



ED_AD 588
Law and Education
 3 Credits

NELP Standards & CCDEI+ Standards/Components

Syllabus Topics	Course Learning Objective	NELP	CCDEI+	ASSESSMENT METHOD/Template
Sources of law and Compulsory Education	Knowledge of the hierarchy and sources of law, and the means that the legal system uses in resolving disputes.	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 6.3	4	Diagram the sources of law, court system with a compulsory education case. Rubric & Response Template A
Torts	Recognize legal problems that arise in public education and be able to make thoughtful, well-reasoned responses.	6.3, 2.2	4	Journal Entries/Vocab List. Describe situations that could have been a tort claim, if not handled appropriately Rubric & Response Template B
Torts and FERPA	Recognize legal problems in existing school policies and procedures and recommend changes to comply with basic legal requirements.	2.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 6.3	3	Journal Entries/Vocab List. Complete an analysis of the district's FERPA policy and procedure. Rubric & Response Template C & D
Curriculum and Religion	Articulate the rationale for legally required actions to students, parents, and colleagues.	6.3	1, 3	Journal Entries/Vocab list. Complete an analysis of the district's curriculum and religion policies and procedures. Rubric & Response Template E & F
Free Speech	Demonstrate knowledge of legal issues confronting professional educators and administrators.	2.1, 2.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3	1, 3	Journal Entries/Vocab. list. Oral Presentation on the major speech cases, including social media speech. Rubric & Response Template G
Student Discipline	Analyze the values underlying legal requirements applicable to schools.	5.1	1, 3, 4	Journal Entries/Vocab. list. Analysis of the case law on discipline.

				Analysis of the district's discipline grid. Rubric & Response Templates H & I
Integration and Equal Opportunity	Demonstrate knowledge of legal issues confronting professional educators and administrators.	3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 5.1	1, 2, 3, 4	Journal Entries/Vocab. list. Paper on the progression through the equal opportunity major cases. Written response to case study of three ways issues currently arise. Rubric & Response Template M
Sexual Harassment Recognition and Prevention	Demonstrate knowledge of legal issues confronting professional educators and administrators.	7.2, 7.3, 7.4	1, 2, 3, 4	Journal Entries/Vocab list. Interview of administrator on sexual harassment incidents, and the most common forms. Rubric & Response Template N
Educating Students with Disabilities	Make recommendations for administrative and legislative requirements affecting schools.	6.3, 7.1		Journal Entries/Vocab list. Review district SE policy and procedure and for each section identify administrator role. Write outline of administrator's role. Rubric & Response Templates J & K
Teacher Rights	Demonstrate knowledge of legal issues confronting professional educators and administrators.	7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4	1, 2, 3	Journal Entries/Vocab. list. Review of VEA contract. Outline 5 key areas administrator should be aware of regarding teacher rights. Rubric & Response Templates L

Common Course Readings

Blokhuis, J., Feldman, J., Imber, M., & van Geel. (2020). *A teacher's guide to education law*, Routledge, New York, NY.

Related Field Components

Review of district legal policy and procedure, interviews, analysis of district curriculum and discipline policy and procedure, analysis, research, and response to current critical school leadership issues.

Common Course Assessment Tasks

Course assessments are presented in full below. Rubrics can be accessed via the hyperlinks provided.

Sources of Law and Compulsory Education

Identify 4 agencies important to public education (not including the Department of Education). Using the agency website for each identified agency and your district's policies, draw conclusions about the connections the agency has to public education. Share your findings by completing and uploading the template found in **Rubric & Response Template A**.

Interview two administrators, asking 1) what legal issue he/she has recently encountered, 2) the most common legal issue he/she encounters, 3) area of school law he/she wishes had been more fully covered when in school, and 4) most rewarding aspect(s) of being an administrator. Please be ready to orally present to class.

Torts

Find two news articles about negligence in schools. You may use two different articles about the same situation, provided that the second article is a follow-up of the first article and not simply a restatement. You may select any reliable news source. Using **Rubric & Response Template B**, 1) make assumptions about administrative responsibilities in each situation, and 2) analyze the impact of the court's decision/outcome on those responsibilities in terms of the potential liability created for the school district.

Torts and FERPA

Compare sections in your district's policy on Directory information with FERPA provisions. Complete Task as described in **Rubric & Response Template C**, identifying the liability and political implications in FERPA.

