



**LOYOLA  
UNIVERSITY  
CHICAGO**

*Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives*

**TLLSC 300A: Professional Learning Communities**  
*Teaching, Learning, and Leading with Schools and Communities*  
School of Education, Loyola University Chicago  
Fall Semester 2021

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**Instructor Information**

Name: Dr. Hank Bohanon

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Office: WTC Lewis Towers 1052

Website: <http://www.hankbohanon.net>

Twitter: @hbohano

Office hours: Virtual Office Hours following class following our class from 6-7 P

Location: Online –synchronous over Zoom

Response Time: I try to respond to student emails within 24 hours during the week, and by Monday morning for weekend emails.

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**Sequence Description**

Professional learning communities (PLCs) serve as the touchstone of teaching and learning in the Teaching, Learning, and Leading with Schools and Communities (TLLSC) teacher preparation program, bringing together teacher candidates within specialty areas to share and co-construct knowledge, skills, and dispositions applied to their classroom contexts. Facilitated by faculty members with expertise in the specialty area, the PLCs serve as communities of practice where candidates come together to (a) learn about timely topics in specialized instruction through guest lectures by practicing teachers and active questioning (b) share learning from various school- and community-based experiences with each other and (b) synthesize learning through reflection and discussion. In this way, candidates work together to increase their content and pedagogical expertise.

**Module Goals**

Essential Questions:

- What are pertinent factors of teaching, learning, and leading with schools and communities?
- How does theory connect with your learning and experiences in this sequence?
- How do sequence learning and experiences connect with past learning and experiences?
- How will you use your learning to guide subsequent problem-solving in education?

- What are the connections between your learning and experiences across this sequence and professionalism in service of social justice?
- What goals do you have for future learning in your chosen specialty area to increase your content and pedagogical expertise?

As a part of this experience, candidates will understand that effective educators:

- Enact principles of social justice in the school and community by focusing on the intellectual, social and emotional development of all students, promoting human rights, reducing inequalities, and increasing the empowerment of society's most vulnerable groups (EU1).
- Engage and promote reflection and collaboration among teachers, students, administrators, families and communities to improve achievement for all students (EU2).
- Utilize information from theories and related research-based practices when making decisions and taking action in their professional practice (EU10).

As a part of this experience, candidates will:

- Use goals and procedures to guide PLC dialogue and to synthesize and make meaning of the learning and experiences across sequences.
- Engage in collaborative discussion and learning related to teaching, learning, and leading, as well as professionalism in service of social justice.
- Engage in dialog and make connections between sequence learning and experiences with pertinent theories and principles and specialty area teaching and learning.
- Complete the sequence summative assessments for their particular sequence related to the specialty area with individualized support from faculty facilitators.

### **IDEA Objectives:**

As a part of this experience, candidates will:

- Learn to apply course material to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions.
- Acquire skills in working with others as a member of a team.
- Acquire an interest in learning more by asking questions and seeking answers.

### **Dispositions Assessment:**

All students are assessed on one or more dispositional areas of growth across our programs: **Professionalism, Inquiry, and Social Justice**. The instructor in your course will identify the dispositions assessed in this course and you can find the rubrics related to these dispositions in LiveText. Disposition data is reviewed by program faculty on a regular basis. This allows faculty to work with students to develop throughout their program and address any issues as they arise. The specific disposition or dispositions for this course are listed on this syllabus and the descriptions for the expected behaviors for the disposition(s) can be found on the rubric posted in LiveText for this course.

- **D4** demonstrating professionalism and reflective practice in collaborating with teachers, students, administrators, families, and communities to improve achievement for all students. (9N) (IB)
- **D8** demonstrating how one's beliefs about diverse learners impact teaching and learning and reflecting upon how one's actions affect others by demonstrating respect, fair-mindedness,

empathy, and ethical behavior toward all learners, including respect for students' right to privacy. (1F, 9I, 9J) (IB)

- **D12** demonstrating that his/her personal and professional expectations and capacities influence the motivation, positive learning results and achievement of students. (4D)
- **D13** demonstrating high levels of personal engagement and investment in all students' learning while remaining persistent in seeking strategies for reaching students who are not initially successful.
- **D17** demonstrating professionalism through personal responsibility and accountability related to attendance, participation and communication.

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## **University Policies and Information**

### **Smart Evaluation**

Towards the end of the course, students will receive an email from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness as a reminder to provide feedback on the course. Students will receive consistent reminders throughout the period when the evaluation is open, and the reminders will stop once the evaluation is completed.

- The evaluation is completely anonymous. When the results are released, instructors and departments will not be able to tell which student provided the individual feedback.
- Because it is anonymous and the results are not released to faculty or departments until after grades have been submitted, the feedback will not impact a student's grade.
- The feedback is important so that the instructor can gain insight in to how to improve their teaching and the department can learn how best to shape the curriculum.

