

**EDSS 531: THE REFLECTIVE PROFESSIONAL**  
**2 units- CRN 21346 Tuesdays- 9:30-2:15**  
**SPRING 2011**

**Instructor: Jannis Brandenburg, Distinguished Teacher in Residence**  
**Office: University Hall 416**  
**Phone: 760-750-8558**  
**Fax: 760-750-3352**  
**Office Hours: W 3:00-4:30 PM and by appointment**  
**Office email: jbranden@csusm.edu**

**College of Education Mission Statement**

The mission of the College of Education Community is to collaboratively transform public education by preparing thoughtful educators and advancing professional practices. We are committed to diversity, educational equity, and social justice, exemplified through reflective teaching, life-long learning, innovative research and on-going service. Our practices demonstrate a commitment to student-centered education, diversity, collaboration, professionalism, and shared governance.

*(Adopted by COE Governance Community, October, 1997).*

**Infused Competencies**

**Authorization to Teach English Learners**

This credential program has been specifically designed to prepare teachers for the diversity of languages often encountered in California public school classrooms. The authorization to teach English learners is met through the infusion of content and experiences within the credential program, as well as additional coursework. Students successfully completing this program receive a credential with authorization to teach English learners. *(Approved by CCTC in SB 2042 Program Standards, August 02)*

**Special Education**

Consistent with the intent to offer a seamless teaching credential in the College of Education, this course will demonstrate the collaborative infusion of special education competencies that reflect inclusive educational practices.

**Technology**

This course infuses technology competencies to prepare our candidates to use technologies, emphasizing their use in both teaching practice and teacher candidate learning. Candidates are expected to use technology as part of their professional practice, as well as to research the topics discussed in this course.

**Students with Disabilities Requiring Reasonable Accommodations**

Students must be approved for services by providing appropriate and recent documentation to the Office of Disable Student Services (DSS). This office is located in Craven Hall 5205, and can be contacted by phone at (760) 750-4905, or TTY (760) 750-4909. Students authorized by DSS to receive reasonable accommodations should meet with their instructor during office hours or, in order to ensure confidentiality, in a more private setting.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to assist teacher candidates in becoming active learners who continuously research, assess, apply, and refine knowledge throughout their careers. The course has been developed around the belief that reflective teachers are more able to influence and mold the contexts, environments, and decision-making associated with the profession. The issues of reflective practice will be explored through readings, discussions, role-plays, field experiences, and connections to previous coursework. In this course, teacher candidates will have the opportunity to develop strategies and techniques to assist them in becoming reflective professionals.

**Course Prerequisites:** Admission to the Single Subject Credential Program.

### **Enduring Understanding:**

Teacher candidates understand that effective teaching and student achievement is based upon the practitioner's ability to reflect upon events and individual students as a means to meet student needs and continually grow in the profession.

### **Essential Questions for Teacher Candidates:**

1. What is my belief system regarding the nature and education of adolescents?
2. What does the 21<sup>st</sup> century require of its citizens and how is this reflected in my teaching?
3. How do I reflect upon my own biases and ensure equity in my classroom?
4. How do I communicate openly, empathetically, and productively in a variety of situations, including: Socratic seminars, class discussions, presentations, and role-plays?
5. How do I present myself as a professional educator?

### **Evidence of Understanding - Teacher Performance Expectation (TPE)**

**Competencies:** The course objectives, assignments, and assessments have been aligned with the CTC standards for the Single Subject Credential. This course is designed to help teachers seeking a California teaching credential to develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to assist schools and districts in implementing effective programs for all students. The successful candidate will be able to merge theory and practice in order to realize a comprehensive and extensive educational program for all students. Failure to meet a minimum level of competence in any of the TPEs by the completion of the program will prevent the acquisition of the Single Subject Credential (A full-text version of the TPE descriptions can be downloaded from the COE webpage: [www.csusm.edu/COE](http://www.csusm.edu/COE)).

The following Teacher Performance Expectations (TPEs) are addressed in this course and are imbedded in the Teacher Performance Assessments (TPAs).

TPE 11 - Social Environment

TPE 12 - Professional, Legal, and Ethical Obligations

TPE 13 - Professional Growth

TPE 15 - Social Justice and Equity

## REQUIRED TEXTS

Baldwin, M. and Keating, J. (2006). *Teaching in secondary schools: Meeting the challenges of today's adolescents*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.  
[You should have this book from the fall.]

