



## Graduate Course Syllabus

### EDU 612: Educational Law and Ethics

Center: Online

#### Course Prerequisites

EDU 545

#### Course Description

Examine the roles of law and ethics in education and their relationship to becoming effective educational leaders. Investigate ethical decision making, aligning with laws and standards, that is critical for any educator to practice. Utilize case studies and theory to explore topics such as equality versus equity, privacy versus safety, and responsibility versus accountability.

#### Course Outcomes

- Develop a personal code of ethics statement as a basis for leadership when responding to legal and ethical challenges in learning environments
- Evaluate the impact of the external factors in the educational community on personal and professional codes of ethics
- Compare one's own personal and professional codes of ethics for their applicability to the issues of responsibility versus accountability, equality versus equity, and privacy versus safety
- Analyze how the interpretation of laws, policies, and ethical standards affect the use of data to make decisions that impact the learning community
- Apply a multiple ethical paradigm approach when making informed, ethical decisions that serve the best interests of the learning community

#### Required Materials

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

*Ethical Leadership and Decision Making in Education*

Joan P. Shapiro

Routledge

4th edition

2016

SKU #: 1945161

ISBN: 978-1-138-77626-5

**Note:** You may be required to use texts you purchase in this course for other courses. It is recommended that you keep your textbooks until the end of the program.

### **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. Instructors will post grades and feedback (as applicable) within seven days of an assignment's due date, or within seven days of a late submission.

### **Grade Distribution**

<b>Assignment Category</b>	<b>Number of Graded Items</b>	<b>Point Value per Item</b>	<b>Total Points</b>
Discussions	9	20	180
Short Papers	4	55	220
Final Project			
Milestone One	1	50	50
Milestone Two	1	70	70
Milestone Three	1	80	80
Final Project Submission	1	400	400
			<b>Total Course Points: 1,000</b>

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**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Numerical Equivalent</b>	<b>Points</b>
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

Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Points
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	Introduction to Education Law and Ethics <i>Ethical Leadership and Decision Making in Education</i> , Chapters 1 and 2 1-1 Discussion: Multiple Ethical Paradigm Approach to Ethics 1-2 Short Paper: Personal and Professional Code of Ethics 1-3 Final Project Review
2	Law and Ethical Decision Making <i>A Teacher's Guide to Education Law</i> , Chapter 1; Chapter 4, Section 4.1 2-1 Discussion: Law and Ethical Decision Making 2-2 Short Paper: Student Freedom of Expression Case Study
3	Equality Versus Equity <i>A Teacher's Guide to Education Law</i> , Chapter 6, Section 6.5 <i>Ethical Leadership and Decision Making in Education</i> , Case Study 8.3 3-1 Discussion: Equality Versus Equity 3-2 Final Project Milestone One: Case Study: Equality Versus Equity
4	Student Rights Under IDEA, ESSA, and Teacher Practices <i>A Teacher's Guide to Education Law</i> , Chapter 7 <i>Ethical Leadership and Decision Making in Education</i> , Case Study 4.5 4-1 Discussion: IDEA and Decision Making 4-2 Short Paper: There's No Place Like School Case Study

Module	Topics and Assignments
5	Safety Versus Privacy <i>A Teacher's Guide to Education Law</i> , Chapter 9 <i>Ethical Leadership and Decision Making in Education</i> , Case Study 3.5 5-1 Discussion: Safety Versus Privacy 5-2 Final Project Milestone Two: Case Study: Safety Versus Privacy
6	Title IX 6-1 Discussion: Evolution of Title IX 6-2 Short Paper: Title IX and Ethical Decision Making
7	Influence of External Factors on Ethical Decision Making 7-1 Final Project Milestone Three: Draft of Part II of Final Project
8	Responsibility Versus Accountability <i>Ethical Leadership and Decision Making in Education</i> , Case Study 9.1 8-1 Discussion: Secret Society of Test Givers Case Study
9	Reconciliation of Personal and Professional Code of Ethics <i>Ethical Leadership and Decision Making in Education</i> , Review Selected Case Study From Previous Modules 9-1 Discussion: Conflicts in Professional and Personal Codes of Ethics 9-2 Final Project Submission: Case Study Analysis and Personal and Professional Codes of Ethics 9-3 Submit Final Project to ePortfolio (Non-graded)
10	Future Application 10-1 Discussion: Future Decision Making

### 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 graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class, the student is automatically dropped 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 Student Handbook

Review the [student handbook](#).

### ADA/504 Compliance Statement

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is dedicated to providing equal access to individuals with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, as amended by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008.

SNHU prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability and takes action to prevent such discrimination by providing reasonable accommodations to eligible individuals with disabilities. The university has adopted this

policy to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints regarding any action prohibited by Section 504, the ADA, or the ADAAA.

For questions about **support services, documentation guidelines, general disability issues, or pregnancy accommodations**, please visit the [Online Accessibility Center](#) (OAC).

As a student, you must complete an interactive intake process, with supporting documentation, in order to be granted accommodations. Once reasonable accommodations are approved by the OAC, you will receive an accommodations letter. You are then responsible for sharing the letter with your instructor. Accommodations are not retroactive.

If you feel you've been subject to discrimination on the basis of disability, by any party, you may file a complaint or grievance. For more information on the ADA/504 Grievance Policy, go to the [Disability and Accessibility Services](#) website.

### **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 Withdrawal Policy**

Review the [full withdrawal policy](#).

### **Southern New Hampshire University Policies**

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