

EDL 664
Seminar V: School Leader as Change Agent

Credit hours: 5

Prerequisites: EDL 663

Course Description

School improvement will be explored with particular emphasis placed on the importance of change, action research, data analysis, and risk taking.

Conceptual Framework

Southeastern Louisiana University
College of Education and Human Development
Conceptual Framework

The COEHD's Conceptual Framework provides direction for the development of effective professionals. It is a living document that continuously evolves as opportunities and challenges emerge. All aspects of this course are aligned with the Conceptual Framework, including the course objectives, field experiences and assessments. The four components of the Conceptual Framework are the institutional standards used for candidate assessment in undergraduate and graduate programs. They are Knowledge of Learner (KL), Strategies and Methods (SM), Content Knowledge (CK), and Professional Standards (PS). Diversity (DV) and Technology (TY).

The following is the link to the conceptual framework on the COEHD website:

http://www.selu.edu/acad_research/colleges/edu_hd/about/conceptual_framework/

Course Objectives

1. Lead change by facilitating school-based research and using research findings to plan school improvement initiatives, pace the implementation of these changes, and evaluate their impact on teaching and learning (KL, CK, SM, D)
2. Choose one area in which a school or district is undergoing change and determine:
a) how is this change affecting the players, b) what criticism or obstacles to change are evident, and, c) how are these obstacles being handled? Outline a plan of action for gaining internal and external support (SM, PS, D)
3. Lead the faculty through the change process by selecting one strategy in the school improvement plan for implementation, and design an action research project to determine the effectiveness of this strategy (KL, CK, PS, T)
4. Choose a new classroom method learned either individually or collectively by staff members and create and Action Research Proposal (KL, CK, SM, D)
5. Determine resources need related to school improvement, and write a grant and submit it to secure the funds to meet the need (KL, CK, SM, D)
6. Foster the genuine, continuous involvement, and commitment of the school community in promoting the progress of all students toward attaining high standards (KL, CK, SM, D)
7. Assess the overall impact of professional development on the improvement of teaching and student learning (KL, CK, PS, T, D)

8. Be a critical consumer of research and be able to interpret and apply current research within the educational setting (KL, CK, SM, T, D)
9. Apply appropriate data analytic tools such as SPSS so as to facilitate the solving of research problems (CK, SM, T)
10. Conduct discrete quantitative or qualitative analysis and of research problem(s) (CK, SM, T) and
11. Make ethical decisions for improving the school program (KL, CK, SM, and D).

Diversity

Students will be prepared to function in a diverse environment and/or community.

Technology

Students will be prepared to utilize technology in their professional environment or practice.

Methodologies

Teaching strategies may include, but is not limited to discussions, lecture, demonstrations, group work, field experiences, and on-line instruction. Course content will be drawn from theory and research, from student experiences, and from discussions in and out of class sessions.

Field Experiences

Field experiences are required in this course in order to meet the course objectives.

Course Assessment/Evaluation Method

Students will be evaluated through a combination of methods including, but not limited to written examinations, practical examinations, projects, and class participation. Each instructor reserves the right to establish additional methods of assessment.

Unit (COEHD) Assessment

An Action Research Proposal will be placed in the student's Capstone Portfolio on PASS-PORT, the unit's required electronic portfolio system. The Capstone Portfolio must also contain one example field experience and professional development that was completed during EDL 664 or 665.