GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE of EDUCATION/Division of Education

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: School Finance
Course Number: EDAD 832
Credit Hours: 3 Graduate Hours
Trimester: Fall 1999
Instructor: Kenneth A. Peterson – Superintendent Emeritus, Brookwood
School District; Director, GSU Administrators Guild; University
Lecturer
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Course Description:

Primary focus on the financing of Illinois Public Schools. The theoretical background and legal bases of public school finance and the application of those theories to various school finance models. Budget analysis, state aid mechanisms, taxing and auditing processes, and legal foundations in relation to salary, transportation, contracts, liability, and managing facilities will be emphasized. Practicing consultants, school business managers, case studies, and simulated materials will be used to highlight practical applications.

Prerequisite:

EDAD 621

Intended Audience:

Graduate students in Educational Administration
Required Texts:


Instructional Objectives:

Students will:

1. Analyze the budgeting, levying and taxing concepts of financing of public education.
2. Apply concepts of taxing, state aid and other revenues to the budgeting process.
3. Understand the expenditures necessary to the operation of a school system.
4. Analyze the state and federal funding of public education.
5. Comprehend the legal basis for financing public schools.
6. Comprehend the role of the Chief School Business in managing salary, benefits, transportation, contracts, and facilities.
7. Analyze cultural influences on school finance.

Topical Outline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economics of Education</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing Education Adequately</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing Education Equitably</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patterns for Developing School Finance Systems</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sources of Revenue</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eroding Local Control</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: A state function</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Interest in Education</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence and Climate of the Courts</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activities/Assignments:

1. Differentiate between an adequate and equitable education.
2. Analyze various school district budgets.
3. Analyze funding formulas from an historical perspective.
4. Prepare a written project report relating to school finance.

Evaluation:

Course work reflecting excellence will receive a grade of “A”. The midterm and final examinations will include questions taken from class discussions, the text and examples utilized in class.