**Course Overview**

**EDLD 8260**

**Theory & Development of Organizations**

**Summer 2022**

**Dr. Lisa Kensler**

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**Office Hours:**

By Appointment

**EFLT**

College of Education

Synchronous Zoom meetings will be held from **9am – 5pm**

on the following dates:

SUNDAY, May 22, 2020

SUNDAY, June 26, 2020

SUNDAY, July 24, 2020

**EDLD 8266/8260 Theory and Development of Organizations**

Student learning outcomes for this course are based on and extend the Class A (Master’s level) instructional leadership standards and also reflect the Class AA (specialist level) instructional standards specified by the Alabama State Department of Education. In brief, this course includes content and practical experiences related to leading and managing educational organizations. The field experience emphasizes shared leadership beyond the levels of observation and participation including: engagement in alternative ways of thinking about educational settings and approaches to teaching to accomplish learning goals for student populations with ever changing needs; and working with all stakeholders to support improved student learning.

This course is intended to go beyond EDLD 7526 Leadership for the Learning Organization (Class A, Master’s level course) and expand students’ capacity to analyze, design, and lead change initiatives within educational organizations. Students will study both a leading conceptual framework for organizations (Bolman & Deal’s Four Frames) and current research published in educational leadership scholarly journals. Translating theory to practice demands a deep understanding of theory as well as current organizational conditions and needs and this course aims to develop both. EDLD 8260/8266 will develop both the students’ ability to analyze and understand current organizational conditions and the ability to apply current theory and best practice to general problems of practice and a specific problem of practice identified within each student’s home district. All students, including distance education students, are expected to complete the field experience for this course.

**1.** **Course Number**: EDLD 8260/8266

 **Course Title**: Theory and Development of Organizations (Theory and Dev Org)

 **Credit Hours**: 3 semester hours

 **Prerequisites**: None

 **Co-requisites**: None

**2.** **Syllabus Revised**: May 2022

1. **Texts and Major Resources**:

Bolman, L. G., & Deal, T. E. (2019). *Reframing the Path to School Leadership* (3nd Ed.)*.* Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin.

Burke, W. W. (2018). *Organization Change: Theory & Practice* (5th Ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

*Find these texts at the AU Bookstore, on Amazon, or other providers. Kindle editions available and acceptable for use in this course.*

Supplementary materials, handouts, class exercises, and other reading citations/materials provided via Canvas and/or the AU Library.

1. **Course Description**: Theoretical frameworks of educational organizations for informing educational leadership practice.
2. **Student Learning Outcomes (SLO’s):** SLO’s expand the standards for Class A Instructional Leadership [290-3-3-.48 (2)(a)-(h)] as well as reflect the content standards delineated in the Class AA Instructional Leadership analysis form [290-3-3-.53-301 3(c) 5-8 OR 5-9].

Upon completion of the course objectives, the student will be able to:

1. Develop and demonstrate a systematic and critical understanding of organizational theory, change theory and research, particularly as related to education and continuously improving schools
2. Use a variety of problem-solving techniques and decision-making skills to resolve organizational problems with an emphasis on strengths-based and shared/democratic leadership approaches
3. Reflect on current organizational conditions, the organization’s vision and mission, and identify opportunities for better engaging stakeholders in developing and realizing the mission.
4. Integrate basic leadership theory and organizational theory for facilitating cultures of learning and continuous improvement in schools
5. Conduct an organizational analysis and design a plan of action to address a necessary organizational change for improving student learning outcomes specific to students’ home district/school.
6. **Course Content and Outline:**

*Please note: The readings listed for each week should be read for the week listed, unless otherwise noted. Additional readings and/or videos/activities will be required for completing each week’s check-in/discussion post. Be sure to integrate all the week’s material into your check-in responses for full credit.*

*Please Note: If there is a discrepancy between due dates listed in this document and Canvas, please FOLLOW CANVAS.*

**May 19: Week 1: (SLO A, C, E)**

**Readings:** Bolman & Deal (please read the entire book by our first Zoom session)

**Activities:** Watch the movie *School of Rock* before our first Zoom meeting. Be prepared to discuss the movie in depth. Take notes related to each of the four frames explained in Bolman & Deal readings.

**Due:** Wk 1 Check-in on Canvas

**Sunday, May 22, 9AM –** **5PM Synchronous Zoom Meeting** **(SLO A, C, E)**

Lecture and discussion introducing the course, the “Four Frames” approach to understanding organizations, and course assignments.

