

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Education Leadership Program
Course Syllabus

EDLE 616 601 Curriculum Development & Evaluation (3 credits)
Spring 2021 (January 26, 2021 to April 20, 2021)

Instructor

Name: **Dr. William Gulgert**
Phone: **703-980-4026** (cell)
Email: wgulgert@gmu.edu
REMIND: @6833dee

Mailing Address: **George Mason University (MS 4C2), Fairfax, VA 22030**
Office Hours: **Make arrangement with professor to meet before or after class**

Schedule Information

January 26, 2021 to April 20, 2021
Tuesday, 4:45 pm - 7:45 pm

Fax #: 703-993-3643

Website: Blackboard [<http://mymsonportal.gmu.edu>]

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.

Prerequisites: EDLE 620, EDLE 690, and EDLE 791.

Course Description: Examines relationship of written, taught, and tested curriculum; and identifies critical leadership decisions that can positively impact student achievement. Identifies components of effective curriculum guides and constructs a Curriculum Design model for emerging leaders. Mini document for personal use is constructed.

Nature of Course Delivery: This course will be delivered online (100%) using a combination of synchronous and asynchronous format via Blackboard Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal. You will log in to the Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email name (everything before

@masonlive.gmu.edu) and email password. The course site will be available on January 25, 2021.

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/

Expectations

- Course Week:
Because asynchronous courses do not have a “fixed” meeting day, our week will start on Mondays, and finish on Fridays.
- 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].

***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 or Skype. 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 insure 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 of curriculum design, development and evaluation and connect all parts to ELCC standards in the design [and presentation] of a mini curriculum framework

[ii] demonstrate the ability to analyze school demographic and assessment data and use the same to create a professional development plan [PDP] to improve student performance in two critical areas

[iii] identify an emerging/controversial issue in curriculum development/evaluation and create a plan to serve as a guide for educators to fully understand it [the plan should connect best thinking/practices on the issue to 2 or 3 essential questions]

[iv] investigate the components of a well-formed BOE policy on curriculum development/evaluation and apply that knowledge to *solve* a problem either at a specific grade level or content area.

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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), 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 [2020]: Strategic Leadership (1.2), Equity, Cultural Responsiveness(3.1, 3.2), High Quality Curricula, PD, Data Literacy(4.2, 4.3)

Textbooks [required]:

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

Reference texts (optional.... purchase not required)

Jacobs, Hayes H. (2010) *Curriculum 21: Essential Education for a Changing World* Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and 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 to the re-write.

TK20 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] **Demographic Analysis of Data**, and [b] **Curriculum Design Framework**] to TK20 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 Tk20 through Blackboard. Failure to submit the assessment to Tk20 (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 Tk20 submission, the IN will convert to some F nine weeks into the following semester.

Course Requirements: You are expected to attend each class because discussion, presentations and hands-on activities are critical parts of the course. The completion of and reflection on assigned readings, **constructive participation** in discussions and group work as well as on-line communication 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:

Grading

Students can earn a total of 400 points in this course. Graded assignments account for 65% (260 points) of the overall grade, while online course participation accounts for 35% (140 points).

Participation Requirements (35% or 140 points of total grade)

To maximize learning and engagement in the online environment, students are expected to participate actively in asynchronous class discussions, asynchronous and synchronous

group activities, and serve as critical friends to other students. In this course, participation points are given by unit, rather than per learning activity. Participation points are divided into two parts:

[i] Reflections [Journals]—individual submissions [7]

[ii] Discussion Boards [4], Blogs[9]: [i] Other than the introductory short video, Discussion Board activities require group responses [plus one response to another group post]; [ii] Blogs are individual submissions—but ‘conversation’ is strongly encouraged. Below is a list of all required learning activities, by unit, which will count toward your overall participation grade. Please refer to the Course Participation Rubric for details.

Introduction [15 points]

- Video Post [Lesson 1]- [15 points]

Unit 1 [45 points]

- Journal Reflections [3] -[15points]
- Discussion Boards [1] - [10 points]
- Blogs [4] – [20 points]

Unit 2 [40 points]

- Journal Reflections[1] - [15 points]
- Discussion Boards[1]- [15 points]
- Blogs [2] – [10 points]

Unit 3 [40 points]

- Journal Reflections [3] – [15 points]
- Discussion Boards [1]- [10 points]
- Blogs [3] [15 points]

Grading Scale

A+ 400+ points

A 375 – 400

A--- 350 – 374

B+ 335 --- 349

B 315 --- 334

B--- 300 --- 314

C 275 --- 299

F Below 275 points

Professional Dispositions

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions always.

