



Ed.D. in Educational Leadership Program

Signature Assignment for EDLD 743

Case Application Paper

Student Learning Outcome(s) Assessed:

SLO #2: Students demonstrate the knowledge and skills to apply organizational theory, management skills, leadership strategies, and data to transform organizations.

Description of the Signature Assignment

The purpose of this assignment is for students to apply their philosophy of leadership to a case. Students create their own case regarding a challenge at an educational institution and then apply both theories on leadership and organizational change, as well as their personal leadership philosophy, to addressing the case.

Directions for Students

This assignment will consist of the following components:

- Students will write a case study for analysis during the first month of class. This case should identify a significant challenge facing an educational institution with which the student works or has worked – this case should be currently unresolved or, if resolved, the resolution to the case must be unsatisfactory. Students should write this case as early as possible; students must bring their case to class during the fifth class meeting for discussion.
- Students will conduct a careful review of course readings.
- Students will analyze their case in light of (a.) the theoretical literature for leadership and organizational change, and (b.) their personal philosophy of leadership as identified in the *Personal Leadership Philosophy Paper*.
- Students will write a final paper reviewing their work. This paper should consist of an introduction, a *concise* presentation of the case, a *thorough* review of the analysis of the problem, and a set of clear, theory-driven recommendations that are consistent with the student's philosophy of leadership. Students **need not** present a separate literature review section for this paper. The paper should not exceed 6 double spaces pages in length.

Scoring Rubric

Criteria	Exceed Expectations (6 points)	Meets Expectations (5 points)	Meets Some Expectation (4 points)	Inadequate (< 3 points)
Introduction	Introduction is clear and directly related to the importance of the paper. The introduction is clear and unambiguous, and provides an excellent foundation for subsequent discussion of the case.	Introduction is somewhat clear and directly related to the importance of the paper. The introduction provides a good foundation for subsequent discussion of the case.	Introduction does not provide clarity for the importance of the paper. The introduction provides a fair foundation for subsequent discussion of the case.	
Presentation of the Case	All elements of the case are thoroughly addressed with clarity and succinctly described.	All elements of the case are addressed and clearly stated but may not be as obvious as in the "Exceeds Expectations" category.	Most elements of the case are addressed but it is difficult to ascertain the larger issues in which the case is situated.	
Analysis of the Problem	Includes a thorough and detailed analysis of the problem facing the educational institution. The analysis is clearly and concisely articulated. Analysis includes significant theoretical literature for leadership and organizational change, and includes the student's personal philosophy.	Includes an analysis of the problem facing the educational institution. The analysis is not articulated concisely nor clearly. Analysis includes some theoretical literature for leadership and organizational change, and includes the student's personal philosophy.	Includes a fair analysis of the problem facing the educational institution. The analysis is poorly articulated. Analysis includes a few citations of theoretical literature for leadership and organizational change, and includes the student's personal philosophy.	
Recommendation	Includes a set of clear, theory driven recommendations that are consistent with the student's philosophy of leadership. All recommendations are extensively developed.	Includes a set of recommendations that are somewhat consistent with the student's philosophy of leadership. All recommendations are somewhat developed.	Includes a set of recommendations that are not clear nor consistent with the student's philosophy of leadership. All recommendations are not sufficiently developed.	
Writing	Writing is focused, well organized, grammatically correct, and error free. The writing clearly contributes to understanding the overall purpose and discussion. APA format is followed consistently throughout.	Writing is focused, organized, grammatically correct, with two or fewer errors. The writing adds to the overall purpose and discussion. APA format is generally followed.	Writing has three or fewer grammatical and/or spelling errors. The writing quality detracts from the overall purpose and discussion. APA format is not followed throughout.	
Total Points				/30

Legend

Total Points	College of Education Assessment Scale Equivalent
29-30	4 (Exceeds Expectations)
27-28	3 (Meets Expectations)
25-26	2 (Meets Some Expectations)
23-24	1 (Does Not Meet Expectations)
22 and lower	0 (Can't Score)