

EDEE 4800: Studies in Education Fall 2025

	Instructor Email	Office Location Office Hours
	Office Phone	

COURSE DESCRIPTION

EDEE 4800: Studies in Education is a 3-credit online course in which you will receive a *Pass/No Pass* grade at the end of the semester. You will receive support, mentorship, and guidance in the form of weekly Canvas content/communication. You will also engage in reflective practices aligned with Texas Educator Preparation Standards for Clinical Teachers. You are welcome to reach out as needed via email, phone, or office visits for guidance or advice throughout the semester regarding your clinical practice experiences or other coursework.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

- There are no required text purchases; all materials will be provided for free in Canvas.

CLASS NOTIFICATIONS

Please [enable Canvas notifications for Announcements](#) on your mobile device, and check Canvas each day for updates, information, and notifications.

Late Work: Work is considered late when it is not submitted on or before the designated due date/time. Due to the *Pass/No Pass* nature of this course, late work will **NOT** be accepted. Check In assignments are time sensitive and will not be available for you to complete/submit after midnight on the due date. You will receive a score of "Incomplete" for work that is not turned in on or before the due date.

COURSE ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION

There are 16 weeks in the semester, and there will be one (1) *Check In* assignment every two (2) weeks for a total of eight (8), and these will be graded as *Complete/Incomplete*. **You must successfully complete at least six (6) out of the eight (8) Check In assignments on time to receive a grade of Pass for this course.** There are no exceptions to this whatsoever, and yes, you may skip 2 (two) *Check Ins* if you successfully complete the remaining 6. If you do not complete this requirement, you will receive a grade of No Pass (NP) and it could potentially affect your GPA and/or your financial aid status.

GRADING

P: Pass – Student successfully completes at least six (6) out of the eight (8) assigned *Check In* assignments on or before the due date.

NP: No Pass – Student completes *less than six (6)* out of the eight (8) assigned *Check In* assignments on or before the due date.

(See next page for Course Schedule)

COURSE SCHEDULE: FALL 2025 (SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS NEEDED – CHECK CANVAS DAILY)

Week	Assignments	Due
1	Complete Student Information Survey	Wednesday, August 20th
2	Complete Week 2 Check In	Sunday, August 31st
3	Reminder: Take your Science of Teaching Reading and PPR K-12 Practice Exams if you haven't already!	Deadline for taking both practice exams: September 15th
4	Complete Week 4 Check In	Sunday, September 14th
5	Reminder: Retake Practice Exams if you did not achieve minimum scores!	Deadline for Retakes: October 20th
6	Complete Week 6 Check In	Sunday, September 28th
7	Reminder: Study/Register/Take your REAL Certification Exams!	Deadline for REAL Science of Teaching Reading: November 5th
8	Complete Week 8 Check In	Sunday, October 12th
9	Reminder: Study/Register/Take your REAL Certification Exams!	Deadline for REAL PPR EC-12: November 26th
10	Complete Week 10 Check In	Sunday, October 26th
11	Reminder: Study/Register/Take your REAL Certification Exams if you haven't already!	REAL STR: Pass before November 5th REAL PPR K-12: Pass before November 26th
12	Complete Week 12 Check In	Sunday, November 9th
13	Reminder: Study/Register/Take your REAL Certification Exams if you haven't already!	REAL PPR K-12: Pass before November 26th
14	Complete Week 14 Check In	Sunday, November 23rd
15	Thanksgiving Week - No Assignments Due	Ensure that you have taken and passed exams!
16	Complete Week 16 Check In	Sunday, December 7th

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR IN CLASS

Teachers must exhibit a high degree of professional behavior to best meet the needs of their students. As a preservice teacher, it is essential to begin practicing what will be expected of you as an in-service teacher including reliability, responsibility, flexibility, punctuality, integrity, and ability to work efficiently and productively with your colleagues. This includes engagement and participation during all learning activities, online discussion boards about content and readings, assessments and assignments, interaction/communication with peers and professors, awareness of your impact on others, and overall professional behavior.

I value the many perspectives students bring to our campus. Please work with me to create an online classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and belonging. All discussions should be respectful and civil. Although disagreements and debates are encouraged, personal attacks are unacceptable. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please stop by my office or send me a message to let me know. We are all learning together.

