Western Connecticut State University Department of Education and Educational Psychology

Doctor of Education in Instructional Leadership

Comprehensive Written Examination: Guidelines, Suggested Bibliography, and Sample Questions

Revised 9/6/07, 12/4/07, 2/16/10, 5/19/12

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Guidelines for the Comprehensive Written Examination for the Doctor of Education Degree in Instructional Leadership

General Information: The comprehensive examination will be administered in two parts. Each part will consist of a 4-hour block of time for a total of 8 hours. Each section of the comprehensive examination consists of essay or application questions selected by the program faculty to represent the course content of the various strands of the program. Therefore, preparation for the comprehensive written examination is dependent upon the student completing all prior coursework designated in the Program of Study, and maintaining currency by reading the literature, and referring to review topics as well as the recommended bibliography included in each course syllabus.

Comprehensive Written Examination Content:

Part I will include coursework consisting of Inquiry Strategies related to quantitative and qualitative methods applied to educational research. Specifically coursework related to ED860: Quantitative Methods Applied to Educational Research, ED861: Qualitative Methods Applied to Educational Research Designs, and ED805: Research and Evaluation in Education will be addressed through the interpretation of data and published research.

Part II will include essay questions in three parts.

Part II.A will include coursework related to the Theory and Foundation of Instructional Leadership. This section consists of coursework specifically related to ED 800: Foundations of Instructional Leadership, ED 801: Group Leadership, Group Processes, and Team Building in Education, and ED 821: Leadership Assessment and Development.

Part II.B will address coursework related to Theory and Foundation and Areas of Specialization related to National Standards, Curriculum, and Improving Student Performance. This section will include coursework specifically related to ED802: Emerging Instructional Technologies, ED803: National Standards Current Practices, and Policies in Education, ED804: Learning, Cognition, and Teaching, ED805: Research and Evaluation in Education, ED820: Topics in Curriculum and Instruction, and ED 826: Curricular Applications of Educational Research.

Part II.C will include coursework related to Areas of Specialization, specifically ED822: Talent Development Across the Curriculum, ED823: Models of Creative Thinking, and ED824: Diversity Issues in Schools.

Students may consult the Program Coordinator for further guidance in preparation of the examination. However, students should be advised that information will not be provided about specific questions included on the exam.

Examination Schedule: The Comprehensive Written Examination will be conducted in two parts. It will be administered the last two **Saturdays in July, 2012**. Part I will be administered **Saturday, July 21, 2012** from 9 AM to 1 PM and Part II will be administered **Saturday, July 28, 2012** from 9 AM to 1 PM. Students who have completed all required coursework, with the exception of the dissertation seminars, may sit for the examination. Students are required to EdD in Instructional Leadership: Guidelines for Comprehensive Written Examination

have passed the comprehensive examination prior to their registering for dissertation seminar, ED 881. Students who do not pass a section may retake that section once. A date and time in late August or early September will be scheduled for retaking one or more parts of the exam.

Examination Scoring: Each question will be assigned to two readers who evaluate the answers according to the following scoring system: 4 = Excellent (Exceeds Expectations), 3 = Above Average (Target), 2 = Pass (Acceptable), and 1= Poor (Unacceptable). In order to pass the comprehensive exam, students must obtain a score of 2 or higher on each section.

- 4 = Excellent (Exceeds Expectations): Indicates a superior level of understanding of the concepts and issues related to the question, providing an insightful response as well as a high level of organization and writing skills.
- 3 = Above Average (Target): Indicates a better than average understanding of the concepts and issues related to the question, providing a comprehensive response as well as an above average organization of the material and writing skills.
- 2 = Pass (Acceptable): Indicates an adequate understanding of the concepts and issues related to the question, providing a response that addresses the question as well as a satisfactory organization of the material and writing skills.
- 1 = Poor (Unacceptable): Indicates an inadequate level of understanding of the concepts and issues related to the question, providing an unsatisfactory response to the question as well as a poor presentation of the response to the question.

Examination Results: The program coordinator reports the results to the Dean of the School of Professional Studies and the department members. Students will be notified in writing of the results of the comprehensive examination within 3 weeks of the administration of the examination.

NCATE Assessments 1a and 1b- The exam consists of eight sections, which are divided into two parts. Part 1 consists of sections 1-5 and Part 2 includes sections 6-8. While each section has multiple parts and these parts are scored individually, an overall score is assigned to each section using the following rubric.

