



**BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Department of Educational Technology

## **EDTECH 543: Social Network Learning** (Tentative as student needs may change)

Semester: Fall, 2016  
Credits: 3 Credit Online Course  
EDTECH Website: <http://edtech.boisestate.edu>

### **Instructor Information**

Name: Jackie Gerstein, Ed.D.  
Availability: Every day via email – responds within 24 hours  
Office Hours: Varies  
Email: [jaclyngerstein@boisestate.edu](mailto:jaclyngerstein@boisestate.edu)  
Website: <http://jackiegerstein.weebly.com>  
Blog: <http://usergeneratededucation.wordpress.com/>

### **Course Description**

This graduate level course will explore collaborative and emergent pedagogies, tools, and theory related to the use of social networks in learning environments. Participants will gain hands-on experience with a variety social networking tools, create a community-based resource, and have an opportunity to develop a global professional network for educational technologists.

### **Topics Covered**

- Communities of Practice, Connectivism, Personal Learning Networks
- Social Media for Professional Development & Reputation Management
- Curation
- Building Your Personal Learning Network
- Social Networking As An Instructional Strategy
- Creating Your Social Networked Mini Curriculum Unit

### **Course Outcomes**

At the end of the course, you will be able to:

1. Use a Personal Learning Network, and explain its value in educational settings.
2. Understand the value of web-based social networks within educational settings.
3. Identify learning theories and researched-based practices that support current approaches to effective use of social network technologies for learning.
4. Analyze strengths and weaknesses of various social network technologies for a variety of learning goals.
5. Contribute to social learning networks using a variety of media and communication mechanisms.
6. Identify factors with successful social networks, and create a social learning network addressing these factors.

## Course Location and Login Information

This is an online course delivered in Moodle (<http://edtech.mrooms.org/>). The Moodle login page explains how to login to Moodle. Contact Moodle Support at [moodlesupport@boisestate.edu](mailto:moodlesupport@boisestate.edu) if you have problems accessing Moodle. If you have forgotten your password, click the link below the login box, "lost password?" and you will be able to reset it.

## Course Materials and Technical

All course materials are provided through websites and other internet resources. No textbook is required.

The following skills will increase your chances of having a successful and enjoyable experience in this course:

- Ability to use basic Learning Management System (i.e., Moodle) features and tools – uploading and attaching documents and images, use of an editing toolbar, use of a discussion forum.
- Knowledge and use of Word documents, Powerpoints, PDFs, and video and audio media.
- Ability to begin, format, and maintain a professional/personal website.
- Ability and desire to learn, join, and contribute to online social networks.

## Internet Connectivity

You need an up-to-date computer with an Internet connection in this course.

## Grading Policies

1. All assignments are to be submitted on or prior to the due date. Late assignments will be accepted during the following week or module with late penalties (see late work policy below). No late work will be accepted after that time.
2. Please understand that I am continually updating and revising my course materials. Therefore, it is not feasible for me to provide advanced copies of assignments. Full assignment details will only become available at the beginning of each new module.
3. All assignments are graded together as a group to maintain a higher level of consistency. Grading begins on the first day after a due date and is completed before the next due date. You may track your progress through Grades in Moodle. All of the assignments are listed in Grades and points will be added as we progress through the semester. Depending on the assignment, this can take up to a week.
4. I will grade your work to the best of my abilities. If you feel you have received an inferior grade, you have the right to challenge this score. Please explain to me IN WRITING why you believe the grade is too low, and I will consider your reasoned argument.