**Activities:**

* A Movie through the Four Frames Activity (Just be sure to have watched *School of Rock* within the past week or so. The activity will depend upon the movie being fresh in your mind. You may bring notes, if you need/want them!)
* An organizational situation through the Four Frames… Identify an organizational situation – past change initiative or major event or aspect of an organization – that you have experienced and have it in mind… We will work with it during our Zoom meeting
* If you need a Canvas orientation, please let me know

**May 26: Week 2 (SLO A, C, E)**

**Reading:** Burke, *chapters 1-4*

Bonner, M., Koch, T., & Langmeyer, D. (2004). Organizational Theory Applied to School Reform: A Critical Analysis. *School Psychology International, 25*(4), 455-471. doi: 10.1177/0143034304048779 --- This article is available electronically through the Auburn University Library. Please let me know if you are unable to access the article.

**Due:** Wk 2 Check-in on Canvas

**June 2: Week 3 (SLO A-E)**

**Reading:** Burke, *chapters 5&6*

Wegge, J., Jeppesen, H. J., Weber, W. G., Pearce, C. L., Silva, S. A., Pundt, A., . . . Piecha, A. (2010). Promoting Work Motivation in Organizations. *Journal of Personnel Psychology, 9*(4), 154-171. doi:10.1027/1866-5888/a000025

Thapa, A., Cohen, J., Guffey, S., & Higgins-D'Alessandro, A. (2013). A Review of School Climate Research. *Review of Educational Research, 83*(3), 357-385. doi:10.3102/0034654313483907

**DUE:** Wk 3 Check-in on Canvas

**DUE:** Change Initiative Agreement – completed & signed by you and your immediate supervisor – please post signed and scanned (or photographed) version to Canvas Assignments

**MONDAY, June 6: DUE:** Structural Frame Analysis (10 points) – Post to Canvas Assignments

**June 9: Week 4 (SLO C, D, E)**

**Readings:** Burke, *chapters 7, 8, & 11*

Schoen, L. T., & Teddlie, C. (2008). A new model of school culture: a response to a call for conceptual clarity. *School Effectiveness and School Improvement, 19*(2), 129-153. doi:10.1080/09243450802095278

Büschgens, T., Bausch, A., & Balkin, D. B. (2013). Organizational Culture and Innovation: A Meta-Analytic Review. *Journal of Product Innovation Management, 30*(4), 763-781. doi:10.1111/jpim.12021

**Due:** Wk 4 Check-in on Canvas

**MONDAY, June 13: DUE:** Human Resource Frame Analysis (10 points) – post to Canvas Assignments

**June 16: Week 5 (SLO A, B)**

**Readings:** Burke, *chapters 9&10*

Butcher, D., & Clarke, M. (2002). Organizational politics: The cornerstone for organizational democracy. *Organizational Dynamics, 31*(1), 35-46.

Daly, A. J., Finnigan, K. S., Jordan, S., Moolenaar, N. M., & Che, J. (2014). Misalignment and Perverse Incentives: Examining the Politics of District Leaders as Brokers in the Use of Research Evidence. *Educational Policy, 28*(2), 145-174. doi:10.1177/0895904813513149

**Due:** Week 5 Check-in on Canvas

**MONDAY, June 20: DUE:** Cultural/Symbolic Frame Analysis (10 points) – post to Canvas Assignments

**June 23: Week 6 (SLO C, D, E)**

**Readings:** Burke, *chapters 14&15*

Kensler, L. A. W. (2012). Ecology, Democracy, and Green Schools: An Integrated Framework. *Journal of School Leadership, 22*(4), 789-814. – posted in Canvas

Millar, C., Stoughton, A. M., & Ludema, J. (2012). The driving forces of sustainability. *Journal of Organizational Change Management, 25*(4), 501-517. doi:10.1108/09534811211239191

**Due:** Week 6 Check-in on Canvas

**SUNDAY, June 26 9AM –** **5PM Synchronous Zoom Meeting–** See Canvas for details.

**June 30: Week 7** **(SLO A, B)**

**Readings:**

Daly, A. J., & Finnigan, K. S. (2010). A bridge between worlds: Understanding network structure to understand change strategy. *Journal of Educational Change, 11*, 111-138. doi: 10.1007/s10833-009-9102-5

Kuo, M. (2015). How might contact with nature promote human health? Promising mechanisms and a possible central pathway. *Frontiers in psychology*, *6*, 1093.  [https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2015.01093 (Links to an external site.)](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2015.01093)

Kuo, M., Barnes, M., & Jordan, C. (2019). Do experiences with nature promote learning? Converging evidence of a cause-and-effect relationship. *Frontiers in psychology*, *10*, 305.  <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.00305>