If you engage in unprofessional behavior including (but not limited to), lack of communication or dishonesty regarding missing work, and disrespectful/confrontational interactions with peers and professor, the instructor reserves the right to refer you to the Dean of Students for Code of Conduct violations which may result in dismissal from our program and/or the University no matter how much progress you have made towards your degree.

AI (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE) AND PLAGIARISM IN EDEE 4800

As future educators, it is completely necessary that you engage fully in the learning process throughout this course. Plagiarizing and/or using AI to complete assignments in place of your own work will seriously undermine your ability to pass your [TEXES Certification Exams](#)[Links to an external site.](#), weaken your confidence during your clinical practice experience, and ultimately compromise your ability to successfully teach your future students. If AI does the thinking for you now, it can delay or prevent your personal growth, and you will not be as prepared to make real time decisions as an educator.

If you use AI this semester in this course, I encourage you to reflect on this guiding question: ***“Am I using this tool to support my learning, or to avoid it?”*** Please establish a reasonable relationship with emerging technologies that enhances your authentic growth as a reflective, capable, and compassionate educator. While some assignments may seem to invite the use of online tools, the core expectation for our class is that **the work you submit is your own original writing**. Using the work of someone else (including AI) **without citing it** is a form of [plagiarism and is treated as such at UNT](#)[Links to an external site.](#). UNT employs AI detection software through Canvas LMS, so please be aware of this when submitting your work.

You may use AI to:

- Refine grammar and organization after drafting your own writing/responses FIRST.
- Ask follow-up questions to deepen your understanding of course concepts.
- Brainstorm ideas based upon your own thoughts and suggestions.

You may NOT use AI to:

- Write assignments, assessments, reflections, lesson plans, discussion board posts, etc.
- Generate written work without SIGNIFICANT personal input, revision, and citation of AI use.
- Fabricate personal experiences or interactions.

As your instructor, I promise to NEVER use AI to replace the deep engagement and individualized attention you each deserve from me. I strive to provide consistent, high-quality support, and I vow to read every word you write or share with me. I do not use AI to grade assignments. I will deliver customized, authentic, and meaningful feedback on your work. While I may occasionally use AI to enhance my ability to provide consistent, high-quality support so that I may serve you more efficiently, I assure you that all of my interactions with you and our class will be genuine, unique, personal, and guided by my professional judgment and ethical commitment to your success. I will also be sure to fully disclose when, how, and why I use AI in our course if I do.

A note on publicly sharing course content and material: You are not permitted to share any portion of this course publicly on any type of social media platform. Doing so will result in disciplinary action that may lead to your dismissal from this program.

TEXES EXAM PREPARATION DATES AND DEADLINES

1. Access the TExES Canvas Course

- Log in to Canvas and open the **TExES** course from your Dashboard.
- If the course is not listed on your Dashboard, email COE-TSO@unt.edu with your full name and UNT ID number to request access.
- In the Modules tab, review all Test Readiness materials and complete all policy assignments marked with the paper scroll symbol.

2. Complete the Initial Practice Exams by September 15

- Take the official practice exam for the Science of Teaching Reading and PPR EC-12 within the TExES Canvas course.
- You must score at least 70 on the multiple-choice section and 2 or higher on each constructed-response section of the STR practice exam to be approved to take the real exam. If you do not meet the required scores:
 - Review your score report to identify areas for improvement.
 - After at least 10 calendar days, email COE-TSO@unt.edu to request that your practice exam be reset.

- Continue studying and then retake the practice exam. **You must achieve the appropriate scores on a retake of the practice exams by October 20th.**

- Optional: You may choose to use 240 Tutoring instead of the Canvas-based practice exams to complete the practice exam requirements. To meet the requirement, you must score 80 or higher on a full-length practice exam for your content area. All candidates must also score a 2 or higher on the constructed-response portion of the STR. You must send a copy of your score report to COE-TSO@unt.edu for credit. Use this link to receive a discount on the monthly subscription price: <https://study.240tutoring.com/subscribe/UNT2>

