## GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY College of Education & Human Development Graduate School of Education

## EDLE 616.BO1 Curriculum Development & Evaluation Summer, 2021 [3 credit hours]

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**Prerequisites:** EDLE 620, EDLE 690, and EDLE 791

<u>Course Description</u>: In three Units [micro, micro-macro, and macro] EDLE 616 examines the relationship of written, taught, and tested curriculum; conceptual frameworks [UBD, Mapping]; and identifies critical leadership decisions that can positively impact student achievement. Also examines foundational influences on the worlds of Curriculum and constructs a Curriculum Design model for emerging leaders.

**Program Vision:** The Education Leadership Program is devoted to improving the quality of pre-K through 12 education through teaching, research and service. Candidates and practicing administrators engage in course work devoted to experiential learning, professional growth opportunities, and doctoral research that informs practice. We educate exceptional leaders who act with integrity as they work to improve schools.

## **Course Information**

Class Location:	Blackboard
Class Dates:	June 1 <sup>st</sup> through July 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2021.

## **Course Delivery Method**

This course will be delivered online (100%) using an **asynchronous** format via Blackboard Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal. You will log in to the Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email name (everything before @masonlive.gmu.edu) and email password. The course site will be available on or about May 29th.

Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.

#### Technical Requirements

To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

 High-speed Internet access with standard up-to-date browsers. To get a list of Blackboard's supported browsers see: <u>https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\_Started/Browser\_Support#sup</u> <u>ported-browsers</u>

To get a list of supported operation systems on different devices see: <u>https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\_Started/Browser\_Support#test</u> <u>ed-devices-and-operating-systems</u>

- Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.
- Students will need a headset microphone for use with the Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing tool. [Delete this sentence if not applicable.]
- Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.

- The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download: [Add or delete options, as desire.]
  - Adobe Acrobat Reader: <u>https://get.adobe.com/reader/</u>
  - Windows Media Player: <u>https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14209/get-windows-media-player</u>
  - Apple Quick Time Player: <u>www.apple.com/quicktime/download/</u>

**Video/Screencasting Tools**: You may use Kaltura, Jing, to record your videos and Discussion Board assignments.

**Group Work**: You may use Google Docs, Wikis, etc. to collaborate with colleagues on group assignments. Discussion Board group activities will be pre-assigned on Blackboard.

**Bb Collaborate/Skype/Zoom**: You may communicate also with colleagues using these platforms. Zoom is also an option for Office Hours.

**Email**: All candidates are required to activate and monitor their GMU e-mail accounts. I strongly recommend that you do not forward your Mason e-mail to a different account because attachments are often lost that way. It is best to check e-mail directly from your Mason account daily. Per university policy in compliance with federal law, I will only communicate with candidates via their GMU email accounts and will be unable to respond to emails sent from other accounts (i.e., gmail, yahoo, work email, etc.). Any announcements regarding the course will be sent to your GMU account. I will respond to emails within 24 hours, excluding weekends.

## Expectations

## • Course Week:

Because asynchronous courses do not have a "fixed" meeting day, our week will start on **Tuesdays, and finish on the following Monday.** 

## • Log-in Frequency:

Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials at least <u>daily [or several times per week]</u>.

## • Participation:

Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and

assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions.

## • Technical Competence:

Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.

## Technical Issues:

**Students should anticipate** some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.

## Workload:

<u>Please be aware that this course is not self-paced.</u> <u>Students are expected to meet specific deadlines and due dates listed in the Class Schedule section of this syllabus.</u> It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due.

## • Instructor Support:

Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or other course-related issues. Those unable to come to a Mason campus can meet with the instructor via telephone or Zoom. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.

## • Netiquette:

The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting them, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. Be positive in your approach with others and diplomatic in selecting your words. Remember that you are not competing with classmates but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.

