



Graduate Course Syllabus

HEA 640: Critical Issues in Student Affairs

Center: Online

Course Prerequisites

HEA 540 and HEA 550

Course Description

This course explores student development theories and court decisions related to student-institution relationship, privacy, ethics, and civil rights as they relate to critical issues addressed by the department of student affairs. Candidates will develop a program related to student affairs to address an institution's underrepresented need.

Course Outcomes

- Analyze recent federal court decisions in relationship to adult learning theory for informing student affairs decisions
- Make recommendations for communicating the impact of policy change on student success with internal stakeholders
- Evaluate an institution's ability to appropriately distribute student services resources to traditional and alternative instructional environments
- Make recommendations to internal stakeholders regarding federal regulatory civil rights requirements specific to student affairs for ensuring campus compliance and accountability
- Analyze strategies to implement institutional change for addressing an institution's underrepresented need in student affairs

Required Materials

Using your learning resources is critical to your success in this course. Please purchase directly through SNHU's online bookstore, [MBS Direct](#), rather than any other vendor. Purchasing directly from the bookstore ensures that you will obtain the correct materials and that the Help Desk, your advisor, and the instructor can provide you with support if you have problems.

A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals

William A. Kaplin, Barbara A. Lee

Jossey-Bass (Wiley)

2nd Edition

2009

ISBN: 978-0-470-43393-5

Instructor Availability and Response Time

Your class interaction with the instructor and your classmates will take place on a regular, ongoing basis. Your instructor will be actively engaged within the course throughout the week. You will normally communicate with your instructor in the weekly discussions or the General Questions discussion topic so that your questions and the instructor's answers benefit the entire class. You should feel free, however, to communicate with your instructor via SNHU email at any time, particularly when you want to discuss something of a personal or sensitive nature. Your instructor will generally provide a response within 24 hours.

Grade Distribution

Assignment Category	Number of Graded Items	Point Value per Item	Total Points
Discussions	11	30	330
Short Papers			
Module One	1	40	40
Module Three	1	35	35
Module Six	1	40	40
Module Eight	1	30	30
Final Project			
Milestones	3	75	225
Final Project Submission	1	300	300
		Total Course Points:	1,000

This course may also contain practice activities. The purpose of these non-graded activities is to assist you in mastering the learning outcomes in the graded activity items listed above.

University Grading System: Graduate

Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Points
A	93–100	4.00
A-	90–92	3.67
B+	87–89	3.33
B	83–86	3.00
B-	80–82	2.67
C+	77–79	2.33
C	73–76	2.00
F	0–72	0.00
I	Incomplete	
IF	Incomplete/Failure *	
W	Withdrawn	

* Please refer to the [policy page](#) for information on the incomplete grade process.

Grading Guides

Specific activity directions, grading guides, posting requirements, and additional deadlines can be found in the Assignment Guidelines and Rubrics section of the course.

Weekly Assignment Schedule

All reading and assignment information can be found within each module of the course. Assignments and discussion posts during the first week of each term are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. Assignments and discussion posts for the remainder of the term are due by 11:59 p.m. of the student's local time zone.

In addition to the textbook readings that are listed, there may be additional required resources within each module.

Module	Topics and Assignments
1	Higher Education Law <i>A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals</i> , Chapter 1 1-1 Final Project Review 1-2 Discussion: Higher Education: Increase of Legal Issues 1-3 Short Paper: Sources of Higher Education Laws
2	Legal Forecasting and Resolution Processes <i>A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals</i> , Chapter 2 2-1 Discussion: Contexts of Legal Liability 2-2 Final Project Milestone One: The Regulatory Change
3	Authority of Governance and Tort Liability <i>A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals</i> , Chapter 3 3-1 Discussion: Trustee Governance 3-2 Short Paper: Tort Liability
4	Rights of Postsecondary Students <i>A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals</i> , Chapter 5 4-1 Discussion: Student Legal Protections 4-2 Final Project: Begin Work
5	Supporting Students to Success <i>A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals</i> , Chapter 7 5-1 Discussion: Campus Support Services 5-2 Final Project Milestone Two: Developing the Plan
6	Changing Academic Policies <i>A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals</i> , Chapter 8 6-1 Discussion: Academic and Behavioral Standards 6-2 Short Paper: Academic Accommodations
7	Resolution Systems <i>A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals</i> , Chapter 9 7-1 Discussion: Institutional Safeguards 7-2 Final Project Milestone Three: Communicating Change

8	Associational Rights <i>A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals</i> , Chapter 11 8-1 Discussion: Organizing Rights 8-2 Short Paper: Declined Recognition
9	The Regulatory Response <i>A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals</i> , Chapter 13 9-1 Discussion: State and Local Authority 9-2 Final Project Submission: Regulatory Change Response Plan
10	Government Oversight <i>A Legal Guide for Student Affairs Professionals</i> , Chapter 14 10-1 Discussion: Federal Authority in Higher Education 10-2 Discussion: Pulling It All Together

Attendance Policy

Online students are required to submit a graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class. If a student does not submit a posting to the graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class, the student is automatically withdrawn from the course for non-participation. Review the [full attendance policy](#).

Late Assignments Policy

Meeting assigned due dates is critical for demonstrating progress and ensuring appropriate time for instructor feedback on assignments. Students are expected to submit their assignments on or before the due date. Review the [full late assignment policy](#).

SNHU College of Online and Continuing Education Student Handbook

Review the [student handbook](#).

ADA/504 Compliance Statement

Southern New Hampshire University is dedicated to providing equal access to individuals with disabilities, including intellectual disabilities, in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008. The university prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability and takes action to prevent such discrimination by providing reasonable accommodations to eligible individuals with disabilities.

As soon as you become aware of a disability, we encourage you to contact the Online Accessibility Center (OAC) to discuss accommodations for which you may be qualified. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between the student and the OAC. Note that accommodations are not retroactive and that disability accommodations are not provided until an accommodation letter has been processed.

Contact Information:

Online Accessibility Center

Phone: 866-305-9430

Email: oac@snhu.edu

For questions concerning support services, documentation guidelines, or general disability issues, visit the [Online Accessibility Center](#) website.

If you feel you have been denied appropriate disability-related accommodations, including appropriate auxiliary aids and services, you may file a grievance as described in the ADA/504 Grievance Policy found on the [Disability Services](#) webpage.

Academic Honesty Policy

Southern New Hampshire University requires all students to adhere to high standards of integrity in their academic work. Activities such as plagiarism and cheating are not condoned by the university. Review the [full academic honesty policy](#).

Copyright Policy

Southern New Hampshire University abides by the provisions of United States Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). Any person who infringes the copyright law is liable. Review the [full copyright policy](#).

SNHU College of Online and Continuing Education Withdrawal Policy

Review the [full withdrawal policy](#).

Southern New Hampshire University Policies

More information about SNHU policies can be found on the [policy page](#).

Student Work Samples

For the purpose of continuous improvement of our educational training, Southern New Hampshire University's College of Online and Continuing Education may, on occasion, utilize anonymous student work samples for internal professional development and staff training. If you have any questions or concerns, contact your advisor. If you would like to withdraw permission for use of your work, please email assessmentcalibration@snhu.edu.