

**Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Department  
California State University, Sacramento**

**EDD 611 - Spring 2019  
Legal Issues for Educational Leaders  
Course Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Esau Ruiz Herrera, J.D.  
Former Trustee, Alum Rock Union Elementary School District  
Former Trustee, East Side Union High School District

**Phone:** 831-424-4774

**e-mail:** EsauLawyer@gmail.com

**Catalog Course Description:**

EDD 611: Legal Issues for Educational Leaders: Study of legal issues (state and federal constitution, statutes, judicial decisions, and rules and regulations of state departments and local units of administration) that might arise in a school setting.  
UNITS: 2.0

**Course Readings and Resources:**

REQUIRED, textbook and 3 legal cases:

**A Teacher's Pocket Guide to School Law** (3rd Ed). Essex, Nathan.  
Pearson Education, Inc., New Jersey. ISBN 13-978-01333510

**Dariano v. Morgan Hill Unified School District, Lau v. Nichols, and Tinker v. Des Moines School District**

These legal cases can be found without charge at [FindLaw.com](http://FindLaw.com). A PDF copy will also be made available in advance, upon request via email to instructor.

**RESOURCES:**

Student's Own School District Board Policies & Procedures (or any public K-12 district)  
Assorted handouts provided by instructor

**SUGGESTED REFERENCES:**

California Education Code: ISBN 13-978031498610 (access available free online, FindLaw.com)

**Class Meeting Schedule, in ARC 3006:**

Friday, Jan. 18, 2019, 5:30pm - 9:30pm  
Saturday, Jan. 19, 2018, 8:00am - 5:30pm  
Friday, Feb. 1, 2019, 5:30pm - 9:30pm  
Saturday, Feb. 2, 8:00am - 5:30pm

Reading assignments to be read *before* class time; legal cases to be read prior to indicated class meeting.

Class #	Day	Date	Time	Topic
1	Fri	Jan. 18	5:30-9:30p	Review Course Syllabus and Requirements; Chpt 1: Essex- Control of Public Schools; Chpt 4: Essex- Students, Law & Public Schools;
				Chpt 5: Essex- Due Process & Student Safety; Tinker v. Des Moines School District; Dariano v. Morgan Hill Unified School District
2	Sat	Jan. 19	8am-5:30p	Chpt 5: Essex- Due Process and Student Safety; Dariano v. Morgan Hill Unified School District Chpt 6: Essex- Liability and Student Records
3	Fri	Feb. 1	5:30-9:30p	Chpt 7: Essex, Individuals with Disabilities; Due Process & Student Safety
4	Sat	Feb. 2	8am-5:30p	Chpt 2: Essex- Instruction/Curriculum Standards; Lau v. Nichols; Group debate on “Zero Tolerance” + 3 page summary essay presenting both sides of the issue
				These remaining issues may or may not arise during this course, TBD in a class discussion.  Chpt 8: Essex- The Teacher and School Liability; Chpt 10: Essex- Teacher Freedoms
				Chpt 9: Essex- Discrimination in Employment
				Chpt 11: Essex- Tenure, Dismissal, & Collective Bargaining; Beatriz Vergara, et al, v. State of CA, CA Teachers Assn, et al, brief of CSBA (handout); essay, 2-4 pgs
				Chpt 3: Essex- Religion and Public Schools; Write a 2-3 page essay informing a parent of school District Policies & Procedures related to religion in schools, where the parent wishes to support their child in having a “Christian Student Club” or a “Muslim Student Club” on campus. Include what you have witnessed in practice at your school site.

--	--	--

**Course Standards:**

- You are required to attend all classes, to read assignments prior to class, and to participate in discussions. Due to the brevity of class and its format, it is not possible to pass the course if you miss more than four hours of class time. Make-up assignments for missed classes must be arranged with the instructor.

- All written assignments must be of graduate level quality. Pay careful attention to spelling, grammar, and punctuation.
- Assignments are due during class time of the date listed on the syllabus unless the date is changed in class. All assignments must be turned in on time. The assignment may be emailed or handed to the instructor. Five points will be taken off the assignment for each day it is late.