Other readings as assigned in class.

Bring a journal, composition book, or paper in a folder that you can use to write responses related to our class topics and readings.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Academic Integrity:** Teacher candidates must come to class having done close reading of the required texts in preparation for class or Socratic seminar-style discussions, submit required assignments, and participate in class activities, including facilitation of and feedback to colleagues, role plays, and small group tasks. Teacher education is a professional preparation program. Teacher candidates will be expected to adhere to standards of dependability, academic honesty and integrity, confidentiality, and writing achievement. Because it is important for teachers to be able to effectively communicate their ideas to students, colleagues, parents, and administrators, writing that is original, clear and error-free is a priority in the College of Education.

**CSUSM Academic Honesty Policy:** “Students (Teacher Candidates) will be expected to adhere to standards of academic honesty and integrity, as outlined in the Student Academic Honesty Policy. All written work and oral assignments must be original work. All ideas/materials that are borrowed from other sources must have appropriate references to the original sources. Any quoted material should give credit to the source and be punctuated with quotation marks.

Teacher candidates are responsible for honest completion of their work including examinations. There will be no tolerance for infractions. If you believe there has been an infraction by someone in the class, please bring it to the instructor’s attention. The instructor reserves the right to discipline any student for academic dishonesty in accordance with the general rules and regulations of the university. Disciplinary action may include the lowering of grades and/or the assignment of a failing grade for an exam, assignment, or the class as a whole.”

**College of Education Attendance Policy:** Due to the dynamic and interactive nature of courses in the College of Education, all teacher candidates are expected to attend all classes and participate actively. At a minimum, teacher candidates must attend more than 80% of class time, or s/he may not receive a passing grade for the course at the discretion of the instructor. Individual instructors may adopt more stringent attendance requirements. Should the teacher candidate have extenuating circumstances, s/he should contact the instructor as soon as possible. (*Adopted by the COE Governance Community, December, 1997*)

**Instructor Application of Attendance Policy:** Teacher candidates are expected to be on time and prepared for class. Attendance at each session is critical to your success in the course. If extenuating circumstances occur, please contact the instructor as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements. Notification of absences does not automatically excuse a teacher candidate from the class session. If a candidate is absent, there will be a reduction of 40% in this grade category. In regards to partially missed sessions, for every 30 minutes that a student is not in class, the grade in this category will be reduced by 20%. In accordance with the College of Education attendance policy, “students must attend more than 80% of class time, or s/he may not receive a passing grade for the course at the discretion of the instructor.” If you miss two or more sessions, you cannot pass the class. Please remember to sign in for each class session.

Consequences for absences:

- No credit for that day’s work (e.g. reading responses & journal writing)

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Class Preparation and Participation:**

Close and thoughtful reading and critical, engaged discussion will make this a richer class for all of us. In preparation for this kind of intellectual discourse, teacher candidates will prepare responses to the readings in the form of discussion questions and reflective responses to guiding questions. The responses should be written in a journal book, and selected responses will be shared and read by colleagues and/or the instructor. Candidates will write regularly in their journals as a way to respond to readings, but also to “capture” ideas, summarize learning from class, etc. Teacher candidates will also be responsible for a variety of in-class presentations, discussions, role-plays, and other activities. As a cornerstone of teaching, collaboration is highly valued in our class; therefore, it is expected that teacher candidates work together openly, respectfully, cooperatively, and productively. Each teacher candidate is responsible for submitting the final evaluations for (Supervisors, CTs. Program, & CSU). Please provide evidence of submitting CSU survey at our last class meeting in May (i.e. screen shot of submitted survey).

### **Academic Philosophy and Practice Paper:**

“What I Know and What I Believe About the Development and Learning Needs of Adolescents.” Please articulate your beliefs about teaching and learning and the nature and learning of adolescents including adolescent characteristics, learning profiles, curriculum, instruction and management strategies for adolescents. Additional details are provided later in the syllabus.

### **Model Presentation:**

Prepare a 20-30 minute presentation in which you and group members actively and experientially demonstrate the teaching strategies, outcomes, goals and philosophy of a model that will be introduced in class. You may do this in any way you wish, and many times it is advisable to give a brief introduction to the model and then experientially present it. Please keep in mind that the focus of your presentation is the model itself. The content that you present is secondary here, and primarily should be the only vehicle for explaining the model. Be sure not to get caught up in the content so much that you forget about the actual model. Please work in interdisciplinary groups.

