

George Mason University
College of Education and Human Development
Education Leadership Program

EDLE 616.601, Spring 2022

A Hybrid Course

Curriculum Development and Evaluation

Tuesdays, 4:45 – 7:45pm, Kelly Leadership Center, 3011

Face-to-face, asynchronous/synchronous, BBCU/Zoom

January 18 – April 19

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Office Location: GMU Fairfax Campus, Thompson Hall, Suite 1300

Prerequisites: EDLE 620, EDLE 690, and EDLE 791

Program Vision: The Education Leadership Program is devoted to improving the quality of pre-K through 12 education through teaching, research and service. Candidates and practicing administrators engage in course work devoted to experiential learning, professional growth opportunities, and doctoral research that informs practice. We educate exceptional leaders who act with integrity as they work to improve schools.

Course Description: In three Units [micro, micro-macro, and macro] EDLE 616 examines relationship of written, taught, and tested curriculum; and understands and can demonstrate the capacity to design, implement & evaluate high quality curricula that supports instructional improvement, equity, student learning and instructional leadership; and develops and evaluates curricula that promote reflection, digital literacy, and data literacy.

Nature of Course Delivery: This course will be delivered using the hybrid model with a combination of face-to-face [50%] asynchronous [25%] and synchronous [25% BBCU/Zoom] format. **EDLE 616 will be available on Blackboard on or before January 18th.**

A variety of instructional methods are used to cover the subject matter and create a dynamic, interactive learning environment. These methods *may* include large and small group discussions, case studies, media, Internet assignments, group Blog submissions, lecture, guest practitioners, group presentations, interviews, collaborative learning and

reflection. There is some out-of-class work expected. **THE CHALLENGE IS TO BECOME A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS.**

Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.

Technical Requirements

To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

- High-speed Internet access with standard up-to-date browsers. To get a list of Blackboard's supported browsers see: https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#supported-browsers
- To get a list of supported operation systems on different devices see: https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems
- Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.
- Students will need a headset microphone for use with the Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing tool. [Delete this sentence if not applicable.]
- Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.
- The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download: [Add or delete options, as desire.]
 - Adobe Acrobat Reader: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - Windows Media Player: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14209/get-windows-media-player>
 - Apple Quick Time Player: www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

Video/Screencasting Tools: You may use Kaltura, Jing, to record your videos and Discussion Board assignments.

Group Work: You may use Google Docs or Wikis to collaborate with colleagues on group assignments. Discussion Board group activities will be pre-assigned on Blackboard.

Bb Collaborate/Zoom: You may communicate also with colleagues using these platforms. Zoom is also an option for Office Hours.

Email: All candidates are required to activate and monitor their GMU e-mail accounts. I strongly recommend that you do not forward your Mason e-mail to a different account because attachments are often lost that way. It is best to check e-mail directly from your Mason account daily. Per university policy in compliance with federal law, I will only

communicate with candidates via their GMU email accounts and will be unable to respond to emails sent from other accounts (i.e., gmail, yahoo, work email, etc.). Any announcements regarding the course will be sent to your GMU account. I will respond to emails within 24 hours, excluding weekends.

Expectations

- **Course Week:**

Our week will start on **Tuesdays, and finish on Mondays. Face-to-face classes will begin at 4:45 pm on Tuesdays, synchronous classes will meet on the regularly scheduled day during times published. Asynchronous activities will be completed during the week as you see fit.**

- **Course Performance Evaluation**

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the Instructor (e.g., Blackboard, VIA, hard copy).

- **Log-in Frequency:**

Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials at least daily [or several times per week]. For synchronous sessions, students should read/view lesson materials prior to class meeting.

- **Participation:**

Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions.

- **Technical Competence:**

Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.

- **Technical Issues:**

Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.

- **Workload:**

Please be aware that this course is not self-paced. Students are expected to meet specific deadlines and due dates listed in the Class Schedule section of this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due.

- **Instructor Support:**

Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or

other course-related issues. Those unable to come to a Mason campus can meet with the instructor via telephone. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.

- **Netiquette:**

The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting them, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. Be positive in your approach with others and diplomatic in selecting your words. Remember that you are not competing with classmates but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.

- **Accommodations:**

Online learners who require effective accommodations to ensure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

Learner Outcomes: Students who successfully complete the requirements for EDLE 616 will be able to:

[i] demonstrate an in-depth knowledge/understanding of curriculum design, development and evaluation and connect all parts to NELP standards; understands and can demonstrate the capacity to design, implement & evaluate high quality curricula that supports instructional improvement, equity, student learning and instructional leadership; and develops and evaluates curricula that promote reflection, digital literacy, and data literacy.

