EDU 524
Educational Assessment

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Prerequisites:
Graduate Standing

Course Description:
This course is a study of evaluative techniques, including data analysis, that are employed in designing age-appropriate, standards-based instruction. The course will emphasize assessment concepts and design, data analysis, communication of student outcomes, and instructional planning based upon the interpretation of assessment results.

Rationale:
Due to increased accountability from reform efforts (No Child Left Behind, 2001; Kentucky Education Reform Act, 1990), teachers in all content areas must utilize appropriate assessment practices to enhance teaching and student learning. Teachers must be proficient in analyzing student performance on local, state, and national assessments and subsequently design instruction based upon those results.

Course Topics:
Designing Instruction and Assessment
Developmentally Appropriate Practices
Understanding Content of Kentucky Standards
Use of Technology to Promote Academic Thinking and Discussion
Research Based Strategies and Methods
Collaboration with Colleagues

Kentucky Teacher Standards for Preparation & Certification
Standard 2: Demonstrates Knowledge of Content
Standard 3: Designs/Plans Instruction
Standard 6: Assesses and Communicates Learning Results
Standard 10: Demonstrates Implementation of Technology

Instructional Models:
Concepts will be introduced using a variety of teaching approaches including lecture, online learning experiences, and distance learning.

Special Needs Accommodation:
In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services in DUC A-200 of the Student Success Center in Downing University Center. Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

Required Textbook:
Nitko, A. & Brookhart, S. (2007). *Educational Assessment of Students* (5th ed.). Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Communication:
Required: Students **MUST** have access to Blackboard to participate in this course. The majority of the course content, communication with the instructor and other class members, and the ability to complete and submit course requirements will be conducted via Blackboard. Students must utilize the WKU email account provided by the university to receive communication from the instructor.

Evaluation and Grade Assignment:
- Projects, assignments, quizzes, discussion boards, and any online requirement must be completed and uploaded no later than 8:00 AM on the date due. There will be a 10% grade reduction for each day the assignment is late.
- After three days, late assignments will not be accepted.

- If you do not agree with a grade on an assignment, you may schedule an appointment to discuss the grade with the instructor. You have the responsibility to prove why the grade should be changed; however, the instructor reserves the right to mark any oversights. Grades for papers returned to students will not be changed after three days.
- Problems with due dates and exams must be discussed with the instructor prior to the due date.
- Plagiarism will not be accepted and will be given a grade of 0, and the student may face further disciplinary action according to university policy. **Student work will be checked using plagiarism detection software.**

Electronic Portfolio and Critical Performance

If you are not registered on the electronic portfolio website, you must do so to upload the critical performance. The web address for the electronic portfolio system is: **http://edtech2.wku.edu/portfolio**/

The assignment must be typed in Microsoft Word or Word Perfect to be uploaded. Microsoft Works will **not** upload to the university's electronic portfolio.
An X will be assigned as a final grade until the upload is completed. Once the assignment upload is completed by students receiving the X, the student is then required to complete an official Change of Grade form. This form can be obtained from the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. The student will complete the Change of Grade form and then submit it to the Instructor who will sign it and forward it to the Department Head for final approval. At that point the form will be sent to the Office of Registrar. To avoid this complicated and time consuming process, take care of your Critical Performance upload promptly and efficiently!

Grade Reporting:

Students will be required to check Blackboard for posting of grades throughout the term. Student inquiries regarding grades must be addressed through a requested meeting with the instructor. No discussions of point deductions (i.e., grades) will take place via e-mail. However, students are encouraged to report any computational errors or posting errors in graded work to the instructor immediately.

Assignment Submission:

- All assignments must be completed using a word processor. APA guidelines will be used for all assignments. All work submitted by students must follow the assignment guidelines or it will not be accepted. Points will be deducted for spelling, typographic, and grammatical errors.
- The student should keep a copy of all assignments. In the event that an assignment is misplaced, lost, or the instructor is unable to open the document when uploaded to Blackboard, the burden of proof that the assignment was completed rests with the student.
- All assignments will be submitted online via Blackboard.
- Any student found cheating or copying from another student's work, or found to have plagiarized from other material (or using any materials for an assignment not completed by that student) will receive a grade of 0 for the assignment in question, and may face further disciplinary action according to university policy. **Student work will be checked using plagiarism detection software.**
- A grade of "X" (incomplete) is given only when a relatively small amount of work is not completed because of illness or other reason satisfactory to the professor.

Evaluation and Grade Assignment:

Grading in EDU 524 is based on a point system. It is possible to earn a maximum of 400 points. The total point accumulation determines the final grade.

ELED 544 Grading Scale		
Grade	Percentage	Points
A	93 – 100%	370-400
B	84 – 92%	334-369
C	72 – 83%	286-333
D	60 –71%	238-285
F	59% or below	237 or below

Tentative Point Values	
May be adapted by the instructor as needed	
Student Homepage	10 points
Getting to Know You Discussion Board	10 points
Discussion Board	2 entries at 50 points each =100 points
Chapter Quizzes	3 quizzes at 20 points each = 60 points
Extended Learning Tasks	4 tasks; Task A & B 10 points each = 20 points; Task C = 20 points; Task D = 35 Total points for Extended Learning Tasks = 75 points
Critical Performance: School Improvement Plan Project	75 points
Final Exam: Online Assessment	50 points
Professionalism	20 points
Total Points	**400 points**

Assignment Synopses

Through directions and scoring guides posted on Blackboard, the instructor will make more information about assignments available. All assignments are subject to revision at instructor's discretion.

