

Comprehensive Examination
M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction
Spring 2022

Due: Monday, February 28th at midnight in Canvas

During your coursework, you have studied curriculum theories and instructional strategies and learned how they intersect to provide a framework to guide effective practice in a variety of learning environments. You have also taken courses that elaborate on current practices and research in a concentration of your choice (bilingual education, school leadership, assessment, special education, and so on.).

Examination Focus: Identify a dilemma or problem related to teaching and learning that has emerged in your practice or during coursework. Using knowledge gained through your coursework, pose a solution to resolve the dilemma or problem.

Please include the following:

- **Background Information:**
 - Describe the components of the learning environment or context in which the dilemma or problem has occurred.
- **Solution: Develop a possible solution to the matter.**
 - Explain how your solution is explicitly linked to at least one theoretical framework you have studied in Curriculum Theories and Practice, Theories of Instruction, and other coursework. You may ground your solution in several frameworks which may include sociocultural theory, critical literacy/pedagogy, direct instruction, universal design for learning, constructivism, and so on.
 - Describe the learning environment that best supports your solution. Your description could include:
 - The setting (i.e. inclusive class, heterogeneous classroom, adult learning retreat)
 - Classroom/site structures
 - The social/cultural/academic context
 - Assessment structures and processes
 - Curriculum
 - Technology tool(s)
 - Professional development
 - Physical arrangement of space
 - Student groupings
 - Instructional pedagogy
- Explain your solution using specific instructional strategies, interventions, and illustrative examples. Be sure to articulate learning outcomes and assessments.

Criteria for Evaluation of the Comprehensive Examination

1. Careful explanation of the dilemma or problem: Why is it a dilemma? Why is it a problem?
2. Cogent, substantiated, and elaborated description of
 - a. The solution
 - b. The link between the solution and the theoretical frameworks
 - c. The learning environment and all its components
 - d. Illustrative examples of pedagogy
 - e. Integration of research from coursework and readings
3. Your response should be no more than 10 pages, excluding References. (12 pt. font, double-spaced)
4. Follow APA (American Psychology Association, 7th Edition of the Manual) guidelines for headings, citations, and references.
5. You must have at least 10 references in your paper. Each reference must have at least one corresponding citation.
6. Please upload as a word .docx, no .pdfs, thank you.