultures Topic (50 pts.)- Working with a partner and using digital sources/technology, students will research, create, and present critical information for student understanding about a world history topic. ****Supports the Dept. of C&I goals #3, 4, 7, Student Learning Outcomes #1-4, Social Studies EC–6 Standards II, III, & IV, and ISTE Technology Standards 1, 4, & 5.**

f. Lesson Plan and Micro-Teach using a Primary Source from 5th grade TEKS (100 pts.)- Each student will create a micro-teach lesson and then teach the lesson to a small group during class. The lesson will include a mini-lesson plan, feedback from peers, and student reflection on the lesson. ****Supports the Dept. of C&I goals #3, 4, 7, Student Learning Outcomes #1-4, Social Studies EC–6 Standards II, III, & IV, and ISTE Technology Standards 1, 4, & 5.**

g. Lesson Plan and Micro-Teach a Non-fiction Children’s History/Social Studies Book, appropriate for grades 1-3. (50 pts.) After viewing of teaching episodes on the Internet, each student will micro-teach one of the books from our Library website list of books for our course. This teaching will be outside of class and students may teach to an adult or a child, but the lesson must include a reading and/or writing strategy, a list of pre-prepared questions you will ask, and a reflective critique of your teaching. ****Supports the Dept. of C&I goals #3, 4, 7, Student Learning Outcomes #1-4, Social Studies EC–6 Standards II, III, & IV, and ISTE Technology Standards 1, 4, & 5.**

h. Annotated Social Studies Resource List (100 pts.)- Working with a partner or a group of three, students will identify and annotate a list of ten children’s books appropriate to teaching social studies and/or language arts in at least three different grade levels, K-6. Due at end of semester. ****Supports the Dept. of C&I Goals #2 & 7, Student Learning Outcomes #2 & 6, PPR State Standards #3, and ISTE Technology Standards #1a, 1b, 1c, 4a, 4c, 5a, 5b, 5c.**

i. Class Participation (100 pts.) Each student is required to participate in class through discussion, collaboration, active listening, and teaching. ****Supports the Dept. of C&I Goals #1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 10 and Student Learning Outcomes #1, 3 & 6.**

j. Professional Growth Opportunities (20 pts. each)- Just as professional educators have the opportunity for continued professional growth, students will be given the opportunity to extend, elaborate, and apply their classroom learning to two educational experiences outside of the classroom setting. These experiences will vary with the semester depending upon community and university events. ****Supports the Dept. of C&I goal #11.**

Summary of Course Grades

Getting to Know You	100 pts.
Interactive Journal	100 pts.
Gallery Walk Lesson	100 pts.
Two Quizzes	200 pts.
Unit Plan	200 pts.
Micro-Teach 1 & 2	200 pts.
Partner Presentation	100 pts.
List of Resources	100 pts.
Class Participation	100 pts.

Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

To determine your grade, take your points earned and divide by the number of points possible. Letter grades for the course will be determined as follows:

90-100%	= A
80-89%	= B
70-79%	= C
60-69%	= D
Below 60%	= F

Posting of Grades

Grades from assessments will be posted within seven working days, unless it is a major assignment. Posting of major assessment grades will be discussed in class.

Grading Policies

Quality of Assignments- High professional standards are expected of all assignments. In order to obtain the full credit for an assignment, candidates must demonstrate higher order thinking skills (analyze data by applying theoretical and conceptual tools; construct convincing arguments; integrate information from various sources; evaluate various theoretical perspectives; etc.). All assignments are to be submitted in a timely, professional manner. This includes use of English, correct grammar and spelling, and appropriate formatting. Remember that the quality of work you present reflects your desire to be a professional educator. **All submitted work should be typed unless otherwise noted.**

Late Work Policy- Missed exams and quizzes may only be re-scheduled in cases of excused absences and must be made up within 2 weeks of the original date. Late work will be accepted for no penalty for university-excused absences. For other late work due to extenuating circumstances, please speak with the professor privately.

Course Outline and Calendar

Week Tuesday	Topics
Aug. 24	Introductions, syllabus, course overview; What is social studies, where did it come from, why should we teach it? Def. & characteristics of <i>powerful</i> social studies
Aug. 31	National & state curriculum & standards
Sept. 7	Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary curriculum; integrating social studies & language arts
Sept. 14	Historiography, historical thinking, historical literature & hands-on experiences
Sept. 21	Historiography, historical thinking, historical literature & hands-on experiences
Sept. 28	Historiography, historical thinking, historical literature & hands-on experiences
Oct. 5	Teaching government/civics
Oct. 12	Teaching citizenship and civic engagement
Oct. 19	Instructional planning in social studies
Oct. 26	Instructional planning in social studies
Nov. 2	Teaching /geography and culture
Nov. 9	Teaching economic concepts

Nov. 16	Student Presentations
Nov. 23	Student Presentations
Nov. 30	Micro-Teaching
Dec. 5	Micro-Teaching
Dec. 7	Assessment in social studies
Dec. 9	Assessment in social studies

***The instructor reserves the right to modify assignments and due dates to enhance student learning outcomes. Assignments may be altered, but no additional assignments will be added.

Important University Dates

http://catalog.tamuct.edu/undergraduate_catalog/general-information/academic20calendars20and20final20exam20schedule/

University Closed- Thursday Nov. 11 Veteran’s Day, Nov. 26-27 Thanksgiving

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. **We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central
24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a [Drop Request Form](https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf) [https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf].

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, working with others in an unauthorized manner, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html), [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0), [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required) [https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or

parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing studentsuccess@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center

University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University—Central Texas (A&M—Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M—Central Texas students. For the Fall 2021 semester, the hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process.