**Due:** Week 7 Check-in on Canvas

**MONDAY, July 4: DUE:** Political Frame Analysis (10 points) – post to Canvas Assignments

**July 7: Week 8 (SLO C, D, E)**

**Readings:** Burke, *chapters 16&17*

Gurley, D. K., Peters, G. B., Collins, L., & Fifolt, M. (2014). Mission, vision, values, and goals: An exploration of key organizational statements and daily practice in schools. Journal of Educational Change, 16(2), 217-242. doi:10.1007/s10833-014-9229-x

Murphy, J., & Torre, D. (2014). Vision: Essential scaffolding. *Educational Management Administration & Leadership, 43*(2), 177-197. doi:10.1177/1741143214523017

**Due:** Week 8 Check-in on Canvas

**July 14: Week 9 (SLO A, B)**

**Readings:**

Cate, J.M., Vaughn, C.A., & O’Hair, M.J. (2006). A 17-year case study of an elementary school’s journey: From traditional school to learning community to democratic school community. *Journal of School Leadership, 16*(1), 86-111. --- This article will be available in Canvas.

Leithwood, K., Harris, A., & Hopkins, D. (2008). Seven strong claims about successful school leadership. *School Leadership and Management, 28*(1), 27-42. doi:10.1080/13632430701800060 --- This article is available on ResearchGate.net; see Canvas for link. Please let me know if you are unable to access the article.

**Due:** Week 9 Check-in

**July 21: Week 10 (SLO C, D, E)**

**Readings: None… work on your final paper.**

**Due:** Week 10 Check-in – July 28

**Sunday, July 24 9AM –** **5PM Synchronous Zoom Meeting – Making Change Happen (CHANGE GAME) –** See Canvas for details

**THURSDAY, July 28: DUE** The Change Game Strategy Analysis—post to Canvas assignments

**August 4: Final Paper DUE by 9AM:** Please post to Canvas Assignments.

**7.** **Assignments/Projects**

**See the course assessment map (Appendix) for alignment of assessments and student learning outcomes.**

**1. Field Experience**

The core instructional content of this course is anchored in a problem-based field experience with opportunities to practice shared leadership at high levels of expertise rather than observation and participation. All students, including distance education students, are expected and will be held accountable for completing the field experience.

* Problem: How might the implementation of a change initiative improve with thorough organizational analysis and the development of a clear action/implementation plan that integrates current best practices?
* Description of experience: (1) Students will meet with their immediate supervisor prior to the start of class and identify an anticipated change initiative that has not yet been implemented. This change initiative should be one that aims to directly or indirectly improve student learning. The change initiative will serve as the student’s focus for the course projects. (2) Students must communicate regularly with their supervisor about their organizational analyses and developing action plan, throughout the course. (3) Upon completion of the rough draft of the Final Paper: Reimagining Schools, the student will present and discuss the plan with their immediate supervisor. To document the collaboration with students’ supervisor, students will submit a Change Initiative Agreement signed by the supervisor and student during the first or second week of class. *In order to respect the positional leadership of the supervisor, the actual implementation of the plan will occur outside the requirements for this course.*
* ***Product of field experience - Final Paper:****Students will integrate course content into leading the development of a change initiative action plan in collaboration with his/her immediate supervisor. All students will post their Final Paper to Assignments in Canvas.*

**2. *A Movie* through the Four Frames**

Work with your Canvas group to analyze a movie through the four frames. Post to Canvas a *creative presentation* that “tells” the movie’s story through your assigned frame. Your entire presentation must be approximately 20 minutes. You will give these presentations in a face-to-face class. Be sure all group members participate in the presentation, of course!

**3. Problem Based Project Four Frames Analyses (Structural, Human Resource, Symbolic, Political)**

In preparation for your final paper, you will analyze your organizational situation, as it relates to your identified change initiative, through each of the four frames: structural, human resource, symbolic, and political. These initial analyses will help you understand the situation more clearly and provide the foundation for your proposed change and implementation plan. The Bolman & Deal text includes reflective questions for each frame that you will find very helpful! Use these questions to help focus your analysis! Each analysis should be approximately 5 pages and follow APA formatting guidelines. *Please post these analyses to Assignments in Canvas.*

PLEASE NOTE: The iceberg model as discussed in previous classes, may help you structure your analyses. Through each frame (structural, human resource, cultural/symbolic, political), what are the relevant trends (Behavior over Time Graphs)? What may be causing these trends (Causal loop diagrams)? What are possible mental models that perpetuate these patterns? I am not going to dictate that your analyses reflect the iceberg model directly. You may choose whether or not to include figures (Behavior over Time Graphs and Causal Loop Diagrams) in your discussion. The figures, if you include them, will not count toward your total pages.

