Assignments

EDAD 7820 Politics & Policy Course,

Spring Semester, 2020

Introduction: You will find below descriptions and directions for three assignments of this the EDAD 7820 Politics and Policy course. Please follow the directions. If you have questions while addressing one or more of the assignments, please contact the instructor with an email message.

1. *Out of class assignment, which involves a report/summary and an analysis of a conflict-laced local political issue that pertains to education*:
2. You are expected to develop a five to seven-page, double-spaced, Times-New Roman-12 summary and analysis of a local school/district political issue, which involves a conflict.
3. The political issue can be one that you know about personally or professionally. However, you should seek and include reliable information about the issue.
4. You are encouraged to send your instructor a short (very short) email message regarding the issue or position, which you have chosen, with a request for his reaction before starting the assignment. You may use pseudonyms in the email message and in the paper if you would feel more comfortable not including actual names.
5. The first section of the paper, which should be labeled in bold print as “Summary of the Relevant Contents of the Primary Sources.” The entire section should be approximately two pages in length.

* The first portion of this section should include an approximate half page summary of the “Getting Past No” book, coupled with a half page reflection of the manner that the contents pertain to your life and work experiences.
* The second portion of this section should include an approximate half page summary of the contents of “Power & Politics” chapter of the Hoy & Miskel text coupled with an approximate half page reflection regarding the manner that the contents pertain to your life and work experiences.
* Information regarding the contents of the “Politics & Politics” chapter can be found in the Hoy & Miskel text and from the PowerPoint of the chapter. The PowerPoint can be found at <https://www.waynekhoy.com/hoy-and-miskel-power-points/>.
* Information regarding the “Getting Past No Book” can be found in the book, and at:
* A summary of the book found at <https://www.beyondintractability.org/bksum/ury-gettingpast>.
* Videos of the book, several of which have Spanish subtitles, at:
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNnY2rxyBDs>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HXWjnV73zgs>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7c5_Lf23pY>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hc6yi_FtoNo>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxaQlaOPKmo>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDP2Ky_ypVo>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLE4eSgk-p4>

1. The second, third and fourth sections of the paper should be labeled in bold print as the “Summary of the Issue,” “Analysis of the Issue,” and “Suggested Resolve to the Conflict.”
2. The summary should be approximately a page in length. The analysis and the proposed resolve to the conflict should “each” be approximately one to two pages in length.
3. The summary should contain the sources of the information regarding the conflict. The sources should be placed on a separate page, which should be labeled as references. The sources can be from written sources, such as newspapers, social media, personal communications, and the like. You should designate the type for each of the sources.
4. The analysis and the proposed resolve to the conflict should be based upon the theories, concepts, and other information that you have gleaned while in this program, particularly in the “Getting Past No Book” and the Politics and Power chapter of the Hoy & Miskel text. Your personal opinions should be included sparingly.
5. An objective of this assignment is to cause you to analyze a current local political district/school issue, using the knowledge that you can gain from “Getting Past No” and the “Power and Politics” chapter of the Hoy and Miskel text.
6. The assignment is due from Friday, February 21 to Monday, February 24.
7. *In and out of class survey project*:
8. Identification of a political issue and development of a survey:

* Working in groups of approximately two, three, or four fellow students, you should collaborate on the creation of a 10-item, easy-to-read written survey instrument designed to gauge public reaction to a political issue that has implications for a school or district. You are encouraged to review publications regarding the development of survey instruments. For example, you might wish to review:
* Developing a Survey Instrument, <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/evaluation/resources/survey-instrument.php>
* Sample Surveys, <http://www.esourceresearch.org/eSourceBook/SampleSurveys/6DevelopingaSurveyInstrument/tabid/484/Default.aspx>
* How to Design Effective Survey Instruments, <https://visionedgemarketing.com/survey-instrument-effective-market-customer-research/>
* The instrument should relate to an important issue of access or equity and yet have some relationship to the district/school and its functioning. Examples of issues that fit these criteria include: (1) significant achievement gaps; (2) inequities of access (e.g., to district/school programs) based on race, class, or gender; (3) district/school consolidation; (4) district/school funding, or (5) the like.
* Each group should seek, in writing (e.g. email), instructor approval for the issue it selects.
* For that matter, the principal of the school community, in which the survey is conducted, should be notified in writing and should provide approval for the project.
* Although more than one candidate will work on the project, data regarding just one school-community will be pursued.

1. Administration of the survey:

* Administer the survey to approximately 25 people in the district, who are not school employees or students.
* Each member of the group should be involved in the administration of the survey.
* The respondents to the survey must be age 18 or over.
* One way to administer the survey is to request folks in a public place, such as the entrance to a mall, grocery store, or post office, to complete the survey. However, you should obtain, in advance, the permission of the person in charge of the business or organization.
* You are encouraged to avoid gleaning reactions to the survey via email.

1. Analysis of the results:

* Analyze the results of the survey.
* Because one or more of the participants will be from outside the district, an “insider/outsider” perspective is possible, which should be labeled accordingly. The analysis should focus on commonly held perspectives, "outlier" perspectives, and differences in the perspectives of the members of the various community constituencies, agencies, and organizations.

1. Written report:

* Develop a written report of the results, which should be labeled in bold print “Identification. Examination, and Analysis of a District Political Issue.”
* The report should include and should be labeled in bold print with the following sections. They are (1) Identification of the problem; (2) Identification of possible solution to the problem; (3) Identification of possible implementation steps toward a solution, including efforts to access and augment community resources; (4) Provision of a list of "next steps" for on-going cross-community and interagency collaboration and (5) A plan for sharing the information, through a public relations strategy, with the greater community.
* Each of the five sections should be labeled in bold print.
* Each section should be a half to a full page in length, with the entire paper being approximately three to five pages in length.
* The report should be double-spaced, Times-New Roman-12 summary
* The report should include a listing by name of the responsibilities assumed by each of the members of the group.

1. The report is due between Friday, March 27 and Monday, March 30.
2. *In class assignment that pertains to a report and an analysis of the political positions of state and national associations*.
3. Working in groups of two or three, select an organization from those that are listed in the attachment, of which you are unaware of or have at most minimal knowledge.
4. A lottery will be conducted in order that each group will have an opportunity to choose an association to study.
5. Ascertain the educational position of the organization.
6. Develop a PowerPoint or Prezi presentation of the organization’s educational position. The report should be labeled in bold print as Report and Analysis of the Political Positions of State and National Associations.
7. The presentation should include a report and an analysis of the educational posture of the organization.
8. A copy of the PowerPoint/Prezi should be sent to the other class members prior to the presentation.
9. Try to make the report as engaging as possible. The participation of the other class members should be encouraged.
10. The report should be given at the time of the Saturday, April 25 class session, unless a need arises to use the May 2 (make-up) session.
11. During the class session, the students should take notes with the intent of composing and submitting a reflection before leaving for the day.
12. A small group of current superintendents and principals will be invited to act a panel to provided formative feedback to the presentations. Please be prepared to give the members of the panel a printed copy of the PowerPoint/Prezi.