Admission to Teacher Education Essay Instructions

The purpose of the admissions essay is to assess your readiness for admission to the Teacher Education Program.

**Essay Prompt – Content**

- Describe three (3) educational experiences that influenced your understanding of teaching and learning. Your description should come from the list below.

  1. One experience from your Touchstone Program coursework. This includes the Touchstone core WRIT 101, HMXP 102, CRTW 201, or required courses in quantitative skills, global/historical perspectives, social science, humanities and arts, natural science, or intensive writing. Refer to the undergraduate catalog for a complete listing. This does NOT include EDUC/EDCO courses or courses in the major.

  2. One experience from your educational core courses EDUC 101, 200, or 220; or EDCO 201, 202, or 203. (For candidates in the old program, these courses will be EDUC 110, 210, 250, or 275).

  3. One experience working in a field setting with children or youth (e.g., 25-hour experience or a program area practicum). The field experience should be with children in the age group for which you are being certified.

- For each experience, select a College of Education Unit Standard and an Element of that standard and describe how they relate to the experience. For each experience, cite the Unite Standard (e.g., Diverse Needs of Learners) and include the exact language of the Element. For example: Standard 1. Diverse Needs of Learners, Element 3. The teacher candidate plans and implements differentiated learning experiences that address diverse learner needs.

- Describe how each of these experiences has influenced your perception of teaching. Provide examples that show how you will use these experiences in your future teaching.

**Essay Format – Written Expression**

- Follow the structure for a standard 5 paragraph essay. Begin and end your essay with opening and closing statements. The opening statement should introduce your topic with a declaration of purpose and concise description of content. In the closing paragraph, you should review the key points of your essay and provide an appropriate conclusion.

- Submit an essay that is no longer than four (4) pages, word-processed, double-spaced in 12-point font and saved as a Microsoft Word document.

- Proofread your essay carefully. The essay rubric includes an assessment of your use of professional language and academic voice, as well as correct grammar, mechanics, spelling, and writing conventions.

- **For confidentiality purposes, do not use names of people or places in your essay examples.**