

EDIS 781
Spring, 2018

EDIS 781

Welcome to the last phase of your MEd in Talent Development! Look over the syllabus and get to know the “Handbook for Graduate Theses and Capstones.” This course is very independent and individualized. You set up your own calendar and schedule. We check in with one another periodically via Blackboard Collaborate (an online classroom) and on a Google spreadsheet.

Your task is to research and write a literature review paper on a topic of interest to you. You could add a practical application component to your paper or do action research in your classroom and report on it, or do a research study with students via surveys, interviews, focus groups, or the like. For a summer course you will have fewer opportunities to work with students after your school year ends, and the Human Subjects Review board does not meet during the summer to approve projects, so I would not recommend doing this kind of research project. I have a number of completed capstone projects and can share those with you if you feel you need some guidance. We’ll talk about that when we meet online.

I will need a short project proposal from you by the end of May. See p. 3 in the Handbook for a list of 5 items to keep in mind as you write it. This can be brief and/or bulleted, but do write and organize professionally. Include any questions or support you know you will need from me at the end (make it #6) of your proposal. Submit this and any/all drafts of your paper to me via email.

APA Formatting:

You will want to purchase or borrow the 6th edition *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. APA formatting for citations, references, tables, figures and appendices are strictly followed for this capstone paper.

Meetings:

Blackboard has a great online meeting tool – Collaborate Ultra. There is a course room that stays open throughout the semester. I am happy to meet you there individually as you wish, and I would like to set up at least three meetings throughout the semester for check-ins with the three of us.

Support Spreadsheet on Google:

There is a link on Blackboard to a Google spreadsheet for EDIS 781 called the EDIS 781 Spring, 2018, Support Spreadsheet. This is the way we will do much of our support and check-ins throughout the summer as you work on your project. Please add an entry by Sunday evening every week throughout the summer – even if you have very little to report. In addition, please read one another’s entries and add comments to support each other. The impact of this kind of consistent support is very powerful. I might add prompts or things to think about throughout the semester. Share how you are choosing your topic, gathering research/literature, how the research is going, APA challenges and questions, challenges and joys, support you need, questions, etc.