While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor by making an appointment via WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance

with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

University Library

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

OPTIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the referral online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html) website for more information [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

OTHER POLICIES

Copyright Notice

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Copyright. 2020 by Linda Black at Texas A&M University-Central Texas, College of Education; 1001 Leadership Place, Killeen, TX 76549; 254-519-5795, linda.black@tamuct.edu.

Class Attendance

Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and submission of completed assignments are expected at all classes, field experience, and other activities for which the student is registered. Failure of students to adhere to these requirements may influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health/medical reasons, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences. Whether absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.

A. Personal Days-Students are expected to attend all classes, arrive on time, sign in, and actively participate in class, including online courses. Students are allowed **two “personal days” of absence that they may take at their discretion, but only with prior notification**. You may notify the instructor by phone, email, or during class time.

B. Excused Absences-You also have officially excused university days available to you that are covered under university policy- health-related issues, family emergencies, and student participation in university-related activities. Sick days and university-related activities require appropriate documentation so that any missed work may be completed.

C. Unexcused absences- If there is a situation for an absence beyond your two personal days, please communicate with your instructor. **It is YOUR responsibility to NOTIFY the instructor of your absent.**

D. Tardies- Two tardies of over 20 minutes late will count as one absence, unless there are extenuating circumstances. This is the same rule as in Clinical Practice (Student Teaching).

Mobile technology: Please turn off any mobile phones prior to the beginning of class unless we are using them to complete a class assignment. If you are expecting an important call during class time, please inform the instructor before class.

Code of Ethics for Texas Educators

The Texas educator shall comply with standard practices and ethical conduct toward students, professional colleagues, school officials, parents, and members of the community and shall safeguard academic freedom. The Texas educator, in maintaining the dignity of the profession, shall respect and obey the law, demonstrate personal integrity, and exemplify honesty and good moral character. The Texas educator, in exemplifying ethical relations with colleagues, shall extend just and equitable treatment to all members of the profession. The Texas educator, in accepting a position of public trust, shall measure success by the progress of each student toward realization of his or her potential as an effective citizen.

The Texas educator, in fulfilling responsibilities in the community, shall cooperate with parents and others to improve the public schools of the community. This chapter shall apply to educators and candidates for certification.

Please go to TAC 247.2 – Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators. This can be found at [https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=19&pt=7&ch=247&rl=Y](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=19&pt=7&ch=247&rl=Y).

To complete Certification/Licensing Requirements in Texas related to public education and other professional settings:

1. Candidates must undergo a criminal history background check prior to clinical teaching and prior to employment as an educator. The public-school campuses are responsible for completing the criminal background check. A person who is enrolled or planning to enroll in a State Board for Educator Certification-approved educator preparation program or planning to take a certification examination may request a preliminary criminal history evaluation letter regarding the person's potential ineligibility for certification due to a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense.

A Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation is a non-mandatory, non-binding evaluation of an individual's self-reported criminal history. In addition, the agency obtains your name-based Texas criminal history information. The service is provided to the requestor for a **non-refundable fee**. The requestor will receive an evaluation letter by email from agency staff advising of potential ineligibility for educator certification.

You are eligible to request a Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation if:

- You enrolled or planning to enroll in an educator preparation program or
- You are planning to take a certification exam for initial educator certification, and
- You have reason to believe that you may be ineligible for educator certification due to a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense.

You are not eligible for a preliminary evaluation of your criminal history if you do not have a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense.

In addition, you must complete the fingerprinting process when you apply for certification. Participation in the evaluation does not preclude you from submitting to a national criminal history review at the time you apply for your educator certification. Your criminal history will be reviewed and you may be subject to an investigation based on that criminal history, including any information you failed to submit for evaluation.

Additional information can be found at

https://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Educators/Investigations/Preliminary_Criminal_History_Evaluation-FAQs/.

2. Provide one of the following primary ID documents: passport, driver's license, state or providence ID cards, a national ID card, or military ID card to take the TExES exams (additional information available at www.texas.ets.org/registrationBulletin/)

<<http://www.texas.ets.org/registrationBulletin/>>). YOU must provide legal documentation to be allowed to take these mandated examinations that are related to certification/licensing requirements in Texas.

Participation, Personal Responsibility and Professional Dispositions

Stay in Touch with the Instructor

Teaching well takes serious effort and commitment. You have not chosen an easy job, but you have chosen an important and rewarding job. As a teacher, you are responsible for helping students learn and grow. What you do as a teacher will make a difference in students' lives. There is much to do to prepare for taking on the demands of leading a classroom so we ask you to put in your best effort. This class will require you to stay on top of your work. If you find yourself stumbling, overwhelmed, or generally stressed out, that's a signal to get in touch with me. We will set up a time to meet or talk. I will offer support and try to figure out how to help you balance these demands and learn so that you are prepared to teach.

Discussions

Discussions will take place with class members online, outside of class, and during class. I expect you to share your ideas, listen to and try to understand the ideas of others, ask each other questions about the topic of discussion and ideas shared, build on each other's ideas, cite examples from the texts or your experiences to support your ideas, and treat each other with respect. As a participant in discussions, do what you can to encourage your peers to participate, move the discussion forward, and make the classroom safe for different perspectives. Consider these behavioral practices and cautions to support active listening as you participate in class: Good practice includes looking at the person who is talking to you; making an effort to hear the exact words the speaker is saying; reflecting back what you hear; responding to others' ideas by extending, supporting, or challenging those ideas with your own thoughts; using specific examples from course readings to support your ideas or connect to the ideas of others; use nodding or other signs to show that what a classmate says matters. Some cautions to avoid include interrupting before the person has finished speaking, being preoccupied with other things, conveying immediate disagreement or impatience by how you look at the person, or quickly suggesting other perspectives without understanding those of the speaker.

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