Educational Policy and Leadership
Sequence of Courses

Spring I

Introduction to Leadership and Organizations
EPL 720 (3 credits)
Introduction to general theories of educational leadership and organizational systems.

Leadership in a Digital Age
EPL 731 (3 credits)
The role of educational leaders in creating and sustaining systems and processes to align curriculum, instruction, and assessment with 21st century skills for college and career readiness, including the use of appropriate digital technologies to support learning and organizational goals.

School and Community Leadership
EPL 732 (2 credits)
How to work effectively with diverse families and community members by assessing and responding to diverse community interests and needs; sharing leadership with stakeholders; motivating and mobilizing community resources; and examining relationships between schools and communities from demographic and political perspectives, all to promote student achievement.

Summer

Special Topics in Educational Policy and Leadership: Conflict Resolution
EPL 700 (1 credit)
Leadership applications for resolving conflicts among students, teachers, parents, and other stakeholders. Students learn win-win strategies to find solutions and create opportunities for growth.
Educational Research Methods

EPL 722 (3 credits)
Introduction to research for school leaders, including an overview of quantitative and qualitative research methods. The role of research in organizational change and strategic planning will be emphasized. Specific applications of research in terms of school improvement and student achievement will be addressed.

Education Law and Policy Seminar: Student Issues

EPL 751 (1 credit)
Applicable federal, state, and local requirements and public policy related to student rights and responsibilities through case studies intended to develop the student’s capacity to create a safe and productive school culture. Emphasis is placed on legal protections and due process relative to student discipline issues.

Financial Entrepreneurship and Educational Innovation

EPL 758 (3 credits)
Exploration of educational leaders’ roles as entrepreneurs within existing organizational structures as well as how educational leaders can develop partnerships with various community, government, and business entities to augment financial and human resources toward increasing student learning.

Human and Fiscal Resource Management

EPL 753 (2 credits)
The management of fiscal and human resources in PK-12 schools in order to achieve greater student performance. Case studies and simulations will be employed to develop the necessary resource management knowledge and skills.

Fall

Leadership for School Improvement

EPL 735 (3 credits)
Application of evidence-based decision-making methods aimed at creating a culture of continuous school improvement including: 1) the collection, analysis, and interpretation of multiple measures, 2) the inter-relationships between evidence-based interventions
and educational outcomes, 3) commonly used analytic strategies and processes, and (4) a step-by-step approach to evidence-based decisions.

Law for Exceptional Students

EPL 755 (1 credit)
Seminar addressing applicable federal, state, and local requirements and public policy for providing services to exceptional and at-risk student populations through study of contemporary case law, case study analysis, and evidence-based program design and supervision.

Special Topics Seminar: Leadership to Support English Learners

EPL 700 (1 credit)
This seminar will address how school leaders can support the needs of English Learners. The seminar will explore the importance of cultural awareness and the diverse needs of English Learners. In addition, the seminar will address how school leaders can support teachers’ efforts to address the various levels of language acquisition through staffing, scheduling, and the effective use of assessments such as WIDA as well as provide information about effective instructional strategies and resources that support English Learners.

Educational Systems

EPL 740 (1 credit)
Seminar emphasizing the development of systems to guide instructional supervision through the use of research-based instructional frameworks.

Leadership Field Experience

EPL 742 (3 credits)
Supervised field experience in PK-12 schools.
Spring II

Systematic Professional Development and Instructional Supervision

EPL 737 (3 credits)
The practice of teacher supervision with emphases on instructional leadership and professional development. The course addresses coaching, adult learning, and distributive leadership to support the culture of learning and equity in the organization.

Education Law and Public Policy Seminar: Teacher/Staff Evaluation

EPL 757 (1 credit)
Introduction of applicable federal, state, and local requirements and public policy for high stakes assessment of teachers emphasizing continuous improvement through carefully designed personnel supervision and evaluation. Contract management, employee discipline and recognition, and procedural expectations for insuring fairness and equity will be addressed.

Capstone Seminar: Educational Leadership

EPL 780 (2 credits)
The capstone seminar provides students with the opportunity to synthesize core and major coursework completed during the program of graduate study culminating in a portfolio or poster presentation demonstrating competencies in educational leadership as evidenced by field-based experiences.

Leadership Field Experience

EPL 742 (3 credits)
Supervised field experience in PK-12 schools.