## Course Assignments

Detailed information about assignments and how to complete them will be posted in Moodle as we progress through the term. Please check often to read announcements since these can be posted at any time. Also, check your BSU BroncoMail (<http://broncomail.u.boisestate.edu/>) at least once per week for course related correspondence. The default email address in Moodle is your BSU email address. For help using your BroncoMail account please see: <http://boisestate.edu/helpdesk/email/broncomail/howto.shtml>

Number	Assignment	Points
1	Set Up Course Related Social Networks	75
2	Resources for CoPs, PLNs, Connectivism	50
3	Creative Depiction of CoPs, PLNs, Connectivism	50
4	Personalized Twitter with Hashtags Based on Professional Interests	25
5	Positive Digital Footprint and Reputation Management Plan	100
6	Criteria for Effective Curation	25
7	Curated Topic and Assessment	75
8	Live PD via Webinars and Twitter Chats	100
9	Joining/Participation in Online Learning Community	50
10	PLE Diagram	75
11	Research Use of Social Networking	25
12	Social Media Policies	50
13	Creating a Social Networked Mini-Curricular Unit	175
14	Peer Review of a Social Networked Mini-Curricular Unit	75
15	Blog Entries with a Final Reflection	50

### AECT Standards

Course assignments are aligned to the Association for Educational Communications and Technology ([AECT\) Standards, 2012 version](#). Assignments are listed by number (based on the assignments list above) in the following table under the standard they are aligned to.

	Standard 1 Content Knowledge	Standard 2 Content Pedagogy	Standard 3 Learning Environments	Standard 4 Professional Knowledge & Skills	Standard 5 Research Skills
Creating				12	
Using					11
Assessing/Evaluating					
Managing					
Ethics					
Diversity of Learners					
Collaborative Practice					
Leadership					
Reflection on Practice	3, 15	15			

Theoretical Foundations					2, 11
Method					

### Grade Scale

Final letter grades will be based upon the following scale:

Highest	Lowest	Letter
100%	93.00%	A
92.99%	90.00%	A-
89.99%	87.00%	B+
86.99%	83.00%	B
82.99%	80.00%	B-
79.99%	77.00%	C+
76.99%	73.00%	C
72.99%	70.00%	C-
69.00%	67.00%	D+
66.99%	60.00%	D
59.00%	0.00%	F

(Please note that A+s are not awarded as part of this course. They do not affect your GPA and in the past have caused some students undo stress.)

### Course Schedule

Please note that students are expected to spend 9-12 hours *each* week on *each* EDTECH course during a regular academic session. The workload is approximately doubled during the compressed summer sessions.

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the schedule as needed.

Module	Start Date	Due Date	Major Assignments and Activities: Check Moodle for Details
1	8/22	8/29	Set Up Course Related Social Networks
2	8/29	9/5	Resources for CoPs, PLNs, Connectivism
2	8/29	9/12	Creative Depiction of CoPs, PLNs, Connectivism
3	9/12	9/19	Personalized Twitter with Hashtags Based on Professional Interests
3	9/12	9/26	Digital Footprint Blog Positive Digital Footprint and Reputation Management Plan
4	9/26	10/3	Criteria for Effective Curation

4	9/26	10/8	Curated Topic
4	9/26	10/10	Curated Topic Assessments
5	9/26	10/17	Live PD via Webinars and Twitter Chats
5	10/10	10/24	Joining/Participation in Online Learning Community
5	10/10	10/24	PLE Diagram
6	10/24	10/31	Research Use of Social Networking
6	10/24	11/7	Social Media Policies
7	11/7	11/21	Creating a Social Networked Mini-Curricular Unit
8	11/28	12/5	Peer Review of a Social Networked Mini-Curricular Unit Blog Entries with a Final Reflection

### Advanced Copies of Assignments

Please understand that I am continually updating and revising my course materials. Therefore, it is not feasible for me to provide advanced copies of assignments. Full assignment details will only become available at the beginning of each new module (Sundays). Assignments are posted at least one week prior to the due date.

### Grading Cycle

All assignments are graded together as a group to maintain a higher level of consistency. Grading begins on the first day after a due date and is completed before the next due date. You may track your progress through Grades in Moodle. All of the assignments are listed in Grades and points will be added as we progress through the semester. Depending on the assignment, this can take up to a week.

