



## LILIE, LLC Course Information

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Title of Course (*45 hours*): *Education Law and its Impact on Daily Instruction*

Course Description: In this course, various aspects of school law legal issues that concern educators will be presented. Numerous landmark court cases will be explored. Emphasis will be placed on present day school law issues that impact teacher and student rights. An overview of school law will also be examined in light of its implication for daily classroom instruction.

Overall Course Objective and Expectation(s):

- to provide students with a broad understanding of what constitutes “school law”
- to have students examine numerous court case summaries of judicial decisions that illustrate various points of law
- to make students aware of important current school law issues/court cases that may impact their daily administrative or teaching tasks
- to enhance students’ appreciation and knowledge of the judicial system as it relates to educational institutions

Participants are expected to follow these guidelines during the course:

- log on four times per week and post to the discussion board re the assigned tasks for that week; the length of the postings must demonstrate planning and thoughtfulness and they must adhere to the conventions of proper grammar
- some of the postings must include reactions to peer’s postings
- the four required postings must be dispersed throughout the week
- all students must complete all assignments and the Lilie log , which is due at the end of the course; this log must reflect a minimum of 45 hours of logged course work
- students taking the course for graduate credit must complete a research paper(topic to be approved by the instructor)

### Course Instructional Materials:

All courses maintain a fully developed and dynamic webpage that houses all resources, reference material and various other required informational texts, videos and alike that is both active and relevant to course objectives and content. Course web pages are routinely updated to reflect most current research and available readings therefore instructional materials used to teach course objectives are subject to change.

### Instructor Consultation and Interaction:

Real time consultation and instruction is provided through the LILIE, LLC discussion boards for each course/classroom on a daily basis.

**Suggested Readings** *(subject to change): These are general references used for this course; there is no one required textbook.*

### References:

Essex, Nathan, A Teacher's Guide to School Law, Pearson Education, 2006, Boston, Mass.

Essex, Nathan, School Law and the Public Schools, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. Pearson Education, 2008, Boston, Mass.

McCabe-Cambron, Nelda H. ,McCarthy, Martha M. , Thomas, Stephen B. Legal Rights of Teachers and Students, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Allyn & Bacon, 2009, New York, New York

McCabe-Cambron, Nelda H., McCarthy, Martha M. , Thomas, Stephen B. Public School Law, 6<sup>th</sup> Ed. Allyn & Bacon, 2009,. San Francisco, Ca.

Underwood, Julie, Webb, Dean L., School Law For Teachers- Concepts and Applications, Pearson Education, 2006, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey

National School Boards Association

New York State Bar Association 29<sup>th</sup> Ed. School Law

New York State Department of Education

### Proof of Course Completion:

LILIE, LLC is committed to assuring that enrollees fully participate in and receive the educational benefits contemplated by the course. Enrollees must demonstrate participation by making detailed postings designed to foster dialogue among colleagues and instructors. These enrollee postings must be made four times each week in separate sessions. Enrollees will be required to submit a detailed log documenting at least 45 hours of course work, including discussion board posts, and will be required to apply information and strategies acquired from the course content to weekly classroom instruction. Attempts to falsify logs or discussion board entries will result in denial of credit and a report to the enrollee's employer.



## Scope & Sequence/Weekly Topics and Objectives

### *Week 1*

Topic(s): Introductions: School Law Defined: Public School Law Terminology: Constitutional Provisions and Judicial Standards: Torts and Tort Liability: Summary of Legal Generalizations: Important Charts regarding Civil Procedure, Judicial Standards: Procedural Due Process: Student Conduct Code: Student Suspensions: Student Searches; Relevant Court cases

#### Objectives:

- to familiarize students with the definition of school law and its impact on school instruction
- to have students examine common terminology associated with school law
- to have students explore the underpinnings' of the constitutional provisions and judicial standards impacting how school law issues are addressed
- to have students research and discuss relevant court cases that are relevant to teacher and student rights
- to illustrate through a number of charts procedural matters impacting teachers, their daily instruction and student management

Impact on Classroom Instruction: Students will become aware of many aspects of school law such as liability, freedom of expression, constitutional rights, due process and the court cases that led to the development of case law for these provisions. They will also be able to identify issues that impact their daily instruction.