1. **Textbook and PowerPoint Reading**
   The student will read assigned textbook chapters and the posted PowerPoints related to the chapters **prior** to the date indicated on the tentative schedule.

2. **Student Homepage Assignment:**
   The student will complete a Homepage on Blackboard. More information included on the assignment prompt and scoring guide.

3. **Getting to Know You Assignment:**
   The student will complete an introductory activity using the Student Homepages for information.

4. **Online Discussion Board:**
   An important part of this online course is the participation in the discussion boards. The prompts are posted on Blackboard in the Discussion Board section. The professional guidelines for participation in a discussion board are posted in Course Documents. Students are expected to be a part of the online learning community and to exhibit the highest level of professionalism in this arena of learning. Due dates are posted on the course calendar.

5. **Quizzes:**
   The student will complete quizzes on selected chapters. The quiz can be accessed from the Assignment section of Blackboard and the grades can be checked via Blackboard gradebook. Students are to work independently on the quizzes. Due dates are posted on the course calendar.

6. **Extended Learning Tasks:**
   The student will complete extended learning tasks associated with educational assessment content. Directions for these tasks can be found in course documents and on the Assignment page of Blackboard.

7. **Critical Performance: School Improvement Plan Project:**
   This is a Graduate Critical Performance and is to be uploaded to the student's electronic portfolio.
   The student will complete a two-year school improvement plan based on the selected schools Comprehensive School Improvement Plan, CATS assessment results, and other any other related data.

8. **Final Exam: Online Test**

The student will complete an online test over the content included in the powerpoint slides and the textbook readings. A study guide will be posted to aid in the test review.

9. **Professionalism/Attendance/Participation:**
    Twenty points may be earned for professionalism and attendance. The amount of professionalism/ participation points earned will depend upon the following standards being met:

    > Due dates will be observed. Posting assignments late or not at all will result in a loss of professionalism points as well as a loss of points for the specific assignment. The student is to post only original work and is expected to work independently on discussion boards and quizzes during the online course. Failure to abide by these guidelines could result in dismissal from the course or other penalties as per university policy. Respect for the view of each member of the learning community and the use of professional standards when communicating with the instructor or other class members is expected and will be adhered to throughout participation in this online course. The student will make every effort to be a contributing member of the EDU 524 online learning community in order to experience optimal educational and professional growth. See Course Documents for a listing of the online professional guidelines and scoring guide.

EDU 524 Cybercafé

The EDU 524 Cybercafé is a discussion board forum created for online conversations between the instructor and student or among students. You may begin a thread in the forum focusing on the educational topic of your choice, you may ask the instructor a question about the course or an assignment, or you may use this as a place to post creative or interesting news that may be of interest to others. This is the type of discussion that may occur at the beginning or end of a face-to-face class meeting. There are no points associated with this discussion board; however, professionalism is expected just as in other discussion boards or course assignments. <u>If you wish the instructor to respond to a question, please send an email requesting the instructor to check the cafe' DB for the question</u>.

EDU 524 Concentration of Kentucky Teacher Standards for Preparation & Certification

Standard 1:
Demonstrates Knowledge of Content
The teacher demonstrates content knowledge within own discipline(s) and in application(s) to other disciplines.

Standard 2:
Designs/Plans Instruction
The teacher designs/plans instruction that develops student abilities to use communication skills, apply core concepts, become self-sufficient individuals, become responsible team members, think and solve problems, and integrate knowledge.

Standard 5:
Assesses and Communicates Learning Results
The teacher assesses learning and communicates results to students and others with respect to student abilities to use communication skills, apply core concepts, become self-sufficient individuals, become responsible team members, think and solve problems, and integrate knowledge.

Standard 6:
Demonstrates Implementation of Technology
The teacher uses technology to support instruction; access and manipulate data; enhance professional growth and productivity; communicate and collaborate with colleagues, parents, and the community; and conduct research.

Standard 7:
Reflects/Evaluates Teaching/Learning
The teacher reflects on and evaluates teaching/learning.

Standard 10:
Demonstrates Implementation of Technology

The teacher uses technology to support instruction; access and manipulate data; enhance professional growth and productivity; communicate and collaborate with colleagues, parents, and the community; and conduct research

Recommended Websites

Educational Assessment of Students
http://www.prenhall.com/nitko
The Nitko website allows you to access helpful information and quizzes for each textbook chapter.

No Child Left Behind
http://www.ed.gov/nclb/overview/intro/edpicks.jhtml?src=ln
This website is sponsored by the USDE and provides accurate and extensive information about this 2001 federally mandated reform act.

Kentucky Department of Education
<http://www.kde.state.ky.us/>
Find information here about Kentucky's high-stakes accountability system.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard
This site illustrates the point made in the text that the purpose of assessment is not limited to evaluating individual students. Assessment can be used to evaluate an entire nation's educational enterprise.

CTB/McGraw Hill
http://www.ctb.com/
This website contains a useful glossary of measurement terminology as well as showing you the wares of a commercial test publisher.

Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)
http://timss.bc.edu/
This site extends the text's point about assessing educational enterprises. The purpose of the TIMSS assessment is to compare different countries' academic achievement.

ERIC Clearinghouse
http://www.searchERIC.org
This site is a resource for locating tests and information about tests. Use the search engine to look up "criterion referenced testing" and "performance assessment."

Kentucky Education Association
http://www.kea.org/lessonss