Rubric Criteria	Element	Critical Elements	Unacceptable	Acceptable	Target
1a. Part 1, Section 1. Leadership Plan Reflection	• reflect on a school-level leadership platform grounded in ethical standards and practices;	5.2 Self-awareness, reflective practice, transparency, and ethical behavior as related to roles within the school (Content Knowledge).	Candidate does not analyze own leadership decisions in terms of established ethical practices; national, state, and/or local standards; or a selected theory of leadership.	Candidate analyzes own leadership decisions in terms of established ethical practices; national, state, and/or local standards; and a selected theory of leadership.	Candidate analyzes own leadership decisions in terms of established ethical practices; national, state, and/or local standards; and a selected theory of leadership. In addition, Candidate describes revisions for a future leadership platform grounded in ethical standards and practices.
1a. Part 1, Section.2. ANOVA	• the design and use of assessment data for learning	1.2 Use of data to identify school goals, assess organizational effectiveness, and to create and implement	Candidate does not provide an explanation of the data related to learning outcomes for comparing means (i.e.,	Candidate provides an explanation of the data related to learning outcomes for comparing means (i.e., ANOVA	Candidate provides an explanation of the data related to learning outcomes for comparing means (i.e., ANOVA procedure) and

Rubric Criteria	Element	ement Critical Elements Unacceptable Acceptable		Acceptable	Target	
		plans to achieve school goals (Content Knowledge).	ANOVA procedure).	procedure).	provides a thorough interpretation of the results.	
1a. Part 1, Section 3 Linear Regression	variables that affect student achievement	1.2 Use of data to identify school goals, assess organizational effectiveness, and to create and implement plans to achieve school goals (Content Knowledge).	Candidate does not provide an explanation of the data related to learning outcomes for conducting multiple correlations (i.e., Linear Regression procedure).	Candidate provides an explanation of the data related to learning outcomes for conducting multiple correlations (i.e., Linear Regression procedure).	Candidate provides an explanation of the data related to learning outcomes for conducting multiple correlations (i.e., Linear Regression procedure) and provides a thorough interpretation of the results.	
1a. Part 1, Section 4 Research Method	variables that affect student achievement	1.2 Use of data to identify school goals, assess organizational effectiveness, and to create and implement plans to achieve school goals (Content Knowledge).	Candidate does not provide a description and an explanation of a research design (i.e., mixed-methods).	Candidate provides a description and an explanation of a research design (i.e., mixed- methods).	Candidate provides a description and an explanation of a research design (i.e., mixed-methods), including an interpretation of the pros and cons of the design.	
1a. Part 1, Section 5 Evaluation Design	• implementation and evaluation of school improvement processes	1.2 Use of data to identify school goals, assess organizational effectiveness, and to create and implement plans to achieve school goals (Content Knowledge).	Candidate does not provide a description of an evaluation design that focuses on s student outcomes.	Candidate does provide a description of an evaluation design that focuses on student outcomes.	Candidate does provide a description of an evaluation design that focuses on student outcomes and includes an explanation of the pros and cons of the design.	
1b. Part 2, Section 6 School Leadership Strategies	• future issues and trends that can affect schools	6.3 Anticipation and assessment of emerging trends and initiatives in order to adapt schoolbased leadership strategies (Content Knowledge).	Candidate does not provide an explanation of leadership strategies applicable for working with a diverse group of individuals.	Candidate does provide an explanation of leadership strategies applicable for working with a diverse group of individuals.	Candidate does provide an explanation of leadership strategies applicable for working with a diverse group of individuals and explores the strengths and "blind spots" of group members.	
1b. Part 2, Section 7 Learning Strategies	• instructional leadership practices	2.3 Development and supervision of the instructional and leadership capacity of school staff (Content Knowledge).	Candidate does not provide an explanation of incorporating targeted learning strategies across content areas for different types of learners.	Candidate does provide an explanation of incorporating targeted learning strategies across content areas for different types of learners.	Candidate does provide an explanation of incorporating targeted learning strategies across content areas for different types of learners and aligns the strategies with national standards.	
1b. Part 2, Section 8 Diversity	• school-based cultural competence	4.2 Mobilization of community resources (Content Knowledge).	Candidate does not include current research and practices related to issues of diversity in an explanation about topics in curriculum and instruction.	Candidate includes current research and practices related to issues of diversity in an explanation about topics in curriculum and instruction.	Candidate includes current research and practices related to issues of diversity in an explanation about topics in curriculum and instruction and reflects on how these issues impact his or her own practices.	

