

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

For which course(s) are you enrolled?	What aspects of the course are helping you learn best?	What aspects of the course are hindering you?	What specific advice would you give to help me (Dr. Groman) improve your learning in this course?	Anything else you want to say?
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	The videos help the visual learner in me feel more comfortable. I enjoy seeing Z and the new kitty too!	Nothing at all is hindering expect trying to balance my job with grad school and my home life and my mental health, but you cannot control all that.	None at all! Both courses are well organized and full of resources.	Thank you so much for being so kind and warm!
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	Application	Multiple large projects, I would prefer to have a chunk due each week to keep on track... I'm worried about falling behind	Thank you 😊	
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	Application	N/A		
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	All of them! I really enjoy my school work. The readings and assignments are all interesting to me.	I appreciate the lack of due dates and that IS helpful, but since my school year is unbelievably busy and insane (my first year in a district at a brand new school, creating and teaching 3 grade-levels worth of classes) I find I'm a little less motivated to work on assignments if there are just other things that I HAVE to get done by certain dates.	I just want to tell you how appreciative I am of your flexibility and understanding of our situations. Nothing to improve.	I'm working on assignments in chunks, not all at once, and really am trying my absolute best. In addition to my job requirements (which are really taking over my life) I found out I am pregnant recently (which I am very excited about!!!) but life's just been very overwhelming. I'm afraid it might show in my schoolwork, but I do love this learning and am committed to completing these courses successfully. Thank you.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	I enjoy the hands-on projects of the creativity monsters and the sculptures. Both projects pushed me out of my comfort zone, but really helped me to understand	Discipline - I am not a scheduled type of person, so remembering to allow time each day for the though log and now the creativity project work is a challenge for	Dr. Groman has been wonderful and encouraging through all of the courses I have had with her!	Thank you for pushing me out of my comfort zone.

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

	myself better and why I feel the way I do.	me. I am working on becoming better at self-discipline.		
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	The hands-on learning of the creativity monster and the sculpture project. I especially enjoyed the video so I could see everyone's projects and get affirmation that so many of us are facing the same fears and struggles.	Self-discipline - I am not good when it comes to self-discipline. I am working toward making good habits that allow time each day for creativity, self-reflection, and exercise. I am so used to being a workaholic and a mom, that I lost sight of myself through the years. I am slowly "finding myself" again.	Dr. Groman has been wonderful and encouraging through all of the GIS classes I have had with her.	Thank you for pushing me to explore new venues of creativity outside of my comfort zone.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	I think the videos and readings combined are great.	I don't think the course is difficult, just timing of the course. The start of school is very busy, especially when coaching a fall sport.	I am really enjoying the course, so I would not ask you to change anything.	Thanks for another interesting and enjoyable class.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	The freedom to work at my own pace.	I wouldn't say anything from the course is hindering me. It is more my constant fear of being so busy that there is never enough time to sit and block off a chunk of time to work.		Thank you for all of your time and effort into these courses. It is more fun to learn from a person that is passionate about the subject matter.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	I love that there is so much choice in the coursework. I can select from a wide variety of topics to research. This is great because I can relate assignments to my specific areas of interest or correlate them to my teachings.	I would not say the course is hindering me. It is just difficult to go to work and school while still being present with my kids and volunteer commitments. I will make it:)		This is an interesting class. It has given me the opportunity to do some things that I have been interested in doing, but have never previously allowed myself the time to do them.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	I enjoy the videos.	The lack of interaction with other students (some weeks it's better)- -I think it is because this school year is so stressful, more so than last year. I also feel like I'm behind and that I don't have the time to devote to this class	I would love more interactive activities. I'm looking forward to the field trip.	Thank you for your hard work. I really enjoy the videos!

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

		because of the classes I'm teaching.		
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 710 Practicum	I appreciate the self-paced nature of EDIS 710. With balancing this class and EDIS 654 and the school year, this flexibility has been really helpful.		I think some check in points may be helpful through the course for EDIS 710, of just stating where our progress is. (maybe a Google Form?)	
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	Exploring my own creativity has been very eye opening! I also have enjoyed reading about identification and the different creativity assessments that can help me within my own classroom.	N/A	No advice! Once again, this course is flowing seamlessly.	
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	I think that for EDIS 654 learning about creative people and seeing how research connects with their lives helps me better have a better understanding.	EDIS 654...I don't feel like a creative individual so it is hard from me to complete things like the thought log and truly understand the purpose behind it. EDIS 796...I feel overwhelmed I wish the work was broken down in steps a little more to then be put together, but I obviously could have done this more effectively for myself.	Not sure at this time	Not at this time.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	I appreciate how EDIS 796 is self-paced. It's helpful in balancing it with coursework in EDIS 654 and with teaching.		I think it may be helpful to have like a google form check in where people share what progress they've made and what they still need to do. The accountability may help.	
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	all of it is helpful	not hindering, just working on multiple projects: creativity, bio, chapter jigsaw, school demographics	keep it up	
EDIS 654 Creativity for	The reflection of my own self and practices when it comes to	The readings. While I know that is one way of gaining the		I find the videos you create to be so helpful and as close to