#### Learner Outcomes:

- students will be able to understand their responsibilities relative to torts, liability and other school related issues
- students will examine a variety of cases and be able to determine their impact on daily instruction
- students will be able to identify aspects of school law that may have an impact on their ability to manage student behavior
- students will be able to accurately understand their rights as teachers and the rights of students under the constitution and recent school law court decisions

Assessment of Understanding and Learning/ Weekly Assignments (*including but not limited to posting requirements set forth by LILIE, LLC*):

- *post to the discussion board as outlined in the course expectations*
- *introduce self and respond to classmates' postings*
- *read the overview of School Law and post comments on the most significant information you examined*
- *research on the Internet dealing with one aspect of school law and its impact on classroom teachers*
- *choose four of the videos and review them and post your reaction to them on the discussion board*



## *Week II*

Topic(s): First Amendment Rights of Students

Objectives:

- to have students read six landmark cases that impacted school districts, administrators and teachers
- to have students examine the cases and post reactions to them with regard to how they may impact daily instruction
- to have students assess a number of articles on various aspects of school law and comment on them in terms of their importance to educational institutions

Impact on Classroom Instruction: Students will have a knowledge base for analyzing the first amendment right for students and use this information in conducting their classes and/or other school related issues.

Learner Outcomes:

- students will know the general definition of school law and its ramifications for their occupations
- students will be able to understand the constitutional provisions and judicial standards that impact the school case law that affects on a daily basis
- students will be able to articulate their understanding of school law as it relates to student rights

Assessment of Understanding and Learning/ Weekly Assignments (*including but not limited to posting requirements set forth by LILIE, LLC*):

- *read six significant cases and post your reaction to them on the discussion board*
- *read the articles presented in part 2 of the material for this week and indicate on the discussion board the possible ramification of each concept presented in light of school law issues or topics*



### *Week III*

Topic(s): First Amendment Rights of School Employees: Practical Application of School Law and its Impact on Daily Instruction

Objectives:

- to have students become aware of the key first amendment rights of school employees
- to have students identify some situations that are germane to their workplace and how to understand the practical applications as they relate to employees rights in the workplace

Impact on Classroom Instruction: Students will know their procedural rights relative to the first amendment and what protections they enjoy relative to them in the workplace. They will also have a better understanding of how to pursue those rights as issues arise.

Learner Outcomes:

- know their rights as afforded by the first amendment and other judicial standards
- be able to plan for classroom instruction so that they are less likely to become involved in liability issues
- identify potential situations that may impact their ability to manage their classrooms and work with their supervisors

Assessment of Understanding and Learning/ Weekly Assignments (*including but not limited to posting requirements set forth by LILIE, LLC*):

- *search the Internet for the designated cases and post your reactions to them*
- *read the identified articles and post comments about two of the situations described in them that you have experienced and/or familiar with regarding employee rights*



### *Week IV*

Topic(s): Making Judgments About Judicial Situations: IDEA Cases: NCLB Cases: Land Mark Supreme Court Cases

#### Objectives:

- to have students analyze significant cases and make judgments about the court rulings in order to test their understanding of the aspects of school law associated with rights of students/school employees
- to review court case summaries and articles regarding NCLB and its implications for teachers and daily instruction
- to become familiar with significant landmark Supreme Court cases that have impacted school districts, school employees and students

Impact on Classroom Instruction: Students will have a more comprehensive idea of how court cases related to school legislation will impact their daily work routines. Students will also have a better understanding of how Supreme Court cases have changed the landscape regarding classroom instruction.

#### Learner Outcomes:

- teachers will know the ramifications of significant court case outcomes that will impact their daily instruction
- students will be able to understand the impact of IDEA and NCLB regulations and make adjustments accordingly in their classroom instruction and relationships with students and parents

Assessment of Understanding and Learning/ Weekly Assignments (*including but not limited to posting requirements set forth by LILIE, LLC*):

- read the listed cases and post your conclusions to the information presented on the discussion board (act as though you are the judge)
- react to each of the articles or court summaries regarding lawsuits against NCLB
- read six of the nine listed landmark Supreme Court cases on the Internet and post your reactions to them in terms of how they impact education in general