Scoring Guide

This rubric is designated with the following point values: Target = 3 points, Acceptable = 2 points, and Unacceptable = 1 point.

A passing score for each rubric criterion is indicated by Acceptable or Target.

To determine a Candidate's overall score on this assessment, the number of points achieved on all criteria will be totaled. The maximum number of points possible for all criteria for this assessment is 24 (8 criteria x 3 points maximum). The following guide shows the range of points for overall performance on the assessment at each level: Target= 17-24; Acceptable= 9-16; Unacceptable = 1-8.

Program Review Questions

Inquiry Strategies: Quantitative and Qualitative Methods as Applied to Educational Research

Part I will include coursework consisting of Inquiry Strategies related to quantitative and qualitative methods applied to educational research. Specifically coursework related to ED860: Quantitative Methods Applied to Educational Research, ED861: Qualitative Methods Applied to Educational Research, ED865: Introduction to Educational Research Designs, and ED805: Research and Evaluation in Education will be covered with hands-on computer applications as well as statistical analysis and interpretation.

Suggested Bibliography:

ED860: Quantitative Methods Applied to Educational Research

- Huck, S. W. (2007). *Reading statistics and research* (5th Ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Allyn & Bacon.
- Green, S.B., & Salkind, N.J. (2007) *Using SPSS for Windows and Macintosh: Analyzing and Understanding Data* (5th Ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

ED826: Quantitative and Qualitative Applications of Educational Research

- Creswell, J. W., & Plano-Clark, V. L. (2011). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc. ISBN-10: 1412975174.
- Green, S. B., & Salkind, N. J. (2007). *Using SPSS for Windows and Macintosh: Analyzing and understanding data* (6th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. ISBN-10: 9780205020409.
- Meyers, L., Gamst, G., & Guarino, A. (2006). *Applied multivariate research: Design and interpretation*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc. ISBN 10: 9781412904124.

ED861: Qualitative Methods Applied to Educational Research

- Angrosino, M. V. (1994). On the bus with Vonnie Lee: Explorations in life history and metaphor. *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, 23, 14-28.
- Bogdan, R. C., & Biklen, S. K. (2007). *Qualitative research for education: An introduction to theories and methods* (5th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
- Madison, D. S. (2005). Chapter 2, Methods. *Critical ethnography: Method, ethics, and performance* (pp. 17-41). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. [Summarizes Patton's, Spradley's, and Lofland and Lofland's approaches to interviewing]
- Merriam, S. (1998). Chapter 4: Conducting effective interviews. *Qualitative research and case study applications in education* (pp. 71-93). San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Smith, D. M. (2002). The challenge of urban ethnography. In Y. Zou, & E. T. Trueba (Eds.), *Ethnography and schools: Qualitative approaches to the study of education* (pp. 171-184). Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Solórzano, D. G., & Yosso, T. J. (2002). Critical race methodology: Counter-storytelling as an analytical framework for education research. *Qualitative Inquiry*, 8(1), 23-44.
- Toma, J. D. (2006). Approaching rigor in applied qualitative research. In C. Conrad & R. C. Serlin (Eds.), *The SAGE handbook for research in education: Engaging ideas and enriching inquiry* (pp. 405-423). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- EdD in Instructional Leadership: Guidelines for Comprehensive Written Examination

Optional Texts:

- Carspecken, P. F. (1996). Chapter One: What is critical qualitative research? *Critical ethnography in educational research: A theoretical and practical guide* (pp. 1-22). New York, NY: Routledge.
- Charmaz, K. (2003). Grounded theory: Objectivist and constructivist methods. In N. K. Denzin, & Y. Lincoln (Eds.), *Strategies of qualitative inquiry* (2nd ed., pp. 249-291). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Connelly, F. M., & Clandinin, D. J. (2006). Narrative inquiry. In J. Green, G. Camilli, P. B. Elmore, with A. Skukauskaité & E. Grace (Eds.), *Handbook of complementary methods in research* (pp. 477-487). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.
- Creswell, J. W. (2007). Chapter 4, Five qualitative approaches to inquiry [the section on phenomenology only]. *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches* (2nd ed., pp. 57-62). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Stake, R. (1995). Introduction: An intensive study of case study research methods, & Chapter 1, The unique case. In *The art of case study research* (pp. xi-13). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

ED865: Introduction to Educational Research Designs

- Gall, M. D., & Borg, W. R. (2007). *Educational research: An introduction* (8th ed.). New York: Allyn & Bacon.
- Huck, S. W. (2008). *Reading statistics and research* (5th Ed.). New York: Allyn & Bacon. There is also a 6th edition, which is not necessary for this course.

