

Texas Teacher Evaluation & Support System
Education 5338

Course Syllabus

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Course Description:

An investigation of the training for appraisers in the Texas Teacher Evaluation & Support System (T-TESS) instrument developed by the Texas Education Agency. Included in the content are statutory requirements, historical development, domains, criteria indicators, and exceptional quality. Students will compete certification with an external test administered by the ESC Region 13.

Text:

Texas Education Agency (2016). *T-TESS: Texas teacher evaluation and support system*. Austin, TX: TEA.

Class Sessions:

Summer Session II 2016, Monday/Wednesday 5:00-8:45, Eagle Pass D110

Course Calendar:

July 11	Introduction Rubric/Pre-conference	July 27	Goal Setting/Timelines
July 13	Observations	Aug 1	Certification testing
July 18	Post-conference/Rating	Aug 3	Certification testing
July 20	Calibrating/Coaching	Aug 8	Certification testing
July 25	Calibrating/Domain 4	Aug 10	Conclusion

Student Expectations:

Attendance and participation: Because this is a course with State of Texas requirements, clock hours are monitored strictly. Attendance for this class must be considered a priority. **Students must attend each session.** Missed classes must be made up at the instructor's convenience. **Phones:** Please let everyone know you are attending class during this time each week, turn off your phones, and give yourself the freedom to address your full attention to this course.

State curriculum: Since T-TESS is designed as a model for providing teachers with ongoing, timely feedback and establishing a culture of continuous improvement, the recommended implementation includes annual evaluations comprised of both informal observations/walkthroughs and at least one formal observation. During this training, participants will discuss best practices for fostering open, collaborative relationships with teachers where feedback and growth are recursive, and dialogue between teachers and campus leaders will develop a strong understanding about effective instructional practices. T-TESS cultivates instructional leaders at all levels of the organization, and teachers engage in ongoing self-reflection about practices as a means of refining their craft and impacting student performance.

Fees: Because this is a state certification course, ESC Region 13 requires a **\$75 fee** to process your T-TESS certificate. This certificate is required with the AEL certificate to now conduct teacher appraisals in the state of Texas. Checks or money orders should be made out to "ESC Region 13" (not to your instructor, who would cash them and spend them frivolously); these will not be submitted until August after the T-TESS class.

No person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity sponsored by Sul Ross State University on any basis prohibited by applicable law, including, but not limited to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.