**\*\*While reading the information on every model is not required reading, it is expected that candidates will read the chapter that pertains to the model that you choose to present AND it is highly recommended that you skim and have a general knowledge of the other models that will be presented in class.**

After your presentation, be prepared to lead a class discussion focusing on critically appraising the model (not your presentation!). The duration of the discussion should be no more than 15 minutes. Some points to consider in your discussion can be: How can this model help to engage students in learning? How do I as an educator feel that I can use this model? How can students benefit from this model? How does this model help to create an inclusive environment? Keeping in mind that this is a first exposure to this model, and recognizing that you may feel uncomfortable with the model, how willing would you be to use this model in your classroom?

### **Educational Philosophy/ Model Integration:**

Consider your educational philosophy, working with adolescents, class activities, your own experiences, your own personal learning style, etc., and write about two models of teaching that fit well with your philosophy. Prepare a short paper (2 pages or less) reporting your findings, explanations and thoughts. Please use your reflective journals (to be done in class) and the experience of participating/ presenting different models to arrive at your conclusions.

### **TPE/ Professional Portfolio**

As a part of the Single Subject Credential program, teacher candidates will develop a professional portfolio that addresses the 15 TPEs (16 if you are a candidate for a bilingual credential). As part of the course, and the reflective nature of it, time will be allocated in class for you to address the requirements for the portfolio. Please review the TPE Portfolio purposes and expectations for requirements. Please use your Assessment of Teacher Performance Expectations from Clinical Practice I, course work from fall semester, lesson plans, artifacts (e.g., student work samples [anonymous]), etc. to continue your work on the portfolio. It is recognized that the portfolio will not be complete at the end of this course (CP II awaits you!), but significant progress towards completion of the portfolio should be evident.

The objective is to develop a professional portfolio that showcases your readiness for entering the profession. The portfolio may not be reviewed by interviewers; however, it serves as a place to gather evidence, collect your thoughts, and articulate your beliefs.

It will be a valuable “prop” that you can use in an interview to help you answer questions. Its very presence at an interview helps to make you “look” professional and prepared.

The purposes of the portfolio can be viewed on the guidelines summary sheet for the portfolio located on the College of Education website.

**Reflective Paper:** Prepare a **one-page** written reflection commenting on the course readings, discussions, activities, etc. of the class. Make sure that your writings include personal connections, explanations as to how and why your perspective as an educator has changed, or is changing, as related to the course content.

**Course Requirements and Grade Distribution:**

Class Participation and Attendance (Journals are included in this category)	20%
Academic Philosophy	20%
Model Presentation	20%
Portfolio	10%
Educational Philosophy/ Model Integration	20%
Reflective Journal (End of course)	10%
<hr/>	
	100%

The following grading scale has been adopted by the College of Education for all credential courses:

93-100%.....	A
90-92%.....	A-
88-89%.....	B+
83-87%.....	B
80-82%.....	B-
<u>75-79%.....</u>	<u>C+</u>
72-75.....	C
70-71.....	C-
60-69%.....	D
59% and below.....	F

**Note:** Students are reminded that the College requires completion of this course with a C+ or higher.

## **Academic/Philosophical Paper:**

### **“What I Know and What I Believe About the Development and Learning Needs of Adolescents”**

Every decision you make about your teaching and the students you see each day must be grounded in a belief system. That is the basis for this paper, which is part philosophical, part academic, and part opinion. It should be written in APA style, double spaced with citations for references where appropriate. It should include 5-7 references, which could come from any of your single subject program texts, readings, or any other references you have found to be informative for your teaching. As a starting point, you may want to review the philosophy paper you wrote in EDUC 350 and expand upon that; however, since you wrote that paper, you will likely find that you are a great deal more knowledgeable and have some valuable experience that forms your belief system about adolescents and teaching.

You should portray your personal beliefs and use your teaching experiences to illustrate how your beliefs “look” in a classroom setting. While this paper is definitely about you and your beliefs, you will use citations and references to reinforce your opinions and knowledge.

Think about how you will begin your paper, e.g. a story, a quote, a metaphor, or a powerful thesis statement. Use examples from your teaching and real students (pseudonyms), where appropriate, to illustrate your statements. **Please address all of the following subtopics:**

- **Physical, social, and emotional factors** that influence the instruction of adolescents and how you use this knowledge to inform your teaching, especially in your particular subject area.
- **Learning environment**, e.g. building and maintaining a positive and productive learning community.
- **Expectations**, e.g. encouraging and providing opportunities for students to take responsibility for their own learning and working responsibly with others.
- **Classroom Management**, e.g. establishing clear expectations for academic and social behavior, setting classroom routines and procedures, etc.
- **Meeting the needs of all students**, e.g. English learners, reluctant learners, gifted students, average students, etc.