Optional Texts:

- Campbell, D. T., & Stanley, J. C. (1963). Experimental and quasi-experimental designs for research. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.
- Isaac, S., & Michael, W. B. (1977 or 1995). *Handbook in research and evaluation* (3rd ed.). San Diego: Edits Publishers.

ED805: Program Administration and Assessment (3 SH)

Posavac, E. J., & Carey, R. G. (2003 or 2006). *Program evaluation: Methods and case studies*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Note: Also review all course notes and handouts.

Example Items:

1. A researcher wishes to understand whether a particular curricular strategy has an impact on reading scores. He develops an appropriate intervention with multiple components and randomly assigns 12 classrooms from two different school districts to one of three conditions: (a) a treatment condition in which teachers implement all components of the intervention; (b) a comparison condition in which teachers implement some, but not all, components of the intervention; and (c) a control condition in which teachers do not implement the intervention: these teachers carry on with their traditional curriculum. He uses a valid and reliable instrument to measure the pretest and posttest literacy scores of students in all three groups. He runs the appropriate analyses and learns that all three groups are

equivalent on pretest scores. He then runs the appropriate analyses to determine if the groups are equivalent on posttest scores.

Use the output scores from the SPSS tables below to:

- (a) complete the following research template (items 1 12 below) for the analyses run on the *posttest* scores;
- (b) answer and interpret the question following the template (item 11 below).
- 1. State the design of the research question:
- 2. State the research question(s):
- 3. State the independent variable(s) and levels (if appropriate):
- 4. State the dependent variable(s):
- 5. State the null hypothes(es):
- 6. State the alternative non-directional hypothes(es):
- 7. State the alpha significance level at which the statistic will be tested and why this value was used.
- 8. Using the output tables and the guide for language, report the results for main effects.
- 9. Using the output tables below, plot the mean scores for each of the three groups. Remember to label your axes, and provide a title and legend.
- 10. Using the output tables and the guide for language, report the results for the interaction.
- 11. Provide an interpretation of the main effects and interaction. What do these results indicate?
- 12. Please discuss one internal threat to the design of this research:
 - a. Name it:
 - b. Define it:
 - c. State how it applies:
 - d. State how you could address it:

OUTPUT:

Between-Subjects Factors

		N
Condition	.00	48
	1.00	32

Between-Subjects Factors

		N
Condition	.00	48
	1.00	32
	2.00	45

Descriptive Statistics

Dependent Variable:LiteracyPost

Condition	Mean	Std. Deviation	N	
.00	88.1250	2.00664	48	
1.00	93.7188	1.44209	32	
- 2.00	97.7111	2.57278	45	
Total	93.0080	4.66714	125	

Tests of Between-Subjects Effects

Dependent Variable:LiteracyPost

Source	Type III Sum of					
	Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Corrected Model	2156.029 ^a	2	1078.014	241.333	.000	.798
Intercept	1051750.704	1	1051750.704	235453.673	.000	.999
Condition	2156.029	2	1078.014	241.333	.000	.798
Error	544.963	122	4.467			
Total	1084012.000	125				
Corrected Total	2700.992	124				

a. R Squared = .798 (Adjusted R Squared = .795)

Post Hoc Tests

Condition

Multiple Comparisons

LiteracyPost

Tukey HSD

(I) Condition	(J) Condition	Mean Difference (I-			95% Confidence Interval	
		J)	Std. Error	Sig.	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
.00	1.00	-5.5938 [*]	.48234	.000	-6.7382	-4.4493
	- 2.00	-9.5861 [*]	.43855	.000	-10.6266	-8.5456
1.00	.00	5.5938 [*]	.48234	.000	4.4493	6.7382
Amend	_ 2.00	-3.9924*	.48873	.000	-5.1519	-2.8328
2.00	.00	9.5861*	.43855	.000	8.5456	10.6266
	- 1.00	3.9924*	.48873	.000	2.8328	5.1519

Based on observed means.

The error term is Mean Square(Error) = 4.467.

Please note: You will be provided a Guide for Language to assist you with writing up the results, but it will contain the language for all of the statistical analyses. You must be able to select the correct data analysis procedure to apply the language.