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

Teachers of the Talented	creativity, and then specifically the reflection of creativity (or lack thereof) in my classroom.	information to reflect upon, I tend to make the least amount of time for reading materials.		learning like in a classroom as we can get.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	The readings are great! I like synthesizing the information down to 2 pages or 5 slides--still a challenge for me to be concise, but helps me boil it down to the most important details.	My personal commitment to the thought log. I spend so much time reflecting on my drive to and from work--I have at least an hour on the road a day--I don't often record my musings down on paper. I thought about doing some voice notes and transcribing them later. Could be an option...but I do give myself at least 30 minutes twice a week to focus on the creativity thought log.		Thanks for everything! I am enjoying this course!
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	I like the collaborative aspect and learning from other teachers in the field. I enjoy their input and feedback.	It seems hard for me to balance between a tough year of teaching and taking courses at the same time.	I am not sure what to improve. I think you are doing a very good job. Maybe shortening the videos for each week? More to the point?	Thank you for your hard work and patience.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	Foundational understanding of the along with practical applications for the classroom.	None as I feel like it's a good combination of aspects.	More applications and strategies of how to teach creativity in our classrooms.	Thank you for all you do for this program and leading by example.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	Dr. Groman's videos, Assigned Texts and articles.	Keeping track of Padlet uploads in the correct place ... I am learning!! Trying to navigate back and forth in the syllabus to due weekly vs items need completed each week.	The on our own project is a bit hard for me to decide on what to do. Can I possibly, do something example taking landscape photos then set up the landscape photos as a video to share?	I was nervous to take this course, but truly out of all the courses (and I have really enjoyed all courses for my endorsement) this is turning into one of my absolute favorites.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	Your weekly videos do a great job of introducing the week's topics and providing information on new creativity strategies.	Nothing is hindering my learning. I'm struggling to complete my thoughtlog each day, but that's a me problem.	654-nothing. Internship- I feel very in the dark about aspects of the internship. I've looked through all the material in blackboard, but there	Thank you for being flexible!

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

			are still things I don't feel I have a good grasp on.	
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	I am enjoying reading Piirto's work in both textbooks, esp. as creativity is a big interest of mine. I like applying this work to how creativity is identified in our district and I like the work and questions you are asking already based on my Focus Question responses. I am also appreciative of the attention and time to look at how the state identifies creativity and the options that are available to expand a program for our students. I also like looking at the Padlets to see other ideas and to fill in some of the gaps. Thanks for making this work doable and relevant to us.	I think I just hinder myself. I know how to prioritize and how to get my work done in a timely manner. It's just a lot. I just have to carve out and schedule time for it all. I get a little confused as to what I have to do for this course and what I need to do for the internship, but overall, I'm just fine.	I really have nothing. I have appreciated having you as a professor in 4 of these courses. Your videos are fun and informative. The work connects to what I do and what I need to do in my position. The work is manageable and mostly it helps us to be introspective on ourselves as learners, teachers, and leaders.	
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	I like that I am able to use what I am doing day to day for this course. I am doing fairly well with keeping a log of my time and hours. I'm glad you did a couple check in videos as there are many pieces and parts and although I took notes and made some plans, it's all just a lot...more a me thing than a class thing. I'm happy to get my observation scheduled and start working on that aspect of the class too.	Each course had us keep a Resource Notebook and now that I am looking at all the pieces and parts I'm struggling a bit, but luckily you provide enough direction and samples for me to wrap my INFJ head around. I'll be okay. I also don't like to start a new task until one is finished, so I'm focusing on my observation, then the Resource Notebook is next. Again, it's a me thing. I think the expectations and asks from this internship are doable as a working teacher/coordinator with a very full plate.	Keep doing what you do!	
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the	This answer is both a help and a hindrance....meditation. It has been and still is very hard for me			

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	to meditate, to find that quiet time to reflect, although I am getting better. It is hard for me to clear my mind and my thoughts hinder me a lot from being able to achieve the peace and calm but I am finding it takes practice and I am slowly getting better at it.			
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	Understanding the different aspects of creativity and how they may connect to our students. I am also enjoying the variety in types of assignments and ways to complete them.	None	None that I can think of	Thanks for your enthusiasm and support. This course has been beneficial for me professionally and personally!
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	The freedom and variety of different prompts and products. Ways to interact with the content in different manners.	Sometimes it seems like I'm double checking in three different places, syllabus, video, blackboard and padlet to make sure I'm getting everything completed correctly.	Is there a way to put the assignment descriptions on the assignment on blackboard?	Thanks, I enjoy the weekly videos!
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	The hands on things we are doing -meditation ect. I can implement them in my class immediately.			I am enjoying this course so far.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	I like the easy to follow syllabus.	I guess I don't really understand why this is a necessary course for the gifted endorsement? Especially because creativity seems to be so subjective and not well understood...Couldn't a little bit about creativity be included in another class instead? Also...Forced creativity projects (monster, sculpture, meditation day) and the thought log.		

