



Course Information

Prefix & number	Title
EDST 552	School Law
Instructor	Prerequisites or restrictions (if any)
Dr. Gerald Fallon	None

Focus or Content

The education law issues of today are more diverse and complicated than ever before. Increasingly, those involved in education, whether as teachers, administrators or educational assistants, are facing new issues that are unique to the field. Participants will examine, discuss, and analyze education law issues, including those arising from student discipline, safe schools, negligence and liability, human rights, school staff rights and responsibilities, freedom of information, special education and inclusion.

Goals, Objectives or Learning Outcomes

The objective of this course is to give participants a better understanding of federal and provincial legislations and the common law as they affect the administration and practice of education in British Columbia and in the rest of Canada. More specifically, participants will be introduced to the fundamentals of the discipline of law and, while the objective is not to turn educators into lawyers. More specifically, it is expected that the course will enable participants to:

- Demonstrate a working knowledge of basic legal concepts related to their practice as an educator or as a formal school or district leader:
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze, synthesize, and extract the appropriate principles of law from legal cases, and evaluate their significance and implication for educators; and
- Demonstrate communication and research skills appropriate to the graduate level.

Assignments or Assessment Process

- A **750 words legal case brief (25%)** summarizing a case selected by the instructor.
- A **Legal case oral presentation – seminar format (35%)**
- A **2500 words term paper (40%)**

Notes/Other

Instruction will consist of a combination of lectures by the instructor and guest speakers, participant presentation of cases, and small and large group discussions of legal issues.. As a community of learners, students will share personal, professional, and collaborative queries, explorations, and expertise through group discussions and projects. Participants will need to have recourse to both the Law Library and the Faculty of Education Library for the purpose of researching and preparing their seminar presentations and final papers.