Tentative Class Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Essential Questions</u>	<u>Readings, tasks, etc.</u>	<u>Assignment Due Dates</u>
Session 1 1/26 to 2/1	Orientation Introduction to Unit 1 Lesson 1: Course in Miniature	What is the purpose of Curriculum?	Blog Discussion Board [individual]	
Session 2 2/2 to 2/8	Lesson 2: The Taught [& Hidden] Curriculum	What should be the purpose of Curriculum?	Journal Assignment #1 due	<u>Assignment #1 due</u> 2/8
Session 3 2/9 to 2/15	Lesson 3: The Written Curriculum	What is/should be the purpose of Curriculum? Which philosophies prevail in today's educational world?	Discussion Board [GROUP] Blog	
Session 4 2/16 to 2/22	Lesson 4: The Tested Curriculum Journal Blog	What is/should be the purpose of Curriculum? How are the tensions between 'functionalists' and 'conflict theorists' resolved via Curriculum change?		
Session 5 2/23 to 3/1	Lesson 5: Conceptual Frameworks—UBD & Mapping	What is/should be the purpose of Curriculum? How do 'politics' affect the development of Curriculum?	Blog Assignment #2 due	Assignment #2 due 3/1
Session 6 3/2 to 3/8	Introduction to Unit 2 Lesson 6: Curriculum Evaluation	Why select UBD as a conceptual framework?	Discussion Board [GROUP]	

Session 7 3/9 to 3/15	Lesson 7: Curriculum Alignment Blog	Are Pacing Guides the ‘master’ or ‘servant’ to the Taught Curriculum? How important is ‘The Taught Curriculum’ in the written-taught-tested tripod in schools?		
Session 8 3/16 to 3/22	Lesson 8: Curriculum Development & Professional Development	Who should write the Curriculum [and why]? How do school systems balance these interests: Sols; Pacing Guides, Programs of Study?	Journal Blog	
Session 9 3/22 to 3/29	Lesson 9: Standards-based Curriculum [Common Core]	If Testing has become an ‘end’ & a ‘means’, what role should Curriculum play?		
Session 10 3/30 to 4/5	Introduction to Unit 3 Lesson 10: Curriculum Histories	Which conceptual frameworks best join the [SOL] dots—the taught, written and tested Curriculum?	Blog	
Session 11 4/6 to 4/12	Lesson 11: Curriculum Philosophies [4]	What are the purposes & effects of Alignment? Who should evaluate the Curriculum?	Journal Blog Assignment #3 due	Assignment #3 due 4/12

Session 12 4/13 to 4/20	Lesson 12: Sociology of Curriculum Lesson 13: Politics of Curriculum	In what ways does Professional Development Support Curriculum Development? In what [curriculum] ways are Common Core different?	Discussion Board [GROUP] Blog Journal Journal	
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****Syllabi created in a learner vacuum are by nature, imperfect****

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education & 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 <http://ods.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 Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <http://coursesupport.gmu.edu/>.
- **For information on student support resources on campus, see** <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:

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/>.

Assignment #1 [50 points] (2/8/21)

**Identify critical school board policy for curriculum development and evaluation
[Individual Assignment]**

Purpose:

As educators, it is important that we have a clear understanding of the educational policies developed by our school boards, and our responsibility as educational leaders to implement them. This assignment will challenge your ability to investigate a particular policy adopted by a chosen school board and examine its impact on student learning and achievement.

Assignment:

Prepare at minimum a 6 to 8 page, double spaced *essay* that investigates one chosen school board policy and analyze its components in relation to the needs of a [i] specific grade level or [ii] content area. Candidates will conduct interviews with administrators and/or multiple stakeholders in order to gain detailed knowledge of the policy and its impact at the local school level.

