

Reflection Paper Writing Guide

Northwest University College of Education Graduate & GYO Programs

This portion of the application is an exercise in self-reflection. Our intent is to get a sense of who you are as a student and as a teacher, in four specific areas. Use the questions below to guide your writing. **In 2-3 pages, be sure to thoroughly address each of the four essay sections.** (double-spaced, 11-pt font).

- 1) **Teaching Experience:** What formal or informal teaching experiences have you had? In brief, describe each experience (e.g., age of learner(s), setting, responsibilities, etc.). What did you learn from each experience?
- 2) **Teaching Desire:** Why do you want to be a teacher? What is it about the teaching profession that attracts you? What do you look forward to most when you think about being a teacher? What scares you about teaching?
- 3) **Cultural Awareness:** We can define diversity in many ways (socioeconomic status, nationality, race, gender, etc.). What experiences with diversity have challenged your worldview? How will those experiences help inform your teaching style and philosophy?
- 4) **Professional Disposition:** Professional educators need to be collaborative colleagues, self-regulated learners, effective communicators, and adaptable people. How would your peers and supervisors describe your strengths and weaknesses in these areas?



RUBRIC	
General Scoring Guide	Rate
Exceeds Standard; exemplary	3
Meets Standard; adequate	2
Approaching Standard; weak	1
Below Standard; unacceptable	0

Mechanics & Organization	
<i>Evaluate the following mechanics aspects of the paper, placing your score in the right-hand box:</i>	Score
M/O 1.1 Word choice is appropriate for college-level writing	(0-3)
M/O 1.2 Grammar is sound	(0-3)
M/O 1.3 Punctuation is used properly and serves to clarify meaning	(0-3)
M/O 1.4 Paragraphs are structured, cohesive, and coherent; content flows	(0-3)
Content	
<i>Evaluate the following organization aspects of the paper, placing your score in the right-hand box:</i>	Score
C 2.1 Describe your teaching experiences	(0-3)
C 2.2 Describe your teaching desire	(0-3)
C 2.3 Describe your cultural awareness	(0-3)
C 2.4 Describe your professional disposition	(0-3)