**“What I Know and What I Believe About the Development and Learning Needs of Adolescents”**

Have a peer rate a draft of your paper. After you have made revisions, rate yourself and provide an explanation for your ratings using the following rubric. Submit this with your paper.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

CRITERIA and DESCRIPTORS	Minimal information, no or inadequate citations	Sufficient information, few or no examples	Sufficient information, examples and citations support the writer’s claims	Excellent information, examples and citations reinforce and strengthen the writer’s statements and opinions
Opening grabs the reader’s attention.				
Physical, social, and emotional factors				
Learning environment				
Expectations				
Classroom Management				
Meeting the Needs of all Students				

Peer Review Comments:

Writer’s Comments:

Instructor’s Comments:



## **Guidelines for your TPE Portfolio:**

**🔗 Review your sections and artifacts. Can you explain why the artifacts are included and what they say about your teaching. Questions to address:**

- What does each artifact reveal about my teaching and student learning?
- Why is each significant enough to include in the portfolio?

**🔗 Review your artifacts and pertinent descriptions and reflections. Do you have sufficient evidence of your teaching skills?**

Some particular suggestions and comments based on feedback from teacher candidates and interviewers:

1. Limit the total number of pages to approximately 20-25 in an attractive binder (think quality over quantity).
2. Use the section dividers that are provided on the COE website.
3. Use lessons you have already taught or at least written (not “imported” lessons from other people).
4. Avoid lengthy verbiage and voluminous enclosures.
5. Within the lesson designs demonstrate a good mix of teaching objectives that include both affective (attitudes/group processing skills), psychomotor (hands-on), and cognitive (learning) areas. This demonstrates that your teaching reaches out to different styles of learning.
6. Highlight those experiences (both professional and personal) that make you unique and potentially a valuable asset to a school district (science supplement, BCLAD, unique field experiences, other work related experiences, i.e. management, counseling, tutoring, etc.)
7. In your enclosures demonstrate in the lesson plans that you know and understand how to link subject matter standards (list them as examples in the lesson plans) to your curriculum and your assessment (e.g., Students will study the parts and functions of the parts of a flower [science standard] by dissecting a real flower [hands-on activity]. They are assessed on this objective by drawing, labeling and writing a short essay on how flowers reproduce [assessment of standard/objective]).

**🔗 Remember that while an interviewer may not actually look at or keep your portfolio, you may make reference to it during an interview. It is also a source of confidence for you—a place where you have evidence of your ability. Consider the act of compiling your portfolio as a “rehearsal” for interviews.**

## **Suggested Process:**

1. Spend time sorting through the artifacts and determining an organizational scheme and which artifacts will stay and which will go; **more artifacts are not necessarily better—you want quality NOT quantity.**
  2. Think about the aesthetics! Revise or re-format artifacts, as needed, to demonstrate the highest level of professionalism. There is no need to re-type artifacts that were written by someone else (for example, a student's paper or project or a colleague's note). Feel free to be creative in how you display your artifacts: adding anecdotal information, using special paper as background, using plastic sleeves to hold oddly shaped items, including photos on divider pages, etc. Keep in mind the accessibility focus for a reviewer. Do not place a multi-paged artifact in one sleeve that requires the reviewer or you to remove the material for reading or displaying.
  3. Create a cover page (and back, if bound), a table of contents (Note: a table of contents should include a listing of all your artifacts, not just the "sections" of your portfolio.), and divider pages. Your portfolio does not need to be bound. It is fine to use a three-ring binder to hold your work (a new one!).
- 🔗 During the entire portfolio development process, you should draw on your colleagues for feedback and ideas. Do not work on this project in isolation. It is very helpful to exchange ideas with others as you're creating.**

**Portfolio Rubric**

**Assess yourself and include feedback from 2 other members of your group.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria	Revise	Needs work	Adequate	Excellent
Table of Contents is included and is organized in a clear, logical, creative, and professional manner				
Written work by the teacher, e.g. philosophy, lesson plans, etc. are word-processed and do not have spelling and grammar errors.				
Artifacts are displayed professionally and clearly with easy accessibility				
Presentation demonstrates that the teacher candidate is organized and thoughtful in his/her responses, able to reference the portfolio as a resource				

Writer's comments:

Reviewer 1 comments:

Reviewer 2 comments:

## Tentative Course Calendar for EDSS 531

Readings may change depending on progress toward course objectives.

