WESTMINSTER COLLEGE GRADUATE PROGRAM COURSE SYLLABUS

Fall 2017

COURSE #: EAD 850: School Law

COURSE DESCRIPTION: EAD 850 School Law. An overview of the law as it applies to schools and educational leaders. Topics of study include: the Court System, the US Supreme Court and its Justices, the Constitution, case law, statutory law, religion, student rights and restrictions, individuals with disabilities, school personnel and liability, student records, educator rights and restrictions, equal opportunity.

Statement of Course Goals and Objectives
1. To acquire an understanding of the court system, statutes, case law, and legal terminology.
2. To acquire an understanding of the law as it pertains to students and the daily school operation.
3. To acquire an understanding of the law as it pertains to educators and how sound legal practices positively impact competence, excellence, and culture.
4. To acquire an understanding of the law as it pertains to liability in the areas, torts, negligence, and employment procedures.
5. To acquire an understanding of law as it pertains to equity, equal access, and discrimination.
6. To acquire an understanding the law as it pertains to safety and security.

PROFESSOR: Dr. Patrick Mannarino
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mannarpj@westminster.edu
Work Phone: 412 318 1004
Cell: 412 779 5445
Office Hours: by arrangement.

Author: Nathan L. Essex
Publisher: Pearson
ISBN: 978-0133351910
**Excerpts from other texts provided by instructor.**

*School Law and the Public Schools: A Practical Guide for Educational Leaders (5th Edition)*  
**Author:** Nathan L. Essex, Allyn & Bacon  
**Publisher:** Pearson  
**ISBN:** 978-0137072750

**MEETINGS:**  
Tuesday, 5:00-8:00 pm, October 17 - December 5th

This class will meet with a combination of online and face to face sessions during Fall Session 2 of the Westminster College Graduate School. A combination of discussions, small group interactions, readings, research, and additional relevant assignments will be used to interpret and convey the content. Students are encouraged and expected to participate in all class discussions and activities.

**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course Topic Activity/Assignment</th>
<th>Meets</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **Class 1    | **IN-CLASS ACTIVITY:**  
* Chapter 1: Legal Framework Affecting Public School Today  
* [Meet the Supremes](#) - Who are the current Supreme Court Justices  
  | **ONLINE MODULE #1 – DUE OCTOBER 24 BY 4 PM**  
* Read Chapter 2, and 3  
* Complete Discussion 1 (10 Points)  
* Scholarly Article 1 (10 Points)  
* Complete Case Study 1- Pg 48 (15 Points)  
* Drop Box Assignment 1A- Meet the Supremes (15 Points)  
* Drop Box Assignment 1B –Case Brief (Choose 1) (25 Points)  
  - Chpt 2 - pg 51  
  - Chpt 3 – pg 99 |
<p>| <strong>October 17</strong> | C3 CS4 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class 2</th>
<th>October 24</th>
<th><strong>IN-CLASS ACTIVITY:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Chapter 2: Religion and Public Schools</td>
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<td>• Chapter 3: Student Rights and Restrictions</td>
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<td>• ACTIVITY - Case Study pg 97</td>
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**ONLINE MODULE #2 – DUE OCTOBER 31 BY 4 PM**

- Read Chapter 4 and 5
- Complete Discussion 2 (10 Points)
- Scholarly Article 2 – (10 Points)
- Complete Case Study 2- Pg 122 (15 Points)
- Drop Box Assignment 2 – Case Brief (25 Points)
  (Choose 1)
    - Chpt 4 – 124
    - Chpt 5 - 154

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<tr>
<th>Class 3</th>
<th>October 31</th>
<th><strong>IN-CLASS ACTIVITY:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>• Chapter 4: National Security and School Safety</td>
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<td>• Chapter 5: Individuals with Disabilities</td>
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<td>• ACTIVITY - Case Study pg 153</td>
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**ONLINE MODULE #3 – DUE November 7 BY 4 PM**

- Read Chapter 6 and 7
- Complete Discussion 3 (10 Points)
- Scholarly Article 3 (10 Points)
- Complete Case Study 3- Pg 184 (15 Points)
- Drop Box Assignment 3 – Case Brief (25 Points)
  (Choose 1)
    - Chpt 6 – 186
    - Chpt 7 - 202

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<tr>
<th>Class 4</th>
<th>November 7</th>
<th><strong>IN-CLASS ACTIVITY:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Chapter 6: School Personnel and Liability</td>
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<td>• Chapter 7: Liability and Student Records</td>
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<td>• ACTIVITY - Case Study pg 200</td>
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**ONLINE MODULE #4 – DUE November 14 BY 4 PM**