- 2. You develop and implement a survey for students and teachers in the comparison and treatment conditions in the study from question 1 above. Two selective themes emerge from the four open-ended items on the survey:
 - Teachers in the comparison and treatment conditions believed that the intervention was difficult to implement; they often were confused as to what to do. They reported wishing that they had a teachers' guide.
 - Students in the comparison and treatment conditions believed that the literacy intervention motivated them to want to read more.
 - a. Discuss how these themes either support or do not support the quantitative findings above. If you decided to implement the intervention, what might be some next steps to take to ensure success?
 - b. If the survey data are collected at the same time as quantitative data and used for the purpose of triangulation, what is the type of mixed-methods design that the researcher is using?

^{*.} The mean difference is significant at the .05 level.

3. You were asked by your Assistant Superintendent to help analyze the outcomes of a needs assessment that will guide your district's next accreditation visit and the 5-year strategic plan. All faculty, administration, and staff have received a 50-item survey asking them about their needs. The survey has both Likert style items on a 4-point scale and open-ended items. Describe the research design and a list of procedures for collecting and analyzing these data and for reporting the results to the Board of Education.

Theory and Foundation

Part II.A will cover coursework related to the Theory and Foundation of Instructional Leadership. This section will cover coursework specifically related to ED 800: Foundations of Instructional Leadership, ED 801: Group Leadership, Group Processes, and Team Building in Education, and ED 821 Leadership Assessment and Development.

Suggested Bibliography:

ED 800: Foundations of Instructional Leadership

- Fullan, M. (2007). *Leading in a culture of change*. New York: John Wiley & Sons. ISBN: 0-7879-8766-2.
- Goleman, D., Boyotzis, R., & McKee, A. (2004). *Primal leadership: Learning to lead with emotional intelligence*. Boston: Harvard Business School Press. ISBN: 1-5913-9184-9.
- Lieberman, A., & Miller, L. (2004). *Teacher leadership*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. ISBN: 0-7879-6245-7.

Optional Texts:

Gardner, H. (2006). *Changing minds: The art and science of changing our own and other people's minds.* Boston: Harvard Business School Press. ISBN: 1-4221-0329-3.

MacGregor Burns, J. (2003). *Transforming leadership*. New York: Grove Press. ISBN: 0-8021-4118-8.

ED 801: Group Leadership, Group Processes, and Team Building in Education

Schmuck, R.A. & Schmuck, R. (2004). *Group Process in the Classroom*, 8th edition. McGraw Hill.

Senge, P. (1990). The Fifth Discipline. New York: Doubleday

ED 821 Leadership Assessment and Development

Review course notes and handouts.

Example Items:

- 1. Based on a review of the literature on organizational change, list several primary factors associated with instructional leaders as "change agents" and explain how these factors help to promulgate successful change in an organization.
- 2. Instructional leadership may be viewed through various constructs. List several of these constructs and explain how these qualities contribute to the success of an organization (department, school, school district).
- 3. Increased student achievement is an important outcome in measuring the success of a school and its leadership. Explain how instructional leaders can have a significant impact on this measure.
- 4. Based on a review of the literature on instructional leadership, compare and contrast two leadership styles, listing the major constructs of each.

Theory and Foundation and Areas of Specialization

Part II.B will cover coursework related to Theory and Foundation and Areas of Specialization related to National Standards, Curriculum, and Improving Student Performance. This section will cover coursework specifically related to ED803: National Standards Current Practices, and Policies in Education, ED804: Learning, Cognition, and Teaching, ED805: Research and Evaluation in Education, ED820: Topics in Curriculum and Instruction, ED 826: Curricular Applications of Educational Research, and ED802: Emerging Instructional Technologies.

Suggested Bibliography:

ED803: National Standards Current Practices, and Policies in Education

Kozol, J. (2006 reprint). *The shame of a nation: The restoration of apartheid schooling in America*. New York, NY: Crown Publishing Group.

Ravitch, D. (2010). *The death and life of the Great American school system*. New York, NY: Basic Books.

ED804: Learning, Cognition, and Teaching

Bruner, J. (1977). The process of education. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Dewey, J. (1963). Experience and education. New York: Collier.

Driscoll, M. P. (2005). *Psychology of learning and instruction* (3rd edition). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Hall, H. B. (2006). *Mentoring young men of color: Meeting the needs of African American and Latino students*. Lanham, MD: Rowan & Littlefield.