School Board Policy Assessment Rubric [Assignment #1]

[Candidates understand and can anticipate and assess emerging trends and initiatives in order to adapt school-based leadership strategies. [ELCC: 6.3]

Criteria	Exceeds Expectations 90 to 100%	Meets Expectations 80 to 89%	Approaching Expectations 70 to 79%	Falls Below Expectations 0 to 69%
Includes a statement that relates to area of study [weighting 15%]	The statement is clear with adequate reference to the needs of student learners.	The statement is clear with adequate reference to learners.	The statement is vague or rambling with some reference to student learning.	No statement is included.
Connections made from School Board Policy to grade level and/or content area [weighting 45%]	Connections from School Board Policy to grade level and/or content area are clearly and concisely explained.	Connections from School Board Policy to grade level and/or content area listed.	Connections from School Board Policy to grade level and/or content area are vaguely suggested	No connections are made.
Candidates conduct interviews with an Administration or [b] Stakeholders regarding selected policy [weighting 35%]	The impact of the School Board Policy is clearly and concisely presented from multiple interviews [a and b].	The impact of the School Board Policy is presented from either interview [a] or interview [b].	The impact of the School Board Policy is discussed in general terms.	The impact of the School Board Policy is not discussed.
Spelling, grammar, mechanics [weighting 5%]	The project is error free and clearly and professionally presented	The project has no spelling errors and no more than two mechanical errors.	The project has some spelling grammar, and/or mechanical errors.	The project has multiple errors in spelling, and/or mechanics

Design of Curriculum Framework—[Assignment #2]-[100 points] (due 3.1.21)

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate—*on a smaller scale*-- knowledge of program design in curriculum as evidenced in the creation of a *problem-based* model to be used by emerging leaders in your school/school system.

As one of the middle courses in the licensure program, creating a leadership framework in Curriculum allows students [i] an opportunity to reflect on what they've learned about site-based leadership to date and [ii] what they would still like to explore. Finally, creating the framework ties all [if not most] of the major elements of EDLE 616 together, allowing students to apply what they've learned in a concrete way [theory to practice], such as aligning the program [written, taught, tested curriculum] with standards and assessments, as well as implementing the ideas of Backwards Design [UBD].

These concepts can then be applied to solving any persistent curricular problem/issue as a site-based leader. Some examples of smaller-scale, problem-based program designs in Curriculum might be: Special Education, Contemporary Issues [including Equity], Global Education, Urban Settings, Technology Integration, Leadership for ELL Students, Blended Learning, Problem-based Learning, etc.

Instructions:

Students should first explore and research existing several [at least 3] problem Curriculum programs in their school/school district, then design and construct a Curriculum Framework [in PowerPoint] to address that problem. The PowerPoint should

not exceed 25 to 30 slides, including references that are written in APA style.
Components to be included in the Curriculum Framework are listed below [see Rubric]:

Your curriculum framework should be comprised of 3 parts:

[i] Part 1 consists of the conceptual design: Philosophy/Vision, Research Rationale, Essential Questions, Knowledge, Skills, Dispositions, Connections to Standards and should be grounded in Adult Learning Theory

[ii] Part 2 comprises a Design Overview, 5 to 6 course offerings & brief descriptions, [along with course assessment[s]—formative or summative];

and [iii] Part 3 should include a UBD designed Professional Development Session [on ONE of the courses], and References written in APA style.

*it is recommended that you submit the Conceptual Design as a Draft for feedback, at least ONE week prior to submitting the Assignment.

Criteria	Levels of Achievement			
	exceeds expectations	meets expectations	approaching expectations	falls below expectations
<p>NELP 6.3 Program completers understand and demonstrate skills in supporting the district’s collective instructional and leadership capacity to address emerging school issues. Weight 20.00%</p>	90 to 100 % Proposed curriculum design model reflects [i] current best practices; [ii] emerging trends; [iii] connections to Standards; and [iv] current research on Leadership Programs.	80 to 89 % Proposed curriculum design model includes [a] emerging trends, and [b] 2 other elements listed.	70 to 79 % Proposed curriculum design model includes [a] emerging trends, and [b] 1 other element listed.	0 to 69 % Proposed curriculum design model suggests (generally) trends, best practices and current research.
<p>NELP 3.2 Program completers understand, and demonstrate the capacity to advocate and cultivate for equitable access to opportunities, resources and instructional materials. Weight 10.00%</p>	90 to 100 % Proposed curriculum design model demonstrates candidate’s superior ability to advocate for policies and programs that promote equitable learning opportunities for all students	80 to 89 % Proposed curriculum design model demonstrates candidate’s ability to advocate for policies and programs that promote equitable learning opportunities for all students	70 to 79 % Proposed curriculum design model demonstrates some capacity to advocate for policies and programs that promote equitable learning opportunities for all students	0 to 69 % The proposed model does not include evidence of the ability to advocate for policies and programs that promote equitable learning opportunities for all students