**4. The Change Game Strategy Analysis**

Write a 5-7 page paper reflecting onthe various ways in which people reacted to thischange in terms of their Adopter Types and your 3-year strategy for implementing change in the simulation. Evaluate your success and briefly discuss the strengths and weaknesses of your strategy. Relate what you learned in this game to your Change Initiative.

**5. Participation**

Engaging in the course will facilitate yours and others’ learning. I will assess your participation in the course based on discussion posts and Zoom class participation. Be a thoughtful, engaged, and reflective practitioner!

1. **FINAL PAPER**

**Note: If you are a PhD student and selected to complete the Alternative Final Paper Assignment, Please submit here. Scroll down for the guiding rubric.**

In this paper, you will integrate what you learned from your Four Frame analyses with the content of this course and present a plan for organizational change. Write an a 15-20-page paper describing a new or improved initiative at your school that has the potential to improve student learning and achievement (selected in collaboration with your immediate supervisor and described in your Change Initiative Agreement). Draw from your understanding of your four frames analyses, organizational theory, the change game, and leadership theory. The paper should logically flow from a description of the need, a summary of the lessons you learned from your analyses to your suggested redesign/change and finally, to your proposed implementation plan. Be creative and grounded at the same time. Be sure to follow APA style guidelines, use descriptive section headings, and cite relevant literature. Please post this final paper to Assignments in Canvas by the due date.

Suggested outline with approximate page numbers:

1. Introduction (2-3 pages) - Set the organizational context and describe the new change initiative.
2. Lessons from the Four Frames Analyses (2-3 pages) – Summarize the most important lessons that emerged from your four frames analyses.
3. Description of your change initiative (10-15 pages) - This is the meat of your paper! Given your understanding of the organizational context and the lessons learned from your four frames analyses (just described), what is your change initiative and how should it be implemented successfully? Be sure to include a discussion of the theory/theories/research that support your rationale and provide supporting citations. In other words, this section of your paper should both describe WHAT you plan to do and WHY. The appropriate use of references is very important - They will demonstrate that you are intentionally linking theory/research to your specific practice/context. Be sure to use logical subheadings so that readers can follow your organization and logic.
4. Summary of your Action/Implementation Plan (these pages do not count towards your total) - What are the major steps, responsible parties, etc? Use an action plan template consistent with what is used in your district. If your district does not have one, select a template of your choice; you will find many by Googling ‘action plan template.’

Alternative Final Paper Guiding Rubric:

* Introduction includes a hook for engaging readers, an overview of the topic, a purpose statement, and roadmap. (5 points)
* The body of the paper is well-organized and section headings communicate the structure of the paper clearly. (5 points)
* Your argument is well constructed and supported by appropriate references (5 points)
* Paper is free from grammatical errors and follows APA guidelines (5 points)

**8.** **Grading Scale**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Points Possible**  |
| Change Initiative Agreement  | 2 |
| Problem Based Four Frames Analysis: Political Frame | 10 |
| Problem Based Four Frames Analysis: Human Resource Frame | 10 |
| Problem Based Four Frames Analysis: Structural Frame | 10 |
| Problem Based Four Frames Analysis: Symbolic Frame | 10 |
| Change Game Participation | 3 |
| The Change Game Strategy Analysis | 10 |
| Field Experience/ Final Paper | 20 |
| Online Participation (Discussion posts, 2.5 pts/per post) | 25 |
| **TOTAL POINTS** | **100** |

 Final Course Grade, Grading Scale:

 A = 92-102

 B = 82-91

 C = 72-81

 D = 62-71

 F = Below 62 Points

9. **Class Policy Statements:**

A. Attendance: EDLD 8260/8266 is a distance course with four required class meetings. Students are required to attend and participate in all of the Zoom class meetings. All students in this course are expected to engage in the online learning material and be an active presence on the Canvas discussion board. Students must meet the assignment deadlines described in the syllabus.

B. Excused absences: Students are granted excused absences (In a distance course, absences may translate into submitting late assignment/s to Canvas). Late assignment submission may be excused for the following reasons: illness of the student or serious illness of a member of the student’s immediate family, the death of a member of the student’s immediate family, trips for student organizations sponsored by an academic unit, trips for university classes, trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoena for a court appearance, and religious holidays – as detailed in the [Student Policy eHandbook](http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/) ([www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies](http://www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies)). Students who wish to have an excused absence (or submit late work) for any other reason must contact the instructor in advance of the absence to request permission. The instructor will weigh the merits of the request and render a decision. When feasible, the student must notify the instructor prior to the occurrence of any excused absences, but in no case shall such notification occur more than one week after the absence. Appropriate documentation for all excused absences is required. Please see the [Student Policy eHandbook](http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/) ([www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies](http://www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies)) for more information on excused absences.