## Accommodations:

Online learners who require effective accommodations to ensure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

## Learner Outcomes:

Students who successfully complete the requirements for EDLE 616 will be able to:

[i] demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of curriculum design, development and evaluation and connect all parts to NELP standards in the design [and presentation] of a mini [ii] demonstrate the ability to analyze school demographic and assessment data and use the same to create a professional development plan [PDP] to improve student performance in <u>two</u> critical areas

[iii] identify an emerging/controversial issue in curriculum development/evaluation and create a plan to serve as a guide for educators to fully understand it [the plan should connect best thinking/practices on the issue to 2 or 3 essential questions]

[iv] investigate the components of a well-formed BOE policy on curriculum development/evaluation and apply that knowledge to *solve* a problem either at a specific grade level or content area.

#### **Course Objectives:**

- 1. Understand the myriad influences on the Field of Curriculum, Development, Design & Evaluation.
- 2. Investigate frameworks—Understanding by Design, Curriculum Mapping—that efficiently connect Curriculum Standards to Programs of Study.
- 3. Analyze Curriculum Leadership practices in the areas of Evaluation, Professional Development, Alignment and Standards-based practices.

#### **Relationships to Program Goals and Professional Organizations:**

The importance of strengthening and guiding instruction in educational settings is a leadership theme of academic and professional organizations alike. The purpose of the course is to strengthen the knowledge, skills and dispositions of EDLE candidates as instructional leaders and managers. The course provides models for (1) designing and managing curriculum; (2) relating to school board policy, professional development, and budget to effective instructional leadership; (3) constructing effective teacher-friendly curriculum guides; and (4) collecting and using demographic data to create a plan for improved student performance.

This course meets applicable competencies, standards, and guidelines set forth by the Virginia Department of Education (VA DOE), Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISSLC), National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), and National Education Leadership Preparation (NELP) as shown below.

1. **NELP: 6:3** Program completers understand and demonstrate skills in supporting the district's collective instructional and leadership capacity to address

emerging school issues.

- 2. **NELP 3.2** Program completers understand, and demonstrate the capacity to advocate and cultivate for equitable access to opportunities, resources and instructional materials.
- 3. **NELP 1.1** Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to design, communicate and evaluate a district mission and vision, in supporting learning for all stakeholders.
- 4. **NELP 4.2** Program completers understand and can demonstrate the capacity to evaluate a comprehensive, rigorous, and coherent curricular and instructional school program, that fosters digital literacy, data literacy, equity and improvement for all students.
- 5. **NELP 4.4** Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to design, implement & evaluate coherent [and differentiated]systems of curriculum, instruction and assessment.
- 6. **NELP 4.4** Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to design, implement & evaluate coherent [and differentiated]systems of curriculum, instruction and assessment.
- 7. **NELP: 1.2** Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to lead continuous and sustainable improvement processes that engage diverse stakeholders in data collection, diagnosis, design and evaluation.

#### Required Textbook[s]:

[Required]: Lalor, Angela di Michelle [2017]. Ensuring High Quality Curriculum [How to Design, Revise or Adopt Curriculum Aligned to Student Success. Alexandria, VA: ASCD.

[Recommended & optional]: Mooney Nancy J., & Mausbach, Ann T. [2008]. Align the Design: A Blueprint for School Improvement. Alexandria, VA.: ASCD.

**[Reference text]:** American Psychological Association (2009). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6<sup>th</sup> edition). Washington DC: American Psychological Association.

## **Course Submission Policies and Evaluation Criteria**

Assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. on the dates listed on the syllabus, electronically via Blackboard. Late assignments will not be accepted except in emergency situations that have been discussed and approved by the instructor in advance of the due date. Please take advantage of instructor office hours and availability to get assistance prior to assignment deadlines. Late penalties may be assessed for persistently late work.