<p>NELP 1.1</p> <p>Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to design, communicate and evaluate a district mission and vision, in supporting learning for all stakeholders. Weight 10.00%</p>	<p>90 to 100 % Proposed curriculum design model includes [i] a strong mission & philosophy statement; [ii] a vision for a program of excellence; [iii] specific indicators of knowledge, skills and dispositions served; [iv] and at least 4 essential questions to guide the program.</p>	<p>80 to 89 % Proposed curriculum design model includes 3 out of the 4 elements listed.</p>	<p>70 to 79 % Proposed curriculum design model includes 2 out of the 4 elements listed.</p>	<p>0 to 69 % Proposed curriculum design model only focuses on 1 of the elements listed.</p>
<p>NELP 4.2</p> <p>Program completers understand and can demonstrate the capacity to evaluate a comprehensive, rigorous, and coherent curricular and instructional school program, that fosters digital literacy, data literacy, equity and improvement for all students. Weight 15.00%</p>	<p>90 to 100 % Proposed curriculum design model incorporates current Adult Learning theories, multiple assessment (formal & informal) models, opportunities to showcase diverse learners, and strong evidence of a backward design model[UBD].</p>	<p>80 to 89 % Proposed curriculum design model includes 3 out of the 4 elements listed.</p>	<p>70 to 79 % Proposed curriculum design model includes 2 out of the 4 elements listed.</p>	<p>0 to 69 % Proposed curriculum design model focuses only on 1 element listed.</p>

<p>NELP 4.4</p> <p>Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to design, implement & evaluate coherent [and differentiated] systems of curriculum, instruction and assessment.</p> <p>Weight 15.00%</p>	<p>90 to 100 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model reflects differentiation in the design, and a strong inquiry-based approach to learning in the entire course sequence.</p>	<p>80 to 89 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model includes evidence of 2 out of the 3 elements listed.</p>	<p>70 to 79 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model includes evidence of 1 out of the 3 elements listed.</p>	<p>0 to 69 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model only hints at generalities in all the elements listed.</p>
<p>NELP 4.1</p> <p>Program completers understand and can demonstrate the capacity to design high quality curriculum by using technologies for improved classroom instruction, student achievement and continuous school improvement.</p> <p>Weight 10.00%</p>	<p>90 to 100 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model incorporates the application of technologies in classroom instruction, student achievement, and school improvement.</p>	<p>80 to 89 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model includes 2 out of the 3 elements listed.</p>	<p>70 to 79 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model lists only one of the elements.</p>	<p>0 to 69 %</p> <p>No elements are included in the overall design.</p>
<p>Unblemished Prose.</p> <p>Weight 5.00%</p>	<p>90 to 100 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model is error free.</p>	<p>80 to 89 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model contains 1 or 2 errors.</p>	<p>70 to 79 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model contains 5 or more errors.</p>	<p>0 to 69 %</p> <p>Proposed curriculum design model is riddled with errors.</p>

**Study of Demographic Information and Assessment Data
for Improved Student Performance [30 points]—Assignment #3 [110 points] (due
4.12.21)**

Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate students' ability to analyze demographic and test data (Standards of Learning or other test results) as it relates to curriculum and/or instructional improvement. Each student will obtain the above-mentioned information from their schools and analyze strengths/weaknesses of existing SIP/Action Plans with a view to helping teachers improve student performance in **two curriculum areas**. Candidates should also include recommendations for involving school staff in the change process, including relevant (recent) research-based strategies as a part of the effort to lead school improvement.

Assignment

Prepare, at minimum, a Mini-Case Study (12 to 15 pages, including graphics) utilizing the analysis of actual demographic and test data from your school, and, after examining existing site-based SIP/Action Plans at your school, analyze the strengths and weaknesses in the SIP/Action Plans with a view to helping teachers/staff members improve student performance in the two targeted curriculum areas.