Review your district's policy and procedure for internet use by students. Given the current discussion regarding AI use for learning and instruction. This article may be helpful to generate ideas for improving your district policy and procedure: [Artificial Intelligence in Education](#) How could the policy/procedure be amended/rewritten/enhanced to maintain learning integrity? **See Rubric & Response Template D.**

Curriculum and Religion

Based on your assigned reading, list the factors to consider in determining whether a student's religious activity is permissible. Also, list the factors to consider determining whether a student's religious activity is impermissible. See **Rubric & Response Template E.**

Compare the facts that each Justice cites regarding the actions of both Kennedy and the district. Prepare a summary consistent with the **Rubric & Response Template F.** Come to class prepared to discuss/compare and debate.

Student Discipline

Find the following opinions on-line and work with your partner (assigned in class) to answer the following questions and prepare a 20-minute presentation to present in class. **See Rubric & Response Template H & I.**

[Tinker v. Des Moines](#)

[Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier](#) [Bethel School District v. Fraser](#)

[Morse v. Fredrick](#)

[Mahanoy Area School District v. B.L.](#)

Answer the following questions in your presentation:

- What events prompted the administration to act as they did?
- Based upon what you learned about student free speech, why were the students' constitutional rights violated? Be specific whose rights were violated and why.
- If the students' rights were not violated, explain why there was not a free speech violation and make specific references to the case.
- What would you have done differently if you were the administrator in the case. Be specific.
- Explain the criteria you would use to evaluate a student speech situation that arises.
- In summary, what is the lesson for administrators from this case?

For each of readings this week, identify:

- The applicable section of the WAC
- The applicable section of your district's policies and procedures
- The applicable section of the student code of conduct
- The most important facts in determining student disciplinary outcomes
- The appropriate disciplinary solution based on your district's policies and procedures
- Outline succinctly the steps you would have taken for discipline
- Outline the non-discipline you would have taken for 1) aggressor; 2) victim; 3) families of aggressor and victim; 4) school and community and 5) staff

Integration and Equal Opportunity

Explain in your own words the holding of *Brown v. Board of Education [I]* and *Brown v. Board of Education [II]*, what effect they had on education in America and what effect the decision had on your current teaching experience. Write an essay (of 500 words) arguing based on your experience in education:

- Progress has been made in educational equality
- Progress has not been made in educational equality
- Based on the Opinion of Justice Roberts, will K-12 diversity efforts be impacted; and
- What do you believe administrators' roles are in ensuring educational equality?

Use specific examples from the cases and your experiences or observations to support your arguments. See [**Rubric & Response Template M.**](#)

Sexual Harassment Recognition and Prevention

Talk to an administrator the most unusual case of sexual harassment encountered.

- Find out approximately how many incidents of sexual harassment have been reported so far this year.
- If no incidents have occurred, ask how the administrator creates a school culture to avoid harassment and discrimination based on gender. Be specific.
- Does it seem the number is increasing or decreasing?
- What are the most common forms of sexual harassment?
- Also, from the administrator and from your district's policy and procedures, determine what is the range of consequences that a harasser may face.
- Summarize your findings, along with your personal recommendations in a one-page essay entitled "Sexual Harassment 2024". See **Rubric & Response Template N**

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Educating Students with Disabilities

Watch the video, "Crip Camp" found on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/OFS8SpwioZ4>

Read the recent Supreme Court decision in Perez found at https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/22pdf/21-887_k53m.pdf

In no more than 3 double space pages, explain why the Court ruled in favor of the student in this case. Include direct references to the case and to what you viewed in "Crip Camp" to make your points, use appropriate citations. See **Rubric & Response Template J.**

Compare and Contrast components of 504, ADA, and IDEA, identify who is protected, what rights are provided, who can exercise those rights, and the legal responsibilities of school leaders. See **Rubric & Response Template K.**

Teacher Rights

Locate three articles on teacher speech rights, published within the past 3 months. Select from any reliable news source. Using **Rubric and Response Template L** make assumptions about administrative responsibilities in each situation, analyzing the impact of the court's decision on those responsibilities in terms of the potential for liability on the part of the administrator.

Related Field Components

Related field components include reviews of district legal policy and procedure, interviews, analysis of district curriculum and discipline policy and procedure, analysis, research, and response to current critical school leadership issues. Data sources will include:

- District FERPA policy and procedure
- District curriculum and religion policies and procedures
- District and school discipline policies and procedures
- District sexual harassment policies and procedures
- District special education policies and procedures
- District collective bargaining agreement