There were other articles, but these are the ones we discussed the most:

- Darling-Hammond, L. (2010). Steady work: How countries build strong teaching and learning systems [chapter 6]. *The flat world and education*. New York: Teachers College Press.
- Gee, J. P. (2003). Discourses in and out of school: Looking back. A paper prepared for an international forum at Hofstra University.
- Moll, L., Amanti, C, Neff, D., & González, N. (2005). Funds of knowledge for teaching: Using a qualitative approach to connect homes and classroom. In N. González, L. Moll, & C. Amanti (Eds.), *Funds of knowledge: Theorizing practices in households, communities, and classrooms* (pp. 71-87). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- Reilly, M.A. (2009). Dressing the corpse: Professional learning and the play of singularities. *Journal of Curriculum & Pedagogy*, 6(1), 79-99.
- Rogoff, B. (2003). Thinking with the tools and institutions of culture (chapter 6). In *The cultural nature of human development* (pp. 236-281). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Vygotsky, L. S. (1980). Interaction between learning and development. In M. Cole, V. John-Steiner, S. Scribner, & E. Souberman (Eds.), *Mind in society: The development of higher psychological processes*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

ED805: Program Administration and Assessment

Posavac, E. J., & Carey, R. G. (2003 or 2006). *Program evaluation: Methods and case studies*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

ED820: Topics in Curriculum and Instruction

Ornstein, A., Pajak, E., & Ornstein, S. (2007 **or** 2011). *Contemporary issues in curriculum* (4th **or** 5th ed.). NY: Allyn & Bacon. You may purchase either the 4th or 5th edition. I will only require you to read chapters that are in both editions.

COURSE RESOURCES: Materials, resources, articles, PowerPoint presentations, and sample assignments will be available at http://wcsu820.pbworks.com.

ED802: Emerging Instructional Technologies

Roblyer, M. D. & Doering, A. H. (2010). Integrating educational technology into teaching (5th ed.). New York, NY: Allyn & Bacon.

Note: Also review all course notes and handouts.

Example Items:

- 1. Select an instructional model and critique the model based on its underlying theory and related research.
- 2. Locate a publication that reports improvement in student learning. Provide a critique of this report using both expected standards for the domain and the outcomes documented by the report.
- 3. Analyze and critique an instructional technology implementation project using NETS-S and NETS-T standards.
- 4. You are a mentor for a new colleague. One of your responsibilities is to provide assistance for improving your charge's instructional strategies. He asks you for help with classroom management techniques. Describe how you would help him to implement a personal professional development plan for assisting with this issue.
- 5. A teacher has implemented an action research project in her classroom. Using an article about a report of an action research project, be a "critical friend" and provide feedback based on her investigation.

Areas of Specialization

Part II.C will cover coursework related to Areas of Specialization, specifically related to ED822: Talent Development Across the Curriculum, ED823: Models of Creative Thinking, and ED824: Diversity Issues in Schools.

Suggested Bibliography:

ED822: Talent Development Across the Curriculum

Davis, G. A., & Rimm, S. B. (2004). Education of the gifted and talented (5th Ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson.

Tomlinson, C. A. (2001). *How to differentiate instruction in mixed-ability classrooms*. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

ED823-71: Models of Creative Thinking

Gardner, H. (1993). Creating minds: An anatomy of creativity seen through the lives of Freud, Einstein, Picasso, Stravinsky, Eliot, Graham, and Gandhi. New York, NY: Basic Books. ISBN: 0-465-01455-0 (cloth) or 0-465-01454-2 (paper). Price: \$15.80 (paper).

Robinson, K. (2011). *Out of our minds: Learning to be creative*. Westford, MA: Courier Westford. ISBN: 9781-907312472 (cloth). Price: \$18.45 (cloth).

Starko, A. J. (2010). *Creativity in the classroom: Schools of curious delight*. New York, NY: Taylor & Francis. ISBN: 10-0-415-99706-2 (hardback) or 10-0-415-99707-0 (paper). Price: \$48.14 (paper).

ED824: Diversity Issues in Schools

Required Reading: Students are responsible to read, review, analyze, and reflect upon the literature related to current and noted theory and practice. Through the reading of assigned journal articles students will be prepared to engage in class discussions and interactive group activities.

Note: Also review all course notes and handouts.

Example Items:

- 1. Describe and support your perspective of talent development. Describe how this view integrates with a specific set of standards in your district's curriculum.
- 2. Outline a professional development plan for implementing creative thinking across the curriculum at a particular grade level.
- 3. Describe ways that creative thinking supports diversity in schools.
- 4. The school board has asked you to review an educational model for differentiating the curriculum. Select a model and provide a critique.
- 5. Describe how you will review standards for instructional technology across your school and district curriculum.