3. Take the real Science of Teaching Reading Exam by **November 5th**

- Once you meet one of the following requirements for the multiple-choice section and the requirements for the constructed-response section, you will receive approval to take your real Science of Teaching Reading exam, along with registration instructions:
 - Score 70 or higher on the multiple-choice section of the Canvas practice exam
 - Score 80 or higher on the multiple-choice section of a 240 Tutoring full-length practice exam
 - 2 or higher on constructed-response section either through Canvas or 240 Tutoring
- You must register for and TAKE your real exam on or before **November 5th** in order to receive your test results prior to graduation.
- If you plan to request testing accommodations, be aware that approval can take several weeks. Review the Alternative Testing Arrangements Policy (link below) and submit your documentation as soon as you receive test approval. https://tx.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/GENRB_AlternativeArrangements.html

4. Take the real PPR EC-12 Exam by **November 26th**

- After you have scored 70 or higher on the PPR EC-12 practice exam, you will gain approval to take your real exam.
- It is important that you schedule your exams on or before November 26th in order for you to receive your scores prior to graduation.

Students who have passed all required certification exams by **November 30th** may apply for certification beginning on **December 1st**. **Do not apply early.** Instructions on how to apply for certification will be provided to you mid-semester by Elizabeth Dracobly.

****Students who have NOT passed all required certification exams by November 30th must wait until they receive their last passing score before they can apply for certification. You will use the same application instructions provided by Elizabeth Dracobly once you are ready to apply for certification.****

NOTE: This Syllabus is provided for informational purposes regarding the anticipated course content and schedule of this course. It is based upon the most recent information available on the date of its issuance; it is as accurate and complete as possible. I reserve the right to make any changes I deem necessary and/or appropriate throughout the semester.

COURSE SYLLABI REQUIREMENTS (UNT Policy 06.049)

Academic Integrity and Academic Dishonesty

Academic Integrity is defined in the UNT Policy on Student Standards for Academic Integrity. Academic Dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and sabotage. Any suspected case of Academic Dishonesty will be handled in accordance with university policy and procedures. Possible academic penalties range from a verbal or written admonition to a grade of "F" in the course. Further sanctions may apply to incidents involving major violations. The policy and procedures are available at: [Academic Integrity Policy \(PDF\)](#) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>).

AI

In this course, I want you to engage deeply with the materials and develop your own critical thinking and writing skills. For this reason, the use of Generative AI (GenAI) tools like Claude, ChatGPT, and Gemini is not permitted. While these tools can be helpful in some contexts, they do not align with our goal of fostering the development of your independent thinking. Using GenAI to complete any part of an assignment will be considered a violation of academic integrity, as it prevents the development of your own skills, and will be addressed according to the [Student Academic Integrity policy](#) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>).

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the class and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [UNT Policy 07.012 Code of Student Conduct](#).

ADA Accommodations

The University of North Texas makes reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. To request accommodations, you must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) by completing an application for services and providing documentation to verify your eligibility each semester. Once your eligibility is confirmed, you may request your letter of accommodation. ODA will then email your instructor a letter of reasonable accommodation, initiating a private discussion about your specific needs in the course. You can request accommodations at any time, but it's important to provide ODA notice to your instructor as early as possible in the semester to avoid delays in implementation. Keep in mind that you must obtain a new letter of accommodation for each semester and meet with each faculty member before accommodations can be implemented in each class. You are strongly encouraged to meet with faculty regarding your accommodations during office hours or by appointment. Faculty have the authority to ask you to discuss your letter during their designated office hours to protect your privacy. For more information and to access resources that can support your needs, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](#) website (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>).

EagleConnect

All UNT students should activate and regularly check their EagleConnect (e-mail) account. EagleConnect is used for official communication from the University to students. Many important announcements for the University and College are sent to students via EagleConnect. For information about EagleConnect, including how to activate an account and how to have EagleConnect forwarded to another e-mail address, visit <https://eagleconnect.unt.edu>. This is the main electronic contact for all course-related information and/or material.

Emergency Notifications and Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Observation of Religious Holy Days

If you plan to observe a religious holy day that coincides with a class day, please notify your instructor as soon as possible.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about students' records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy.

Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, & Assault

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. Because of Texas Senate Bill 212, as a UNT employee, I am required by law to report sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking, and crimes. I cannot keep those things confidential if you reveal any of those to me. If you need a confidential resource available on campus or in the local community then I can refer you. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT's Dean of Students' website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0. UNT's Student Advocate can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13 and 14 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey, they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

Accessibility. I expect that students in our class will have a variety of physical, mental, sensorial and emotional ways of being, learning, and engaging in a virtual classroom. I encourage you to privately discuss your specific needs with me as soon as possible in order to make the classroom and the course more accessible.

Name Change. As a UNT student, you are able to change how your name shows up on class rosters, Canvas, and MyUNT. Additionally, if your name changes at any point during the semester, please let me know and we can develop a plan to share this information with others in a way that is safe for you. Should you want to update your name, you can do so by looking at [these guidelines](#).

Food/Housing Insecurity. Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students, Suite 409 at the University Union (or by calling 940-565-2648). The UNT Food Pantry is a useful resource for students who may need it. Please visit the website for more details, or feel free to come see me about this: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/desresources/programs/food-pantry/index.html>

Social Media and Online Sharing. Sharing class ideas and learning experiences on social media allows educators opportunities to show successes, receive critical feedback, and grow with others. Students, staff, and faculty in the College of Education often use the #UNTedu hashtag for such purposes. You are welcome to share class learning experiences in this class with broader audiences via social media platforms. However, you should first secure consent from instructors and classmates before posting their ideas, images, or work online. **You may NOT capture images or record video from online or in-person meetings and share those outside our class community without consent.** Similarly, you should not post images of PK-12 students even if consent is provided through school districts as social media platforms are increasingly mined for dubious reasons including targeted harassment, facial recognition, or personal data extraction and selling. Please know I am available if you have concerns, questions, or need support in this area.

University Mental Health Services. I recognize that it is not easy to be a student. The demands for economic, intellectual, social, and emotional stability are often in competition, and it can grow weary. School is one aspect of your busy life, and while it's important to stay the course, it's also important to acknowledge when you may need more support. UNT's Counseling Center, as well as the Student Health and Wellness Center, offer support through counseling, care for your well-being and psychiatric health, workshops for socio-emotional challenges, etc. These services are confidential, and most of these services are covered by your tuition. Feel free to see me for more support on this, call 940-565-2333 and/or refer to the following website: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/student-counseling/index.html>

Educator Preparation Standards

This course promotes reflective practice within the following standards:

EC-12 Professional Pedagogy and Responsibilities (PPR) Standards

The beginning EC-12 teacher knows and understands:

Standard I

The teacher designs instruction appropriate for all students that reflects an understanding of relevant content and is based on continuous and appropriate assessment.

Standard II

The teacher creates a classroom environment of respect and rapport that fosters a positive climate for learning, equity and excellence.

Standard III

The teacher promotes student learning by providing responsive instruction that makes use of effective communication techniques, instructional strategies that actively engage students in the learning process and timely, high-quality feedback.

Standard IV

The teacher fulfills professional roles and responsibilities and adheres to legal and ethical requirements of the profession.

Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Requirements for Teacher Certification Candidates

TEA TAC Chapter 235. [Classroom Teacher Certification Standards](#)

Subchapter C. Classroom Teacher Pedagogy Standards, Early Childhood-Grade 12

§235.21. Classroom Teacher Pedagogy Standards, Early Childhood-Grade 12.

§235.21. (Standards a through f)

Instructional Preparation. Teachers understand how students learn and prepare for instructional delivery by designing lessons, evaluating instructional materials, leveraging their knowledge of students, and engaging in a thorough process for lesson internalization.

Instructional Delivery and Assessment. Teachers intentionally apply their knowledge of students and the learning process to implement high-quality instruction and assessment practices that are research and evidence-based and informed by student work.

Content Pedagogy Knowledge and Skills. Teachers show a full understanding of their content and related pedagogy, and the appropriate grade-level Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

Learning Environment. Teachers maintain a safe and supportive learning environment that is characterized by respectful interactions with students, consistent routines, high expectations, and the development of students' self-regulation skills.

Professional Practices and Responsibilities. Teachers are self-aware and consistently hold themselves to a high standard for individual development. They collaborate with other educational professionals, communicate regularly with stakeholders, maintain professional relationships, comply with federal, state, and local laws, and conduct themselves ethically and with integrity.