Session	Topics	Due															
<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>Date: 1/25/11</p>	<p>Essential Question #1 - What is my belief system regarding the nature and education of adolescents?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introduction to class</li> <li>● Model Presentation</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bring to class: journal, course syllabus, Baldwin, Keating &amp; Bachman textbook, a copy of your CPI TPE evaluation</li> <li>2. <b>Read</b> - "Kids Do Well if They Can"</li> <li>3. Pre-reading writing prompt: Reflecting on your CPI teaching, respond to the following questions. What is it like to be a student in my class? What is it like for a student to move through classes in a day at our school? (Use your CPI school as reference) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ During reading, highlight quotes and make marginal notes with thoughts and questions.</li> <li>❖ Post Reading: Journal Writing 1: (In Class)</li> <li>❖ Small group discussion of assessment results, student artifacts, what you learned, etc.)</li> </ul> </li> </ol>															
<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>Date: 2/1/11</p>	<p>Essential Question # 2 What does the 21<sup>st</sup> century require of its citizens and how is this reflected in my teaching?</p> <p>Creativity in Schools</p> <p>Portfolio discussion</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Skim/ preview:</b> "Abundance, Asia, and Automation"</li> <li>2. <b>Read:</b> "Jobs of the Future."</li> <li>3. <b>Read:</b> "Using Teaching Portfolios"</li> <li>4. Create a full sheet 3 column organizer (aka Tovani) to record and analyze 4 quotes from the text/ video: Bring this to class.</li> </ol> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">Quote from the text/ video</th> <th style="width: 33%;">What it means</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Deeper thinking</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <b>Due:</b> Journal Writing 2: (In Class) To what degree do you think you really understand the needs of your students and what they need for the 21<sup>st</sup> century? How wide is the "gap" between them and you? In what areas are the gaps? What can you do to make connections? (Add this to your paper where/if appropriate.)</li> </ol>	Quote from the text/ video	What it means	Deeper thinking	1.			2.			3.			4.		
Quote from the text/ video	What it means	Deeper thinking															
1.																	
2.																	
3.																	
4.																	
	<p><b>There will be no class meeting on February 8.</b></p>	<p><b>Work on Academic Philosophy Paper</b></p>															

Session 3 Date 2/15/11	Essential Question #3. How do I reflect upon my own biases and ensure equity in my classroom?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Read:</b> “Understanding Unconscious Bias and Unintentional Racism”</li> <li>2. <b>Read:</b> “The Silenced Dialogue”</li> <li>3. <b>Read:</b> “One Teacher’s Story”</li> <li>4. Highlight quotes from the above readings and write two questions for discussion.</li> <li>5. Bring draft Academic/Philosophy paper for writing workshop</li> <li>6. Journal Writing 3: (In Class) Respond to the following prompt: What are your biases and how do you mitigate your behavior when working with students?</li> </ol>
------------------------------	--	---

Session 4 Date: 2/22/11	Essential Question #4 How do I communicate openly, empathetically, and productively in a variety of situations, including: Socratic seminars, class discussions, presentations, and role-plays?  Responding to the realities of our students’ needs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Due:</b> Academic/Philosophy Paper</li> <li>2. <b>Read:</b> “One Teacher’s Story”</li> <li>3. Model Presentations: Inductive Thinking and Attaining Concepts</li> <li>4. Journal Writing 4: (In Class), respond to the following prompts : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looking back at your teaching last semester, what did you discover about the needs of students in your classes? What kinds of “needs” surfaced that surprised you?</li> <li>• To what degree do you think you really understand the needs of your students? How wide is the “gap” between them and you?</li> <li>• What might have surfaced in the reading or in your teaching (about the realities of students’ needs) that triggered a negative response in you? Try to identify why this response was triggered and how it relates to your biases.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
-------------------------------	--	---

Session 5 Date: 3/1/11	Essential Question #4 (continued)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Scientific Inquiry, Role Playing</li> <li>2. Time to work on Portfolios</li> </ol>
------------------------------	-----------------------------------	--