[ii] demonstrate the ability to analyze school demographic and assessment data for the purposes of recommending an improvement process that includes data collection, diagnosis, design & implementation, and ground same in research-based strategies for continuous improvement.

[iii] identify a problematic/controversial issue in curriculum development/design/evaluation [in your school/school system] and create a problem-based framework to serve as a guide for educators to fully understand it. The framework should be 'UBD-inspired', grounded in best practices & research, and include a PD component.

[iv] investigate the components of a well-formed BOE policy on curriculum development/evaluation/equity [at a specific grade level/content area], apply that knowledge to analyze a policy/practice[s] gap and involve stakeholders in a discussion on resolving that aforesaid gap.

Relationships to Program Goals and Professional Organizations: The importance of strengthening and guiding instruction in educational settings is a leadership theme of academic and professional organizations alike. The purpose of the course is to strengthen

the knowledge, skills and dispositions of EDLE candidates as instructional leaders and managers. The course provides models for (1) designing and managing curriculum; (2) relating to school board policy, professional development, and budget to effective instructional leadership; (3) constructing effective teacher-friendly curriculum guides; and (4) collecting and using demographic data to create a plan for improved student performance.

This course meets applicable competencies, standards, and guidelines set forth by the Virginia Department of Education (VA DOE), Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISSLC), National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), National Education Leadership Preparation (NELP) and Educational Leadership Constituent Council (ELCC), as shown below.

VA DOE Competencies (a 1,3,4,5 and 6; c1; e1; f 4,5}
 NCATE Guidelines (Strategic Leadership: 1.3, 1.6, 2.4; Instructional Leadership: 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6. 3.9; Organizational Leadership: 9.1)
NELP Standards: Strategic Leadership (1.2), Equity, Cultural Responsiveness(3.1, 3.2), High Quality Curricula, PD, Data Literacy(4.2, 4.3)

Textbooks

Lalor, Angela Di Michelle [2017]. *Ensuring High-Quality Curriculum [How to Design, Revise or Adopt Curriculum Aligned to Student Success]*. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development [ASCD].

[recommended—optional, not required]:

Mooney, Nancy J & Ann T. Mausbach (2008). *Align the Design: A Blueprint for School Improvement*. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development [ASCD].

Virginia Standards of Learning

Course Evaluation and Grading:

Because EDLE 616 is a graduate level course, high quality work is expected in class and on all assignments. Assignments 1, 2, 3 are graded by a rubric. In this way, the rubric can both inform the completion of the assignments and serve as an instrument to assess your grade for the activity.

This course is designed to further develop and expand your managerial and ethical skills in the areas of instructional leadership and management. You will be assessed on your ability to analyze situations from the broad perspective of an

emerging school administrator and be expected to view the impact of the decisions from a systematic perspective and from the benefit to student learning.

The grading assessment scales and assigned percentages shown below are **guidelines** only. Your final grade for the semester will reflect the instructor's judgment of your classroom performance as you attempt to demonstrate leadership behaviors, perspectives and attitudes.

Students may rewrite an assignment [other than the final project] for re-grading within one week of receipt. The original assignment should be clipped/stapled/attached to the re-write.

VIA Performance-Based Assessment Submission Requirements

Every student registered for any EDLE Course with a required performance-based assessment is required to submit these assessments, [a] **Curriculum Design Framework**, and [b] **Demographic Analysis for Improved Student Performance**, to VIA through Blackboard (regardless of whether the student is taking the course as an elective, a onetime course or as part of an undergraduate minor). Evaluation of the performance-based assessment by the course instructor will also be completed in VIA through Blackboard. Failure to submit the assessment to VIA (through Blackboard) will result in the course instructor reporting the course grade as Incomplete (IN). Unless the IN grade is changed upon completion of the required VIA submission, the IN will convert to some F nine weeks into the following semester.

Course Requirements: Since the 'advent' of Covid-19, the delivery of instruction has been primarily a mix of asynchronous and synchronous [Zoom, WebEx, etc.] learning. However, instructor expectations for discourse, presentations and hands-on activities--critical parts of the course--remain the same.