Plan of Action

1. Locate the most recent AYP/AMO data for your school.
2. Identify demographic information for your school as it relates to AYP/AMO data for NCLB sub-groups.
3. Analyze the data in two academic areas. Include a brief description of your findings and conclusions regarding curriculum/instruction deficit areas.
4. Examine and critique existing site-based "action plans" (focusing on strengths and weaknesses) that target the two curriculum areas you selected for improving student achievement. Discuss with colleagues in your school why this problem exists [and why it persists] and probable causes for action plan strengths/weaknesses.
5. Locate 3 current research-based strategies (recent) that would help [i] target the identified deficit areas, and [ii] strengthen (and improve) the delivery of curriculum/instruction to improve future student performance in those areas.
6. Finally, make recommendations to site-based leadership on ways to involve school staff in the change process.

Criteria	Levels of Achievement			
	exceeds expectations	meets expectations	approaching expectations	falls below expectations
NELP: 3.1 Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to evaluate,	90 to 100 % Cultural diversity in the school and its community is described and analyzed (race, ethnicity, gender, age, socio-economic status,	80 to 89 % Cultural diversity in the school is described and analyzed (race, ethnicity, gender, age, socio-economic levels, English language	70 to 79 % Cultural diversity is described and analyzed, but lacks information on all 7 categories.	0 to 69 % Cultural diversity of either the school or community is analyzed, but not both.

<p>cultivate and advocate for a supportive and inclusive district culture. Weight 20.00%</p>	<p>English language learners, and special education) over at least the last three years.</p>	<p>learners, and special education) over the last three years.</p>		
<p>NELP: 4.2 Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to evaluate, design and cultivate coherent systems of support, coaching and PD that promote reflection, digital literacy, distributed leadership data literacy and equity in the pursuit of achievable school/district goals. Weight 15.00%</p>	<p>90 to 100 % Candidates provide evidence of a superior ability to collect and use data to identify school goals, assess organizational effectiveness and equity, provide support & coaching in the pursuit of achievable school goals.</p>	<p>80 to 89 % Candidates provide evidence of an adequate ability to collect and use data to identify school goals, assess organizational effectiveness, and create and implement plans to achieve school goals.</p>	<p>70 to 79 % Candidates provide evidence of some ability to collect and use data to identify school goals, assess organizational effectiveness, and create and implement plans to achieve school goals.</p>	<p>0 to 69 % Candidates do not provide evidence, or demonstrate an ability to collect and use data to identify school goals, assess organizational effectiveness, and create and implement plans to achieve school goals.</p>
<p>NELP: 1.2 Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to lead continuous and sustainable</p>	<p>90 to 100 % Candidates provide evidence of a superior ability to promote continual and sustainable school improvement through thoughtful data analysis,</p>	<p>80 to 89 % Candidates provide evidence of an adequate ability to promote continual and sustainable school improvement though data analysis,</p>	<p>70 to 79 % Candidates provide evidence of some ability to promote continual and sustainable school improvement.</p>	<p>0 to 69 % Candidates do not provide evidence or demonstrates an inability to promote continual and sustainable school improvement.</p>

<p>improvement processes that engage diverse stakeholders in data collection, diagnosis, design and evaluation. Weight 15.00%</p>	<p>diagnosis and research.</p>			
<p>NELP: 4.3 Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to analyze culturally responsive assessments & data collections, that support instructional improvement, equity & student learning. Weight 15.00%</p>	<p>90 to 100 % Current school action plan(s) are analyzed in relation to identified achievement gap areas. Instructional practices, equity, instructional programs, and assessments that support student learning in two curriculum areas are described and evaluated.</p>	<p>80 to 89 % Current school action plan(s) are analyzed in relation to identified achievement gap areas. Instructional practices and/or instructional programs, and/or assessments that support student learning in two curriculum areas are described and evaluated.</p>	<p>70 to 79 % Current school action plan(s) are analyzed in relation to identified achievement gap areas. Instructional practices, programs, and assessments are not clearly described or evaluated.</p>	<p>0 to 69 % Limited analysis provided of school action plan(s) in relation to identified achievement gap areas. Instructional practices, programs, and assessments are not addressed.</p>
<p>Spelling, grammar, mechanics. Weight 5.00%</p>	<p>90 to 100 % The project is error free and is clearly and professionally presented.</p>	<p>80 to 89 % The project has no spelling errors and no more than two mechanical errors.</p>	<p>70 to 79 % The project has some spelling, grammar and/or mechanical errors.</p>	<p>0 to 69 % The project has multiple errors in spelling and/or mechanics.</p>

