

The University of South Carolina Aiken, School of Education  
Dynamics of American Education-AEDF 321 (3 credit hours)

Section Three: Monday 4:30-7:15

Instructor: Mr. William Kiesling phone: (803) 532-3649 (hm), (803) 920-9363 (cell)

Office Hours: By Appointment email: [kieslingw@bellsouth.net](mailto:kieslingw@bellsouth.net) or  
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Text: Sadker & Sadker & Zittleman, Teachers, Schools and Society, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition

Course Description: AEDF 321 offers an in depth treatment of the social, political, economic and philosophical influences critical in American public education. Financial, organizational and legal aspects will be examined along with current trends and potential future educational issues. Emphasis will be placed on the roles of a professional teacher as employee, planner, instructor, manager and communicator.

Course objectives: The student, upon completion of AEDF 321, will be able to:

1. Have a foundation for a working knowledge of what it means to become a teacher
2. Identify some historic influences on American public education
3. Identify various educational philosophies
4. Recognize the organizational structure and some of the financial and legal aspects of American education
5. Begin developing a personal philosophy of education
6. Demonstrate a knowledge of the various modern issues affecting public education
7. Have an increased awareness of the multicultural perspectives found in American education
8. Apply basic understanding of learning styles and learning theories
9. Identify effective teaching and classroom management methodologies
10. Begin preparing for the eventual employment process

Student evaluation (grading):

A minimum of four 100-point tests (includes the final)

Attendance at 1 school board meeting (minimum 2 page report) 50 points

1 classroom visit (minimum 2 page report) 100 points

Notebook of current newspaper, magazine and web articles pertaining to current education issues (minimum of 25 articles) 100 points

Interview with school administrator pertaining to what they consider critical attributes for teachers when hiring (minimum 2 pages) 50 points

Final grades will be determined by an average of test grades and assignments

All reports, and assignments should be neatly done following accepted formats. The school board meeting, classroom visit and interview reports should not just be a narrative

of activities but include your impressions, evaluations and what you learned from the experiences.

As required under the State of South Carolina Education and Economic Development Act (EEDA), USCA School of Education must address candidates on their knowledge and understanding of career awareness as defined in the personal Pathways to Success PowerPoint. Therefore, as an exit requirement for all students enrolled in AEDF 321, students must demonstrate their knowledge of career guidance, clusters of study and elements of the Career Guidance Model by passing an on-line examination with a score of at least 80%.

CLASS ATTENDANCE and CLASS PARTICIPATION will both be critical in the successful completion of AEDF 321! Active student involvement in class discussions will assist in student understanding of topics and make the class more enjoyable for all.

Written assignments need to be completed promptly, late submissions will not be accepted.

A = 93-100	B+ = 90-92	B = 83-89	C+ = 80-82
C = 73-79	D+ = 70-72	D = 63-69	F = 62 or below

#### DISABILITY STATEMENT:

If you have a physical, psychological, and/or learning disability which might affect your performance in this class, please contact the Office of Disability Services, 126A B&E, (803) 641-3609 as soon as possible. The Disability Services Office will determine appropriate accommodations based on medical documentation.