Online sessions will feature Group Discussion Board & Individual Journal submissions [both of which could include both video and podcast versions]. The completion of and reflection on assigned readings, **constructive participation** in discussions and group work as well as on-line communication --as needed-- with group members are routine expectations. *Access to a computer and a GMU email account are essential because you will receive important information from the university only on your GMU account and only GMU email accounts may be used to communicate with the instructor.*

If missing a class is unavoidable, you are responsible for notifying the instructor (preferably in advance). **It is your responsibility to check with class colleagues for notes and assignments and complete any missed assignments and readings, etc. before the start of the next class.** All absences **may** affect your

final grade because of the heavy emphasis on class participation. All written assignments must be completed on a word processor (unless otherwise indicated) and turned in on or before the due date.

Late assignments will lower your grade on the project and will not be accepted or given credit if received 48 hours late. Specific course requirements and assigned due dates *may* be altered as the instructor receives input from you and your classmates about your school calendars. To plan and complete group projects, you may need to meet with other group members at times other than during scheduled class sessions.

Grading Scale:

Participation in class [attendance, discussion boards, journals]	140 points
Assignment #1	50 points
Assignment #2.....	100 points
Assignment #3.....	<u>110 points</u>
TOTAL:	400 points

A+=400+ points
B+=335-349 points
C=275-299 points

A=375-400 points
B=315-334 points
F=275 points or below

A- =350-374 points
B- =300-314 points

Professional Dispositions

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions always.

See: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/students/policies-procedures/>

Tentative Class Schedule**

[Notes: Other than chapters from the Lalor text, all readings and videos [to be viewed] can be found on Blackboard[Bb]]

Week	Topic/Activities	Essential Questions	Assignments/ Reading
Session 1 January 18 Synchronous	Unit 1 L1: Introduction—the Course in Miniature	Accessing prior knowledge. What is the definition of curriculum? What is the purpose of curriculum & what is its function in schools and schooling?	Always refer to Units and Lessons <i>Discussion Board submission</i>

Session 2 January 25 Asynchronous	Unit 1 L2: The Taught & Hidden Curriculum		Journal Submission (choose one)
Session 3 February 1 Asynchronous	Unit 1 L3: The Written Curriculum	What are the main philosophies / ideologies of curriculum? What does/should a curriculum guide look like?	Discussion Board submission
Session 4 February 8 <i>Face-to-face/</i> Asynchronous	Unit 1 L4: The Tested Curriculum	What is the tested curriculum? What social issues affect curriculum development? What does curriculum development look like as a result?	Journal Submission
Session 5 February 15 Asynchronous	Unit 1 L5: Conceptual Frameworks (Understanding by Design & Curriculum)	NCLB or UBD or....?	Assignment #1 Due
Session 6 February 22 Asynchronous	Unit 2 – Introduction L6: Curriculum Evaluation	Who is best suited to evaluate curriculum?	Discussion Board submission
Session 7 March 1 Asynchronous	Unit 2 L7: Curriculum Alignment	Why align the curriculum? What are the obstacles?	Journal Submission
Session 8 March 8 <i>Face-to-face/</i> Synchronous	Unit 2 L8: Curriculum Development & Professional Development	How can instructional leaders provide effective professional development to their faculty? Who should write the curriculum? Class Workshop for Assignment #2	Journal Submission/ Discussion Board
Session 9 March 15 Asynchronous	Unit 3: Introduction L10: History of Curriculum	What is the history of curriculum development? What curriculum lessons have we learned from history?	Assignment #2 due to VIA Discussion Board

Session 10 March 22 Asynchronous	Unit 3 L11: Philosophies of Curriculum	What are the key curriculum issues facing school leaders today?	Journal Submission
Session 11 March 29 <i>Face-to-face/</i> Synchronous	Unit 3 L12: Socially of Curriculum		Journal Submission
Session 12 April 5 Asynchronous	L12: Politics of Curriculum		Journal Submission
April 11 - 15	SPRING BREAK	Why am I so tired?	Sleep in everyday
Session 13 April 19 <i>Face-to-face/</i> Synchronous			Course wrap up. Assignment #3 due to VIA.

****Syllabi created in a learner vacuum are by nature, imperfect****

A make-up session [or 'E' Learning Class] will be scheduled, if needed, to replace any session that is cancelled due to weather conditions.

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).

- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <https://ds.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be silenced during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to VIA should be directed to viahelp@gmu.edu or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/assessments>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>.
- **For information on student support resources on campus, see** <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>
- As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <https://cehd.gmu.edu/>.