### Late Work

*Due Dates:* Please note that all assignment due dates fall on Mondays. Assignments must be submitted by midnight Mountain time on scheduled due dates. For time zone information please visit the World Clock Web site: <http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/>

*Point Deduction for Late Work:* 5% of the assignment points are deducted for each day an assignment is late. For example, an assignment that is two days late will lose 10% of the assignment points as a late penalty. *Emergency Pass:* If you have a major event such as a death in the family, illness, hospitalization, or you are out of town without Internet, you may turn in one assignment under the emergency pass.

This assignment may be up to one week late and still qualify for full credit. After the one-week extension has passed ten points per day will be deducted until the assignment is no longer worth any credit.

*Your Responsibility with Late Work:* If you will be late for any reason please e-mail me or before the scheduled due date. When the assignment is completed you must send a follow-up email to let the instructor know it is ready to grade. This is how we calculate the number of days for the late work penalty. Failure to notify the instructor could lead to a grade of zero.

*Plan Your Time:* It is a good idea to schedule specific times to work on your assignments each week and keep the appointment with yourself. A three credit graduate course requires about 9 to 12 hours per week of work (twice that during Summer session). It is in your best interest to start early on each assignment to give yourself time to fix technical problems or get help before the due date passes.

### **Technical Difficulties**

On occasion, you may experience problems accessing Moodle or class files located within Moodle, Internet service connection problems, and/or other computer related problems. Make the instructor aware if a technical problem prevents you from completing coursework. If a problem occurs on our end, such as Moodle or EDTECH2 server failure, then an automatic due date extension is granted.

### **Reasonable Accommodations**

Any student who feels s/he may need accommodations based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss specific needs. You will also need to contact the Disability Resource Center to schedule a meeting with a specialist and coordinate reasonable accommodations for any documented disability.

The Disability Resource Center is located on the first floor of the Lincoln Parking Garage, on the corner of Lincoln Ave. and University Dr. at Boise State University. They are available Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time.

Phone: 208.426.1583

Email: [drcinfo@boisestate.edu](mailto:drcinfo@boisestate.edu)

Website: <http://drc.boisestate.edu/>

### **Privacy Information**

EDTECH courses involves online delivery and for some courses public display of assignments on websites or social media spaces. In the online course, your name, email address, and Moodle profile may be visible to others who have logged into Moodle. You are advised to familiarize yourself with privacy settings on Moodle or social media sites associated with the course. Privacy settings can sometimes be adjusted to restrict certain types of information. Please contact your instructor if you have questions or concerns.

### **Academic Honesty**

Students are expected to create original work for each assignment. Students must follow the [Boise State Student Code of Conduct](#) as well as observe [U.S. copyright laws](#) in this course.

In the event of academic dishonesty, a complaint is filed with the Boise State Student Conduct Office with supporting documentation. This complaint remains on file and actions may be taken against the student (e.g., loss or credit, grade reduction, expulsion, etc.).

Note: Instructors may append additional course-specific policies as needed.

### **Policy for Incompletes**

Incompletes are not guaranteed. However, when they are given incompletes adhere to [Boise State University guidelines](#) as follows:

Instructors can enter a grade of I—for incomplete—if both of the following conditions are present:

- Your work has been satisfactory up to the last three weeks of the semester.
- Extenuating circumstances make it impossible for you to complete the course before the end of the semester.

In order to receive an incomplete, you and your instructor must agree to a contract stipulating the work you must do and the time in which it must be completed for you to receive a grade in the class. The terms of this contract are viewable on my.BoiseState under Your Student Center To Do List. The contract time varies as set by the instructor but may not exceed one year. If no grade other than incomplete has been assigned one year after the original incomplete, the grade of F will automatically be assigned. The grade of F may not be changed without approval of the University Appeals Committee. You may not remove the incomplete from your transcript by re-enrolling in the class during another semester. A grade of incomplete is excluded from GPA calculations until you receive a final grade in the course.