## **TK20 Performance-Based Assessment Submission Requirement**

Every student registered for any Education Leadership course <u>with a required</u> <u>performance-based assessment</u> is required to submit these assessments in edle 616—[i] **Design for Curriculum Framework, and [ii] Demographic Analysis & Assessment Data**, to Tk20 through Blackboard (regardless of whether the student is taking the course as an elective, a onetime course or as part of an undergraduate minor). Evaluation of the performance-based assessment by the course instructor will also be completed in Tk20 through Blackboard. Failure to submit the assessment to Tk20 (through Blackboard) will result in the course instructor reporting the course grade as Incomplete (IN). Unless the IN grade is changed upon completion of the required Tk20 submission, the IN will convert to an F nine weeks into the following semester.

## <u>Grading</u>

Students can earn a total of 400 points in this course. Graded assignments account for 65% (260 points) of the overall grade, while online course participation accounts for 35% (140 points).

## Participation Requirements (35% or 140 points of total grade)

To maximize learning and engagement in the online environment, students are expected to participate actively in asynchronous class discussions, asynchronous and synchronous group activities, and serve as critical friends to other students. In this course, **participation points are given by unit,** rather than per learning activity. Participation points are divided into two parts:

[i] Reflections [Journals-7]—individual submissions [70 points]

[ii] Discussion Boards [5-- 1 individual; 4 group—70 points]: [i] Other than the introductory short video, most Discussion Board activities require **group responses** [plus *one* response to another group post]; [ii] Journals are **individual submissions**.

Below is a list of all required learning activities, by unit, which will count toward your overall participation grade. Please refer to the Course Participation Rubric for details.

#### **Introduction** [10 points]

• Video Post [Lesson 1]- [10 points]

## Unit 1 [50 points]

- Journal Reflections [2] -[20 points]
- Discussion Boards [2] [30 points]

#### Unit 2 [35 points]

- Journal Reflections [2] [20 points]
- Discussion Boards [1]- [15 points]

#### Unit 3 [45 points]

- Journal Reflections [3] [30 points]
- Discussion Boards [1]- [15 points]

#### **Grading Scale**

- A+ 400+ points
- A 375–400
- A- 350 374
- B+ 335 --- 349
- B 315 --- 334
- B- 300 --- 314
- C 275 --- 299
- F Below 275 points

#### **Professional Dispositions**

See <a href="https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/">https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/</a>

#### **Class Schedule**

Note: Please refer to the Weekly Schedule on Blackboard for the most up---to---date version of the Course Schedule—including reading and viewing assignments, etc.

DATE/WEEK	UNIT	L J	ACTIVITIES/READINGS [principal]/ ASSIGNMENTS
Week 1 ( [June 1 –June 7]	)/1	Orientation Introduction to Unit 1 Lesson 1: Course in Miniature	<b>**See Units on Blackboard**</b> Discussion Board 1 [individual]- Video Discussion Board 2 [group]-Ken Robinson
Week 2 1 [June 8 –June 14]		Lesson 2: The Taught & Hidden Curriculum Lesson 3: The Written Curriculum	Journal 1 OR Journal 2 [choose one]-Pacing Guides/Then & Now Discussion Board 3 [group]-Case Study on Lesson Plans
Week 3 I [June 15 – June 21]	l	Lesson 4: The Tested Curriculum Lesson 5: Conceptual Frameworks—UBD & Mapping	
Week 4 2 [June 22 – June 28]	2	Introduction to Unit 2 Lesson 6: Curriculum Evaluation Lesson 7: Curriculum Alignment	
Week 5 2 [June 29 – July 5]	2/3	Lesson 8: Curriculum Development & Professional Development Introduction to Unit 3	Journal 5 [PD and CD] Assignment #2 due, July 6
Week 6 [July 6 – July 12]	3		Discussion Board 5 [group]- Historical Narratives
Week 7 [July 13 – July 19]	3	Lesson 12: Sociology of Curriculum	Journal 6 [Intelligent Design— Sociology 'at work']
Week 8 [July 20 – July 24]	3	Lesson 13: Politics of Curriculum	Journal 7 [Politics of Curriculum] Journal 8 [616 Essential Q] Assignment #3 due, July 27

## **Core Values Commitment**

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <u>http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/</u>.

