Application Essays

Directions: Respond to the following essay questions; each essay should be approximately one to two (1-2) pages in length (double spaced with 12-point font). Essays will be scored by the Education Department faculty, and will be used when considering the candidate’s application to the teacher education program.

1. Few people dispute the need for schools. Once past that, however, many questions and controversies arise about the purpose of education. Some feel that schools should be the agents of social change; others feel that we need to teach a traditional curriculum geared to maintain the status quo and perpetuate our culture and way of life. Using the ideas, discussions, and readings from EDUC110: The Role of the School, take a position on this question.

2. How does a teacher’s belief that “All Students Can Learn” impact his/her behavior in the classroom? Provide at least three different examples to support your position.

Application Essays Scoring Rubric

EXCELLENT (4)
The central purpose/argument of the essay is clear and readily apparent to the reader; demonstrates well-developed understanding of EDUC110 and EDUC251 course content; essay is almost entirely free of spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors.

PROFICIENT (3)
The central purpose/argument is present, but has minor lapses in development; demonstrates a good understanding of EDUC110 and EDUC251 course content; essay may contain a few errors; but the errors don’t impede understanding.

ADEQUATE (2)
The central purpose/argument is not consistently clear throughout the essay; provides some references to EDUC110 and EDUC251 course content; essay has many errors that distract the reader and temporarily impede understanding.

UNSATISFACTORY (1)
Fails to address the essay question; few or inaccurate references to the EDUC110 and EDUC251 course content; numerous spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors such that the essay’s meaning is obscured.