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## **School of Education Policies and Information**

**Please find additional information at [www.luc.edu/education/syllabus-addendum/](http://www.luc.edu/education/syllabus-addendum/)**

### **Conceptual Framework:**

**Vision:** The School of Education of Loyola University Chicago is a community that seeks to transform members to impact local and global communities through the principles of social justice.

**Mission:** The School of Education at Loyola University Chicago, a Jesuit Catholic urban university, supports the Jesuit ideal of knowledge in the service of humanity. We endeavor to advance professional education in service of social justice, engaged with Chicago, the nation, and the world. To achieve this vision, the School of Education participates in the discovery, development, demonstration, and dissemination of professional knowledge and practice within a context of ethics, service to others, and social justice. We fulfill this mission by preparing professionals to serve as teachers, administrators, psychologists, and researchers who work across the developmental continuum, and by conducting research on issues of professional practice and social justice.

**Standards:** These dimensions of the conceptual framework also serve as the foundation to the School of Education Conceptual Framework [www.luc.edu/education/mission/](http://www.luc.edu/education/mission/). – standards that are explicitly embedded in major benchmarks across all SOE programs. Conceptual framework standards are listed below.

CFS1: Candidates critically evaluate current bodies of knowledge in their field.

CFS2: Candidates apply culturally responsive practices that engage diverse communities.

CFS3: Candidates demonstrate knowledge of ethics and social justice.

CFS4: Candidates engage with local and/or global communities in ethical and socially just practices

**Inquiry:** Candidates use discipline-recognized processes for generating new knowledge in order to expand their theoretical understandings, ability to solve problems and analyze programs. They will deepen their personal understandings, improve their practice, and apply their learning about communities, families and students. Candidates will draw upon or collect various forms of data and information including literature, quantitative and qualitative data, formal and informal assessments, information about students, families and communities, and personal reflection when generating new knowledge. Candidates use their inquiry-based generated knowledge using multiple sources to inform their instruction and promote learning for all.

**Social Justice:** Candidates adopt a stance of affirming and welcoming diversity in both local and global communities. They demonstrate respect for and understanding of differences across and within groups through their spoken and written course contributions as well as in the actions they take. Candidates promote social justice by taking ethically guided actions to challenge practices and policies that promote or perpetuate injustices and inequities. Candidates demonstrate their commitment to continuing to develop their understanding around issues of diversity. They further demonstrate their commitment to contribute to the work of preventing and/or undoing injustices by advocating for individuals, populations, or groups who currently are, or have historically been, oppressed and marginalized through covert and overt practices on the part of institutions or individuals.

**Professionalism:** Candidates demonstrate personal responsibility and agency by engaging in proactive problem resolution and conflict management. Candidates promote their own development and the development of others and engage in collaborative relationships that promote mutually beneficial outcomes. Candidates adhere to ethical practices, guidelines, and professional standards of their profession.

**Technology:** Candidates will be responsible for regularly accessing their Sakai accounts at <http://sakai.luc.edu>. Sakai will be used to post the syllabus, course documents, and other relevant information. Candidates will also be responsible for activating their LiveText accounts. Candidates MUST use their Loyola University Chicago email address with LiveText. This course requires the use of LiveText in order for candidates to submit all course assessments. Find more information at <http://www.luc.edu/education/admission/tuition/coursemanagement-fee/>

**Diversity:** By focusing on individual, diverse students in urban classrooms, this module addresses multiple perspectives on diversity, including but not limited to the diversity in students' backgrounds (i.e., culture, language, ability) and classroom and school contexts (e.g., bilingual education, instructional contexts for students with special needs). Dialogue is expected to be open and honest while remaining respectful and appropriate at all times in order to foster deeper understanding of issues pertaining to diversity. Diversity will be defined to include issues of race, gender, religion, orientation, income, and abilities. As part of Loyola's commitment to social justice, issues of diversity will be discussed in relation to equity, sensitivity, and prosocial practices. In our class discussions and your writing, please adhere to the recommendations made by TASH regarding the use of "People First" language. If interested, an article outlining those recommendations will be provided to you by your instructor.

### **Syllabus Addendum Link**

- [www.luc.edu/education/syllabus-addendum/](http://www.luc.edu/education/syllabus-addendum/)

This link directs students to statements on essential policies regarding academic honesty, accessibility, ethics line reporting and electronic communication policies and guidelines. We ask that you read each policy carefully.

This link will also bring you to the full text of our conceptual framework that guides the work of the School of Education – Social Action through Education.