## **GMU Policies and Resources for Students**

1. GMU Policies and Resources for students

## Policies

a. Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/</a>).

b. Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <a href="http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/">http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/</a>).

c. Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.

d. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <u>http://ods.gmu.edu/</u>).

e. Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

## Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to <u>tk20help@gmu.edu</u> or <u>https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20</u>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <u>http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/</u>.
- . For information on student support resources on campus, see <a href="https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus">https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus</a>

## Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:

As a faculty member, I am designated as a "Responsible Employee," and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason's Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason's confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason's Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing <u>titleix@gmu.edu</u>.

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <a href="https://cehd.gmu.edu/">https://cehd.gmu.edu/</a>.

## COURSE ASSIGNMENTS [3]

The three graded assignments required for this course are as follows:

## 1. <u>School Board Policy versus SchoolHouse Practice [50 points]</u>

## Purpose:

As educators, it is important that we have a clear understanding of the educational policies developed by our school boards, and our responsibility as educational leaders to implement them. This assignment will challenge your ability to investigate a particular policy adopted by a chosen school board and examine its impact on student learning and achievement.

## Assignment:

Prepare at minimum a 6 to 8-page, double spaced *essay* that investigates one chosen school board policy and analyze its components in relation to the needs of a [i] specific grade level or [ii] content area. Candidates will conduct interviews with administrators and/or multiple stakeholders in order to gain detailed knowledge of the policy and its impact at the local school level.

## School Board Policy Assessment Rubric [Assignment #1]

# [Candidates understand and can anticipate and assess emerging trends and initiatives in order to adapt school-based leadership strategies. [NELP:1.2]

Criteria	Exceeds	Meets	Approaching	Falls Below
	Expectations	Expectations	Expectations	Expectations
	90 to 100%	80 to 89%	70 to 79%	0 to 69%

Includes a statement that relates to area of study [weighting 15%]	The statement is clear with adequate reference to the needs of student learners.	The statement is clear with adequate reference to learners.	The statement is vague or rambling with some reference to student learning.	No statement is included.
Connections made from School Board Policy to grade level and/or content area [weighting 45%]	Connections from School Board Policy to grade level and/or content area are clearly and concisely explained.	Connections from School Board Policy to grade level and/or content area listed.	Connections from School Board Policy to grade level and/or content area are vaguely suggested	No connections are made.
Candidates conduct interviews with an [a] Administrator and/or [b] Stakeholders regarding selected policy [weighting 35%]	The impact of the School Board Policy is clearly and concisely presented from multiple interviews [a and b].	The impact of the School Board Policy is presented from either interview [a] or interview [b].	The impact of the School Board Policy is discussed in general terms.	The impact of the School Board Policy is not discussed.
Spelling, grammar, mechanics [weighting 5%]	The project is error free and clearly and professionally presented	The project has no spelling errors and no more than two mechanical errors.	The project has some spelling grammar, and/or mechanical errors.	The project has multiple errors in spelling, and/or mechanics

DUE DATE: Week 3 [Upload your paper to the Course site 'ASSIGNMENTS']

## Design of Curriculum Framework—[Assignment #2]-[100 points]

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate—<u>on a smaller scale</u>-- knowledge of program design in curriculum as evidenced in the creation of a *problem-based* model to be used by emerging leaders in your school/school system.

As one of the middle courses in the licensure program, creating a conceptual framework in Curriculum allows students [i] an opportunity to reflect on what they've learned about site-based leadership to date and [ii] what they would still like to explore. Finally, creating the framework ties all [if not most] of the major elements of EDLE 616 together, allowing students to apply what they've learned in a concrete way [theory to practice], such as aligning the program [written, taught, tested curriculum] with standards and assessments, connections to current best practice research and adult learning theory, as well as implementing the ideas of Backwards Design [UBD].

