

**Narrative Summary-Teaching at the Lecturer/Assistant Professor Level**  
**Laura Duhon, EdD**  
**Department of Curriculum and Instruction**

Dr. Laura Duhon has had a significant impact on more than 3500 preservice and inservice teachers during her teaching career at Texas State. Her impact on student learning and performance extends well beyond Texas State to elementary classrooms throughout the state. The numerous positive comments she consistently receives from former students attests to her teaching effectiveness. The following descriptions provide further evidence of her sustained commitment/activity, recognition by students and faculty, and impact in teaching:

- Dr. Duhon teaches several sections of CI 4325 “Classroom Management” in the undergraduate field-base teacher preparation program. She has taught in the field-base program for 42 consecutive semesters, which represents more than 2000 students. In her course, pre-service teachers learn methods for creating a positive learning environment. One of her assignments requires students to create a comprehensive management plan, which can be implemented in their future classroom. Laura has taken the lead in sharing this assignment with all Early Childhood through Sixth Grade (EC-6) field-based instructors. Thus, the Classroom Management Plan is now a common assessment in all field-based blocks. Along with providing instructions for this assignment, Laura mentors new field-based instructors in how to teach numerous classroom management strategies. Her influence in this area has impacted all 12 elementary field-base courses. Her colleagues view her as an expert in the area of classroom management.
- Dr. Duhon’s teaching impact on future teachers has been significant. Many of her former students contact her once they have classrooms of their own to tell her how they are implementing the classroom management strategies they learned in her course. The impact of Dr. Duhon’s teaching extends beyond Texas State students to the children in EC-6<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms across the state.
- As Director of the Texas State Teacher Fellows, Dr. Duhon not only helps to coordinate the program but also assists with the teaching of the following courses:
  - CI 5317                      Advanced Curriculum Leadership
  - CI 5326                      Elementary School Curriculum
  - CI 5327                      Elementary Principles and Practices
  - CI 5370                      Classroom Management, Discipline, and Legal Issues
- One teaching activity she assigns that is particularly meaningful is a video analysis. Teacher Fellows videotape a lesson, describe what went well and what could be improved, and then implement new strategies in their classrooms. Dr. Duhon coaches and mentors the beginning teachers as they try out these best practices. Ultimately, her influence helps beginning teachers become more effective, which in turn positively impacts elementary students’ learning.

- For the past ten years, Dr. Duhon has taught University Seminar Course US 1100 for education majors. Through this course she helps future teachers develop skills that promote academic success and life-long learning.
- Further, an extremely large number of graduating students have named Dr. Duhon as someone who significantly contributed to their success and development. This large number of student emails sent to the Vice President of Student Affairs mentioning Dr. Duhon's positive impact on their experience at Texas State led the office to select her as the first presenter of the Last Lecture series at Texas State in 2011.
- Since 2005, Dr. Duhon has served as Co-Director and currently as Director of the TxState Teacher Fellows Program. Her responsibilities include: (a) conducting weekly training seminars with area public school mentors who work with Teacher Fellows, (b) helping with administrative functions, and (c) assisting with teaching, program development and research. Her impact has helped the program sustain its growth and commitment to teaching/mentoring beginning teachers.
- Since 2009, Laura has served as a nationally certified trainer for Kagan Cooperative Learning. She travels across the nation conducting workshops on cooperative learning for teachers and administrators.
- As the Advisor of the Association of Childhood Education International, Dr. Duhon regularly meets and communicates with officers. In addition, she attends meetings and conferences, helps with fundraisers, and assists with community service projects.
- Dr. Duhon is an active member of the EC-6 Undergraduate Elementary Program Committee. On this committee, she helps align curriculum, plan instructional strategies, and develop common assessments. In addition, Laura serves as an informal mentor/teacher to new field-based instructors.
- In 2008, Laura supervised Kristina (Zuris) Grant's honors thesis as part of the University Honors Program. Kristina went on to conduct further research on her thesis topic and ultimately published an article in *Kappa Delta Pi Journal* based on this research.
- As Chapter Advisor for 14 years and now as faculty advisor of Alpha Delta Pi Sorority, Dr. Duhon meets and communicates weekly/daily with officers and members. She leads workshops in the following areas: leadership, achieving goals/awards, membership education, and scholarship/academics. Under her direction, this organization has won the highest awards in the history of the chapter. These include BOKO awards, Greek awards, and international organization awards. With Dr. Duhon's academic guidance, the sorority has maintained the highest GPA of all sororities. This GPA has been consistently above the other sororities and university overall GPA for over 30 consecutive semesters. In 2008 and 2011, Laura won the TxState Greek Advisor of Excellence Award. In 2011, she received the Van Aiken Award: Alpha Delta Pi's National Chapter Advisor Award.