### **Course Calendar**

*Given student feedback, we also want to make a slight change to spread the sessions out over the entire semester. Given that the PLC's are designed to promote professional learning, we plan to hold the sessions throughout the semester. Here is our tentative plan for the spring. Each PLC will be approximately one hour in length and held over Zoom.*

**PLC #1: The Journey Towards Trauma Informed Care: A look at how schools, departments and You, can become more trauma informed, Monday, October 4th from 5-6 PM.** This PLC is presented by Cherylynn Jones-McLeod, Trauma Informed School Interventionist for Oak Park and River Forest High School. Cherylynn Jones-McLeod is the inaugural Trauma-Informed School Interventionist

with Oak Park and River Forest High School. Over the last 18 years, she has done considerable work in the youth development arena, focusing on climate and culture within school settings, advocacy for at-risk and disenfranchised populations, and trauma-informed care. In 2005, Cherylynn founded On the Heels of Greatness, a nonprofit organization geared towards raising the esteem of Baltimore City girls through the use of Fashion Show production. A New York City native, Mrs. Jones-McLeod spent 14 years working in Baltimore, MD within the Police Department, Public and Private Schools, and numerous nonprofit organizations before relocating to the Chicagoland area. Holding a Master's degree in Public Administration and a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, she has dedicated her life's work to the empowerment of youth. Steps and resources related to trauma informed care will be shared during this presentation.

**PLC #2: Restorative Justice in schools, Monday, November 8th from 5-6 PM.** The presenter for this session is Andrew Tonachel and a student peace circle member from Alternatives Inc. Andrew Tonachel is a member of the Restorative Justice team at Alternatives, Inc., an independent, community-based youth agency in Chicago. For the past nine years, Andrew has been working in schools and community settings to train staff and youth in restorative practices. Many years ago, while serving as Youth Development Director, Andrew worked with Hank Bohanon in building positive behavior interventions and supports at a local high school. He is also a lucky father and life partner and a self-reported "lousy baseball player" (his words). The topics for this presentation will include an introduction to Restorative Justice, introduction to Alternatives and the co-facilitator, definitions of restorative justice, punitive vs. restorative mindsets, restorative justice as a tree, and reflections/lessons on applying RJ in schools.

**PLC #3: Redirection strategies to address problem behavior, December 6th from 5-6 PM.** Hank Bohanon and member of the Special Needs Network for Educators will lead this session around ways to redirect problem behaviors for students. This session will address strategies for responding to problem behaviors without becoming a part of the problem. Participants will be able to develop their toolbox for responding to issues as they arise in their classrooms.

**Loyola University Chicago**  
**School of Education**  
**Syllabus Addendum**

**\* School of Education Commitment - COVID-19:** Loyola's School of Education (SOE) recognizes that this is an unprecedented time. We understand that moving into the 2021-2022 academic year while living in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic may stir feelings of uncertainty, fear, or anxiousness. We want you to know that your safety, health, and well-being, as well as that of our faculty and staff, remain our primary concern. We want to be able to support you in any way that we can. We ask you to embody the Jesuit value of [\*Cura Personalis\*](#), or care for the whole person, as we prepare to learn together. We ask that you consider your way of being in this community, to act with care, and treat all with dignity to keep yourself and others safe. If you are not feeling well, please use Loyola's SYMPTOM Checker. It can

be found on the webpage or APP [Loyola Health](#) under the **COVID -19 Related Information Tab** at the top of the page.

The University understands that you may encounter obstacles that make reaching academic goals more difficult. We strongly encourage you to access the Student Resources on [Loyola's COVID-19 Response webpage](#) for information, supports, and resources on basic needs such as housing, food, financial aid, and medical and mental health. This web page also offers information on official University communications, access to technology, and student services. All Loyola University Chicago administrators, faculty, and advisors are also here for you.

The SOE is committed to working with all students to address any challenges that may arise during the semester. Please reach out to your professor as early as possible to discuss any accommodations you think may be necessary in order for you to successfully complete your coursework. Active and engaged communication with all of your professor is encouraged. We know the FALL 2021 Return to Campus will be like no other, but through collaboration, communication, and shared responsibility, we will not only get through this difficult time; we will thrive.

**\*COVID-19 Required Personal Safety Practices:** We all have a part to play in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Following a simple set of required personal safety practices can lower your own risk of being infected and can help protect others. All members of the Loyola community are expected to follow these practices while on any of the University's campuses. **Face masks or face coverings must be worn by all students, faculty, and staff while on any of Loyola's campuses, when in the presence of others, in classrooms, and in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.** Appropriate use of face masks or coverings is critical in minimizing the risks to others around you, as you can spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. Please be sure to review all [LUC REQUIRED Safety Protocols](#).

**\*COVID-19 Reporting Protocol:** In preparation for our upcoming semester, Loyola University Chicago's Emergency Response Management team has been working to develop [protocols](#) in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines that help ensure the health and safety of our community. Given the rising number of COVID-19 cases across our country, it is very likely that incidence within our community will occur in the fall.