These concepts can then be applied to solving any persistent curricular problem/issue as a site-based leader. Some examples of smaller-scale, problem-based program designs in Curriculum might be: Special Education, Contemporary Issues [including Equity], Global Education, Urban Settings, Technology Integration, Leadership for ELL Students, Blended Learning, Social Emotional Learning, Distance Learning Challenges, Problembased Learning, etc.

## Instructions:

Students should first explore and research existing several [at least 3] problem Curriculum programs in their school/school district, then design and construct a Curriculum Framework [in PowerPoint] to address that problem. The PowerPoint should not exceed 25 to 30 slides, including references that are written in APA style. Components to be included in the Curriculum Framework are listed below [see Rubric]:

## Your curriculum framework should be comprised of 3 parts:

[i] **Part 1** consists of the conceptual design: Philosophy/Vision, Research Rationale, Essential Questions, Knowledge, Skills, Dispositions, Connections to Standards and should be grounded in Adult Learning Theory

[ii] **Part 2** comprises a Design Overview-- 4 to 5 course offerings & brief descriptions, connections to Essential Questions, [along with course assessment[s]—formative or summative];

and [iii] **Part 3** should include **a** UBD designed Professional Development Session [on ONE of the courses in Part 2], and References written in APA style.

\*it is recommended that you submit the Conceptual Design [Part 1] as a Draft for feedback, <u>at least ONE week prior to submitting the Assignment.</u>

	Levels of Achievement			
Criteria	exceeds expectations	meets expectations	approaching expectations	falls below expectations
NELP 6.3 Program completers understand and demonstrate skills in supporting the district's collective instructional and leadership capacity to address emerging school issues. Weight 20.00%	90 to 100 % Proposed curriculum design model reflects [i] current best practices; [ii] emerging trends; [iii] connections to Standards; and [iv] current research on Leadership Programs.	80 to 89 % Proposed curriculum design model includes [a] emerging trends, and [b] 2 other elements listed.	70 to 79 % Proposed curriculum design model includes [a] emerging trends, and [b] 1 other element listed.	0 to 69 % Proposed curriculum design model suggests (generally) trends, best practices and current research.
NELP 3.2 Program completers understand, and demonstrate the capacity to advocate and cultivate for equitable access to opportunities, resources and instructional materials. Weight 10.00%	90 to 100 % Proposed curriculum design model demonstrates candidate's superior ability to advocate for policies and programs that promote equitable learning opportunities for all students	80 to 89 % Proposed curriculum design model demonstrates candidate's ability to advocate for policies and programs that promote equitable learning opportunities for all students	70 to 79 % Proposed curriculum design model demonstrates some capacity to advocate for policies and programs that promote equitable learning opportunities for all students	0 to 69 % The proposed model does not include evidence of the ability to advocate for policies and programs that promote equitable learning opportunities for all students
NELP 1.1	90 to 100 %	80 to 89 %	70 to 79 %	0 to 69 %

Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to design, communicate and evaluate a district mission and vision, in supporting learning for all stakeholders. Weight 10.00%	Proposed curriculum design model includes [i] a strong mission & philosophy statement; [ii] a vision for a program of excellence; [iii] specific indicators of knowledge, skills and dispositions served; [iv] and at least 4 essential questions to guide the program.	Proposed curriculum design model includes 3 out of the 4 elements listed.	Proposed curriculum design model includes 2 out of the 4 elements listed.	Proposed curriculum design model only focuses on 1 of the elements listed.
NELP 4.2 Program completers understand and can demonstrate the capacity to evaluate a comprehensive, rigorous, and coherent curricular and instructional school program, that fosters digital literacy, data literacy, equity and improvement for all students. Weight 15.00%	90 to 100 % Proposed curriculum design model incorporates current Adult Learning theories, multiple assessment (formal & informal) models, opportunities to showcase diverse learners, and strong evidence of a backward design model[UBD].	80 to 89 % Proposed curriculum design model includes 3 out of the 4 elements listed.	70 to 79 % Proposed curriculum design model includes 2 out of the 4 elements listed.	0 to 69 % Proposed curriculum design model focuses only on 1 element listed.