C. Make-Up Policy: Arrangement to make up a missed major examination/assignment (e.g., hour exams, mid-term exams, major papers) due to properly authorized excused *absences must be initiated by the student within one week of the end of the period of the excused absences(s*). Except in unusual circumstances, such as the continued absence of the student or the advent of university holidays, a make-up exam will take place within two weeks of the date that the student initiates arrangements for it. Except in extraordinary circumstance, no make-up exams will be arranged during the last three days before the final exam period begins.

D. Accommodations: Students who need accommodations are asked to electronically submit their approved accommodations through AU Access and to arrange a meeting during office hours the first week of classes, or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. If you have a conflict with my office hours, an alternate time can be arranged. To set up this meeting, please contact me by e-mail. If you have not established accommodations through the Office of Accessibility, but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Office of Accessibility, 1228 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).

E. Academic Honesty Policy: All portions of the Auburn University student academic honesty code (Title XII) found in the [Student Policy eHandbook](http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/) ([www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies](http://www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies)) will apply to university courses. All academic honesty violations or alleged violations of the SGA Code of Laws will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee.

*Please note:*

* *Copying and/or pasting other individuals’ work and then presenting it as your own (intentional or unintentional) is considered plagiarism and is in direct violation of the Honesty Code. Violations of the Honesty Code may result in a zero for the assignment, a failing grade for the course, suspension and/or expulsion from the university.*
* *I expect you to produce original work for this class. You may not submit work for this class that you have previously completed for a different class. If you have any questions, please see me prior to submitting your assignment. You will receive a zero for work that too strongly resembles another course’s work.*

F. Professionalism: As faculty, staff and students interact in professional settings, they are expected to demonstrate professional behaviors as defined in the College’s conceptual framework. These professional commitments or dispositions are listed below:

* + Engage in responsible and ethical professional practices
	+ Contribute to collaborative learning communities
	+ Demonstrate a commitment to diversity
	+ Model and nurture intellectual vitality
	+ Model and nurture intellectual vitality

Additionally, the following skills, applications, and dispositions are considered important for Accomplished Educational Leaders (National Board Core Propositions from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards). We expect students fulfilling the expectations for the Ed.S. and/or AA Certification in Instructional Leadership to utilize the course learning opportunities to practice the following:

SKILLS

* Accomplished educational leaders continuously cultivate their understanding of leadership and the change process to meet high levels of performance.
* Accomplished educational leaders have a clear vision and inspire and engage stakeholders in developing and realizing the mission.
* Accomplished educational leaders manage and leverage systems and processes to achieve desired results.

APPLICATIONS

* Accomplished educational leaders act with a sense of urgency to foster a cohesive culture of learning.
* Accomplished educational leaders are committed to student and adult learners and to their development.
* Accomplished educational leaders drive, facilitate and monitor the teaching and learning process.

DISPOSITIONS

* Accomplished educational leaders model professional, ethical behavior and expect it from others.
* Accomplished educational leaders ensure equitable learning opportunities and high expectations for all.
* Accomplished educational leaders advocate on behalf of their schools, communities and profession.

Appendix

Course Assessment Map

EDLD 8400 Ethics for Leaders

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| --- | --- |
| **Course Objectives** | **Course Assessments****See #7 for descriptions of assignments/projects** |
| Class/online participation | Four Frames Analyses | Movie through the Four Frames | Field Experience & Final Paper: Reimagining Schools |
| A. Develop and demonstrate a systematic and critical understanding of organizational theory and research, particularly as related to education and improving schools  | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
|  B. Use a variety of problem-solving techniques and decision-making skills to resolve organizational problems with an emphasis on strengths-based and shared/democratic leadership approaches | **X** | **X** |  | **X** |
| C. Reflect on current organizational conditions, the organization’s vision and mission, and identify opportunities for better engaging stakeholders in developing and realizing the mission. | **X** | **X** |  | **X** |
| D. Integrate basic leadership theory and organizational theory for facilitating cultures of learning and continuous improvement in schools | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |
| E. Conduct an organizational analysis and design a plan of action to address a necessary organizational change for improving student learning outcomes specific to students’ home district/school | **X** | **X** |  | **X** |