Students, faculty, and staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 must report their case to the University as soon as possible. **If you have tested positive for the virus, please contact us at [covid-19report@LUC.edu](mailto:covid-19report@LUC.edu) or by calling 773-508-7707. All COVID-19-related questions or feedback should continue to be sent to [covid-19support@LUC.edu](mailto:covid-19support@LUC.edu), not the new case reporting email address.**

### **Smart Evaluation**

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- The evaluation is completely anonymous. When the results are released, instructors and departments will not be able to tell which student provided the individual feedback.
- Because it is anonymous and the results are not released to faculty or departments until after grades have been submitted, the feedback will not impact a student's grade.

The feedback is important so that the instructor can gain insight in to how to improve their teaching and the department can learn how best to shape the curriculum.

**The 13 possible objectives you will select from are listed below:**

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)
2. Developing knowledge and understanding of diverse perspectives, global awareness, or other cultures
3. Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
4. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course
5. Acquiring skills in working with others as a member of a team
6. Developing creative capacities (inventing; designing; writing; performing in art, music drama, etc.)
7. Gaining a broader understanding and appreciation of intellectual/cultural activity (music, science, literature, etc.)
8. Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing
9. Learning how to find, evaluate and use resources to explore a topic in depth
10. Developing ethical reasoning and/or ethical decision making
11. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view
12. Learning to apply knowledge and skills to benefit others or serve the public good
13. Learning appropriate methods for collecting, analyzing, and interpreting numerical information

**Dispositions**

All students are assessed on one or more dispositional areas of growth across our programs: ***Professionalism, Inquiry, and Social Justice***. The instructor in your course will identify the dispositions assessed in this course and you can find the rubrics related to these dispositions in LiveText. *For those students in non-degree programs, the rubric for dispositions may be available through Sakai, TaskStream or another platform.* Disposition data is reviewed by



program faculty on a regular basis. This allows faculty to work with students to develop throughout their program and address any issues as they arise.

### **LiveText**

All students, *except those who are non-degree*, must have access to LiveText to complete the benchmark assessments aligned to the Conceptual Framework Standards and all other accreditation, school-wide and/or program-wide related assessments. You can access more information on LiveText here: [LiveText](#).

### ***Additional ONLINE Course Policies***

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#### **\*Privacy Statement**

Assuring privacy among faculty and students engaged in online and face-to-face instructional activities helps promote open and robust conversations and mitigates concerns that comments made within the context of the class will be shared beyond the classroom. As such, recordings of instructional activities occurring in online or face-to-face classes may be used solely for internal class purposes by the faculty member and students registered for the course, and only during the period in which the course is offered. Students will be informed of such recordings by a statement in the syllabus for the course in which they will be recorded. Instructors who wish to make subsequent use of recordings that include student activity may do so only with informed written consent of the students involved or if all student activity is removed from the recording. Recordings including student activity that have been initiated by the instructor may be retained by the instructor only for individual use.

#### **\*Synchronous Meetings**

Will be conducted over Zoom. You do not need to keep your camera on if you feel uncomfortable for any reason.

#### **\*Student Participation**

I ask that student participate in all activities including chats, polls, and other online activities. If for some reason you cannot attend an event, please let the instructor know. You will need to view a recording of the event and provide a one-paragraph summary of your key take away from the session.

#### **\*Class Conduct**

One important aspect of a Jesuit education is learning to respect the rights and opinions of others. Please respect others by (1) allowing all classmates the right to voice their opinions without fear of ridicule, and (2) not using profanity or making objectionable (gendered, racial or ethnic) comments, especially comments directed at a classmate.

## **\*Student Support**

### Special Circumstances--Receiving Assistance

Students are urged to contact me should they have questions concerning course materials and procedures. If you have any special circumstance that may have some impact on your course work, please let me know so we can establish a plan for assignment completion. If you require assignment accommodations, please contact me early in the semester so that arrangements can be made with [Services for Students with Disabilities](http://www.luc.edu/sswd/) (SSWD) (<http://www.luc.edu/sswd/>).

### **\*Center for Student Access and Assistance (CSAA)**

*Should you encounter an unexpected crisis during the semester (e.g., securing food or housing, addressing mental health concerns, managing a financial crisis, and/or dealing with a family emergency, etc.), I strongly encourage you to contact the Office of the Dean of Students by submitting a CARE Referral for yourself or a peer in need of support: [www.LUC.edu/csaa](http://www.LUC.edu/csaa). If you are uncomfortable doing so on your own, please know that I can submit a referral on your behalf.*

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### **Syllabus Addendum Link**

<https://www.luc.edu/education/academics/syllabi/>