NELP 4.4 Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to design, implement & evaluate coherent [and differentiated]systems of curriculum, instruction and assessment. Weight 15.00%	90 to 100 % Proposed curriculum design model reflects differentiation in the design, and a strong inquiry-based approach to learning in the entire course sequence.	80 to 89 % Proposed curriculum design model includes evidence of 2 out of the 3 elements listed.	70 to 79 % Proposed curriculum design model includes evidence of 1 out of the 3 elements listed.	0 to 69 % Proposed curriculum design model only hints at generalities in all the elements listed.
NELP 4.4 Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to design, implement & evaluate coherent [and differentiated]systems of curriculum, instruction and assessment. Weight 10.00%	90 to 100 % Proposed curriculum design model incorporates the application of technologies in classroom instruction, student achievement, and school improvement.	80 to 89 % Proposed curriculum design model includes 2 out of the 3 elements listed.	70 to 79 % Proposed curriculum design model lists only one of the elements.	0 to 69 % No elements are included in the overall design.
Unblemished Prose. Weight 5.00%	90 to 100 % Proposed curriculum design model is error free.	80 to 89 % Proposed curriculum design model contains 1 or 2 errors.	70 to 79 % Proposed curriculum design model contains 5 or more errors.	0 to 69 % Proposed curriculum design model is riddled with errors.

## DUE DATE: Week 5 [Upload both parts of your Framework to 'Assessments' tab [Tk20]]

## <u>3 Demographic Analysis of Assessment Data [for Improved Student</u> <u>Performance] [110 points]</u>

#### Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate students' ability to analyze demographic and test data (Standards of Learning or other test results) as it relates to curriculum and/or instructional improvement. Each student will obtain the above-mentioned information from their schools and analyze strengths/weaknesses of existing SIP/Action Plans with a view to helping teachers improve student performance in **two curriculum areas**. Candidates should also include recommendations for involving school staff in the change process, including relevant (recent) research-based strategies as a part of the effort to lead school improvement.

#### **Assignment**

Prepare, at minimum, a Mini-Case Study (12 to 15 pages, including graphics) utilizing the analysis of actual demographic and test data from your school, and, after examining existing site-based SIP/Action Plans at your school, analyze the strengths and weaknesses in the SIP/Action Plans with a view to helping teachers/staff members improve student performance in the two targeted curriculum areas.

#### Plan of Action

- 1. Locate the most recent AYP/AMO data for your school.
- 2. Identify demographic information for your school as it relates to AYP/AMO data for NCLB sub-groups.
- 3. Analyze the data in two academic areas. Include a brief description of your findings and conclusions regarding curriculum/instruction deficit areas.
- 4. Examine and critique existing site-based "action plans" (focusing on strengths and weaknesses) that target the two curriculum areas you selected for improving student achievement. Discuss with colleagues in your school why this problem exists [and why it persists] and probable causes for action plan strengths/weaknesses.
- 5. Locate 3 current research-based strategies (recent) that would help [i] target the identified deficit areas, and [ii] strengthen (and improve) the delivery of curriculum/instruction to improve future student performance in those areas.
- 6. Finally, make recommendations to site-based leadership on ways to involve school staff in the change process.

