

EDST 582 The Study of Organizations in Educational Contexts
Course Description

The course critically examines schools as organizations and the effects of organizations on teachers and students who work and learn in them. Schools operate within a complex and fluctuating context that is simultaneously social, cultural, economic, political and increasingly globalized. How does this context influence the organization and how it functions? How can examining schools as social structures, cultures, and political arenas help us to understand how they operate as organizations? How do social power relations contribute to privileging and marginalization of different groups and what are the implications for social justice and for the education of students? How are schools responding to pressures and opportunities related to globalization and what are the implications for organizational structure, culture, politics, and the experiences of students, teachers, and administrators? How can educational leaders work with others to change organizations to promote educational purposes and social justice?