Session 6 Date: 3/8/11	Getting Hired Interview Question practice.(if time)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Read:</b> “Heart of a Teacher”</li> <li>2. Memorization and Synectics</li> <li>3. <b>Due:</b> Portfolio</li> </ol>
------------------------------	---	---

7	Essential Question #5 How do I present myself as a professional educator?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Read:</b> “What New Teachers Need to Learn”</li> <li>2. <b>Read:</b> “Responsibilities &amp; Tasks of Mentors – Stages of Mentoring”</li> <li>3. <b>Due:</b> Educational Philosophy/ Model Integration</li> <li>4. <b>Due:</b> Reflective Paper</li> </ol>
---	--	---

Professional Development: February 28- Classroom Management. 3-5 PM

References: Joyce, B., Weil, M. & Calhoun, E. (2004). *Models of teaching* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

## **Summative Grading Criteria for EDSS 531**

### **“A” teacher candidates “Exceed Expectations”:**

1. The teacher candidate consistently performs and participates in an exemplary manner evident by completing all assignments thoroughly, thoughtfully, and professionally, earning 90-100% of all possible points.
2. Each assignment receives in-depth exploration and reflection based upon research, observations and classroom implementation, when possible.
3. The teacher candidate is consistently prepared and ready to engage in thoughtful discourse.
4. The teacher candidate makes insightful connections between all assignments and their developing overall understanding of reflective practice; they continually question and examine assumptions in a genuine spirit of inquiry.
5. The teacher candidate always collaborates with their colleagues in professional, respectful, and productive ways, enhancing each participant’s learning and demonstrating personal integrity.
6. Presentations are consistent with professional expectations, providing appropriate visual aids, appropriate handouts, and are well prepared.
7. All work is submitted in a professional manner using APA style when appropriate.
8. Professional and responsible behavior, including timely attendance and submission of assignments, are practiced in a consistent manner.

### **“B” teacher candidates “Adequately Meet Expectations”:**

- a. The teacher candidate completes all assignments, usually thoroughly, thoughtfully, and professionally, earning 80-89% of all possible points.
- b. Each assignment is based upon research, observations and classroom implementation, when possible.
- c. The teacher candidate is usually prepared and ready to engage in thoughtful discourse.
- d. The teacher candidate usually connects assignments to their developing overall understanding of reflective practice; may be satisfied with “accepting” their learning as it’s “received” without examining, very deeply, their and others’ assumptions or seeking a deeper understanding of the implications.
- e. The teacher candidate generally collaborates with their colleagues in professional, respectful, and productive ways, enhancing each participant’s learning and demonstrating personal integrity.
- f. Generally, presentations are consistent with professional expectations, providing appropriate visual aids, appropriate handouts, and are well prepared.
- g. Generally, work is submitted in a professional manner using APA style when appropriate.
- h. Most of the time, professional and responsible behavior, including timely attendance and submission of assignments, are practiced in a consistent manner.

**“C+” teacher candidates “Minimally Meet Expectations”:**

1. The teacher candidate’s assignments are completed with limited thoroughness, thoughtfulness, and/or professionalism, earning 77-79% of all possible points.
2. Each assignment is based upon opinion rather than research, theory, and best practices.
3. The teacher candidate’s skills are weak, unprepared to engage in thoughtful discourse and do not meet expectations.
4. Reflection is shallow. The teacher candidate makes limited connections between assignments and their developing overall understanding of reflective practice; may not be open to examining assumptions or implications.
5. The teacher candidate collaborates with their colleagues in ways that are not always professional, respectful, or productive.
6. Generally, presentations are not consistent with professional expectations, not providing appropriate visual aids, appropriate handouts, and are unprepared.
7. Assignments are submitted without APA style, thorough proofreading and organization.
8. The teacher candidate needs a great deal of guidance.
9. The teacher candidate is consistently late with work and has classroom attendance problems.
10. The teacher candidate may be distracted from learning and/or personal integrity may not be demonstrated.

**GRADING NOTES**

- Teacher candidates must meet the attendance requirements to be eligible for the grade described. They are “prerequisites” for earning a particular grade.
- In order to receive a California State Teaching Credential, you must maintain a B average in your College of Education classes and receive no lower than a C+ in any one course. A grade lower than a C+ indicates serious concern about a teacher candidate’s readiness for a teaching credential—significant concerns exist about his/her quality of learning, quality of work, etc. If you are concerned about meeting this requirement at any time, you should talk with your instructor immediately.