	Levels of Achievement			
Criteria	exceeds	meets	approaching	falls below
	expectations	expectations	expectations	expectations
NELP 4.4	90 to 100 %	80 to 89 %	70 to 79 %	0 to 69 %
Program completers	Cultural diversity	Cultural	Cultural	Cultural
understand and	in the school and	diversity in the	diversity is	diversity of
demonstrate the	its community is	school is	described and	either the
capacity to design,	described and	described and	analyzed, but	school or
implement & evaluate	analyzed (race,	analyzed (race,	lacks	community is
coherent [and	ethnicity, gender,	ethnicity,	information on	analyzed, but
differentiated]systems	age, socio-	gender, age,	all 7	not both.
of curriculum,	economic status,	socio-economic	categories.	
instruction and	English language	levels, English		
assessment.	learners, and	language		
Weight 20.00%	special education)	learners, and		
	over at least the	special		
	last three years.	education) over		
		the last three		
		years.		
	90 to 100 %	80 to 89 %	70 to 79 %	0 to 69 %
NELP: 4.2	Candidates	Candidates	Candidates	Candidates do
Program completers	provide evidence	provide	provide	not provide
understand and	of a superior	evidence of an	evidence of	evidence, or
demonstrate the	ability to collect	adequate ability	some ability to	demonstrate an
capacity to evaluate,	and use data to	to collect and	collect and use	ability to
design and cultivate	identify school	use data to	data to identify	collect and use
coherent systems of	goals, assess	identify school	school goals,	data to identify
support, coaching	organizational	goals, assess	assess	school goals,
and PD that promote	effectiveness and	organizational	organizational	assess
reflection, digital	equity, provide	effectiveness,	effectiveness,	organizational
literacy, distributed	support &	and create and	and create and	effectiveness,
leadership data	coaching in the	implement	implement	and create and
literacy and equity in	pursuit of	plans to achieve	plans to	implement
the pursuit of	achievable school	school goals.	achieve school	plans to
achievable	goals.		goals.	achieve school
school/district goals.				goals.
Weight 15.00%				
NELD 1A	90 to 100 %	80 to 89 %	70 to 79 %	0 to 69 %
NELP: 1.2	Candidates	Candidates	Candidates	Candidates do
Program completers	provide evidence	provide	provide	not provide
understand and	of a superior	evidence of an	evidence of	evidence or
demonstrate the	ability to promote	adequate ability	some ability to	demonstrates
capacity to lead	continual and	to promote	promote	an inability to
continuous and	sustainable school	continual and	continual and	promote

sustainable improvement processes that engage diverse stakeholders in data collection, diagnosis, design and evaluation. Weight 15.00%	improvement through thoughtful data analysis, diagnosis and research.	sustainable school improvement though data analysis,	sustainable school improvement.	continual and sustainable school improvement.
NELP: 4.3 Program completers understand and demonstrate the capacity to analyze culturally responsive assessments & data collections, that support instructional improvement, equity & student learning. Weight 15.00%	90 to 100 % Current school action plan(s) are analyzed in relation to identified achievement gap areas. Instructional practices, equity, instructional programs, and assessments that support student learning in two curriculum areas are described and evaluated.	80 to 89 % Current school action plan(s) are analyzed in relation to identified achievement gap areas. Instructional practices and/or instructional programs, and/or assessments that support student learning in two curriculum areas are described and evaluated.	70 to 79 % Current school action plan(s) are analyzed in relation to identified achievement gap areas. Instructional practices, programs, and assessments are not clearly described or evaluated.	0 to 69 % Limited analysis provided of school action plan(s) in relation to identified achievement gap areas. Instructional practices, programs, and assessments are not addressed.
Spelling, grammar, mechanics. Weight 5.00%	<b>90 to 100 %</b> The project is error free and is clearly and professionally presented.	80 to 89 % The project has no spelling errors and no more than two mechanical errors.	<b>70 to 79 %</b> The project has some spelling, grammar and/or mechanical errors.	<b>0 to 69 %</b> The project has multiple errors in spelling and/or mechanics.

DUE DATE: Week 8 [Upload your paper to the Course Site 'Assessments' tab [Tk20]]