- Read Chapter 8, and 9
- Complete Discussion 4 (10 Points)
- Scholarly Article 4 (10 Points)
- Complete Case Study 4- Pg 219 (15 Points)
- Drop Box Assignment 4 – Case Brief (25 Points)
  (Choose 1)
    - Chpt 8 – 222
    - Chpt 9 - 245
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class 5</th>
<th>November 14</th>
<th>IN-CLASS ACTIVITY:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>• Chapter 8: School Personnel and Liability</td>
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<td>• Chapter 9: Liability and Student Records</td>
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<td>• ACTIVITY - Case Study pg 243</td>
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**ONLINE MODULE #5 – DUE November 21 BY 4 PM**

- Read Chapter 10, and 11
- Complete Discussion 5 (10 Points)
- Scholarly Article 5 (10 Points)
- Complete Case Study 5 - Pg 279 (15 Points)
- Drop Box Assignment 5 –Case Brief (25 Points)
  (Choose 1)
  - Chpt 10 – 282
  - Chpt 11 - 314

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<tr>
<th>Class 6</th>
<th>November 21</th>
<th>IN-CLASS ACTIVITY:</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>• Chapter 10: Recruitment, Tenure, ...Due Process</td>
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<td>• Chapter 11: Instructional Program &amp; School Attendance</td>
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**ONLINE MODULE #6 – DUE November 28 BY 4 PM**

- Read Chapter 12, and 13
- Complete Discussion 6 (10 Points)
- Scholarly Article 6 (10 Points)
- Complete Case Study 6 - Pg 328 (15 Points)
- Drop Box Assignment 6 –Case Brief (25 Points)
  (Choose 1)
  - Chpt 12 – 328
  - Chpt 13 - 338

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<tr>
<th>Class 7</th>
<th>November 28</th>
<th>IN-CLASS ACTIVITY:</th>
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<td>• Chapter 12: Recruitment, Tenure, ...Due Process</td>
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<td>• Chapter 13: Instructional Program &amp; School Attendance</td>
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**ONLINE MODULE #7 – DUE December 5 BY 4 PM**

- COMPLETE FINAL EXAM

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class 8</th>
<th>December 5</th>
<th><strong>NO CLASS MEETING</strong></th>
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<tr>
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<td>COMPLETE FINAL EXAM AND SUBMIT IN THE ONLINE MODULE #7</td>
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<td>• Final Exam (125 points)</td>
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Expectations for the Course: Students should act like aspiring principals with regard to professionalism, responsibility, accountability, and constructive feedback. Students are expected to attend all classes and be on time. Assignments are expected to be completed in a professional and thorough manner commensurate with a graduate level course. Written assignments should be representative of work that could be shared with the principal’s professional staff.

Academic Integrity: See pages 8-11 of 2014-15 Westminster College Graduate Catalog

Course Requirements:
Class Preparation and Participation: Participation means being prepared for each class with respect to readings, written, and oral assignments/presentations. Active and meaningful participation is demonstrated through thoughtful contributions to the class discussion, respectful interaction, and evidence that the student has read and comprehended the assigned work. Active and meaningful participation is an important part of the student grade and will make the student’s learning experience and the learning experience of the class more rich and enjoyable.

Writing Responses and Class Presentations: Students will be required to submit various written assignments. Writing should: be intellectually reflective, clear, concise yet thorough, cite research or theory where applicable to support points, and be representative of professionally appropriate language and style. If there are technical difficulties in posting on Desire2Learn, students are required to email the instructor with completed assignments.

Exams: Several exams on the assigned readings will be issued which will vary in format from True/False to matching and completion.

PA Leadership Standards as identified in your syllabus:
Core Standards (C)
I. Knowledge and skills to think and plan strategically creating an organizational vision around personalized student success.
II. An understanding of standards-based systems theory and design and the ability to transfer that knowledge to the leader’s job as an architect of standards based reform in the school.
III. The ability to access and use appropriate data to inform decision-making at all levels of the system.

Corollary Standards (CS)
I. Creating a culture of teaching and learning with an emphasis on learning.
II. Managing resources for effective results.
III. Collaborating, communicating, engaging and empowering others inside and outside the organization to pursue excellence in learning.
IV. Operating in a fair and equitable manner with personal and professional integrity.
V. Advocating for children and public education in the larger political, social, economic, legal and cultural context.
VI. Supporting professional growth of self and others through practice and inquiry.