

Cases in Higher Education
ED3225 / 3 q.h.
Fall 2008
Syllabus

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Course Description: Cases in Higher Education provides students with the opportunity to learn best practices by examining actual institutional successes and failures, as well as understanding the broad issues affecting higher education in the 21st century. It is also an opportunity to test your own strategy and operational decision-making as we review readings and make decisions within the context of the issues.

Course Methodology: There are no right or wrong answers in case and article discussion -- although there may be some ethically gray areas that we will discuss. Therefore, this course will be different from many others as the reading will be a series of articles and the expectation that students will add additional readings throughout the course. Additionally, this course will not be 'taught' in the lecture format. It is the application of the material that is at the core of our learning for the next few weeks. Class discussion will be the major part of the overall grade as will the ability to write cogently and concisely on a specified topic. As we only have four weeks of class time, it is critical that everyone not only writes on time but also be able to offer significant contributions to discussions.

Note: To be able to contribute and gain the maximum learning from this course, a student must have taken one or more courses toward the M.Ed. and/or worked in a higher education institution for one or more years. If you do not meet either of these criteria, please email me.

Course Learning Objectives:

- To become facile in a variety of case settings where there will be different and often opposing points of view, rational and irrational reactions to the situation, and, in the midst of this dissonance, the need to develop a strategy towards some kind of outcome.
- To review, on one's own, materials on leadership and administrative behavior and to begin to develop one's own leadership style or styles.
- To further understand the complexity of higher education both as an enterprise and as a public good.
- To synthesize and analyze material into written assignments on a tight deadline.

Text and Materials: see each weekly assignment below – there is no textbook for the class. Readings are fluid, with assigned base readings and expectations of additional research.

Compliance with Academic Policies: All participants are expected to comply with all University and SPCS academic and conduct policies as described in the student handbook, NU or SPCS Web site, or in this course syllabus. This particularly includes the academic honesty policy and the

University Acceptable Use Policy (computers).

Grading and assignments:

1. Four Primary Papers _ One due week 1, 2, 4, 5 (40%) – .

2. Develop Your Own Case – Research topic of your or your team’s choice (yes you can do an online team assignment). Topic decision required via discussion board by end of week two. Online progress draft of assignment given on discussion board with group feedback by end of third week. Draft (10 %)

Final Presentation to Class In Week Six – minimum finished product is 5 pages single spaced, 5 page powerpoint, and posting to discussion board with feedback and questions answered by due date in last week. (30%).

3. Weekly online discussions (20%). These will be feedback and questions regarding topics from the week or be based on a primary paper.

The assignments: Information on the assignments is included in the weekly outline.

Please note. There will be no extensions. They are due when noted in the syllabus. Late papers will be marked down a full grade (i.e. an A paper becomes a B, etc.). No exceptions.

Further note: Additional cases or materials may be added but you will have sufficient time to read and prepare from them.

Date	Case Discussion	Assignment
Week One- A look at Diversity on campus	Readings will focus on topics including Gender and identity, race and college success, and male graduation rates	Case assignment from readings
Week Two- Three	Work on developing your own case study- and short assignments on technology and learning styles	
Week 4- Remedial Courses and grad Rates	We will be discussing readings on the affect of remedial courses on student success, and the challenges and positives that remedial course provide.	Questions:
Week 5 Financial Aid- Scandal and Student Loan	A look at the financial aid industry and the recent loan scandals and the affect on student aid now.	Question TBD

Industry changes		
Week 6	Final presentations – your own case presentations.	