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

<p>EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship</p>	<p>I like the flexibility of the schedule. In 564, while the creative activities make me nervous, I am enjoying the opportunity to explore my own creative thinking. I can see the benefits incorporating creative thinking exercises with my students. I also really appreciate the weekly videos - they help me focus on the priorities.</p>	<p>While I love the flexibility in the schedule, it cause me to be a little scattered. This is a 'me' problem, and I have had to find my own structure to stay on track.</p>		
<p>EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship</p>	<p>Course readings and practical applications</p>	<p>The Thoughtlog is a tremendous source of stress. I am a reflective person but trying to put it on paper does not work well for me. I've begun to accept I will have to give myself a poor grade, because I struggle to force myself to complete it daily.</p>	<p>I enjoy the Piirto readings but would like to see work from other researchers rather than two texts that overlap so much.</p>	
<p>EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship</p>	<p>I enjoy the readings and overall freedom of pursuing creativity without it feeling super structured. I do like structure and enjoy the structure of the syllabus and the videos that accompany each week, but like how free being creative can be.</p>	<p>Questioning if what I'm doing is enough. Is my project "enough"? Is my writing "enough"? Not sure though it is related to how the course is run, just the nature of the course after the heavy lifting of the first four.</p>	<p>More ways of handling creativity in the very real scenarios of the classroom. Posing situations or people and exploring ways of reaching those students.</p>	<p>This is Danielle McMillen :) I am really struggling this semester keeping up with everything. Not at all being critical of anything in the courses, it is just all the things right now. I feel very overwhelmed with what normal school (teaching) is this year and all the junk along with it and life/kids on top. I never imagined that it (taking courses while teaching) would feel like this when I scheduled as it never has before when I've taken classes, but 15 years in and what should be a good "come back" year after all the COVID craziness is more stressful than ever. Thank you for being flexible, I just hope I'm not missing anything as I don't feel</p>

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

				like I'm doing enough? I seem to be working literally one fire at a time, so I'm not getting to devote a whole week to things as intended, but mere days or hours. I HATE being busy and NEED down time, and life is just not allowing that right now. I'm officially to the point where I know the end is in sight and I just need to push through, but it is getting harder and harder to keep pushing!!! Christmas is coming right?? :) Thanks for listening to the vent! I'll manage!
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	The variety of assignments and readings really help reinforcement concepts.	Time management, although I am not sure that is actually an aspect of the course, is a struggle.	Nothing comes to mind that could improve my learning. As mentioned, the variety of assignments and readings are great.	I wasn't sure what to expect with this course, and was a bit apprehensive. It has encouraged me to think about and look at things differently, and reflect on how creativity needs to be incorporated more efficiently and purposefully in my classroom.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	teacher videos, working with classmates,	knowing what is due when	I wish we were in person, I would love to share creativity with other adults.	I guess not, although it will be nice to see you in person when you come out to Menlo
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	weekly structure with videos and having that Wednesday deadline, especially with teaching this year	nothing	everything is going well	
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	Syllabus is straight forward and easy to follow. Weekly videos are very helpful.	I don't find myself to be overly creative so I have to change my mindset when I look at this course work. It is challenging sometimes but in a good way.	None. You give you great feedback which really helps me.	
EDIS 654 Creativity for	I really like the parts that are directly connected to reading a	I understand the experiential part of this class directly helps the	It would help me immensely if the larger projects	

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

Teachers of the Talented	chapter and reacting to it in some way.	understanding of the content, but it has been hard engaging in things like the thought log and projects.	(biography/creativity project) were more segmented and had parts/pieces due throughout the semester. With all the other elements of life I am juggling, it is difficult to work on a project when nothing is due (I understand this is my own problem, just sharing)	
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	Trying out creativity myself	Procrastination - my own doing. Biography, Field Trip, and Creativity project are looming over my head at once.	I sometimes feel overwhelmed that I am missing things between materials/videos/dropboxes on Blackboard and the syllabus.	I really wish I was taking this class as a traditional college student and not as someone already working full time. It's sometimes hard to keep a good attitude when you're juggling so much with work already. It goes to show how people need more margins in their life to be able to embrace creativity.
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented, EDIS 796 Internship	the books and videos, resources	multiple projects during confrence time and many after school commitments. can't focus on one assignment and put all energy in.	Thank you for letting us turn things in until Wednesday, when we have a rough week! Thanks for answering email.	
EDIS 654 Creativity for Teachers of the Talented	The individual thought log and project nature of the assignments are helping me experience trying to get into the creative "mode" or "mindset." Needing to access my creative abilities helps me put my new learning into perspective.	No aspect of the course is holding me back, but internally I am conflicted with trying to be dedicated or structured to attempt or think about my creativity daily. The discipline is difficult to wrap around creativity.		This is challenging in a way that helps me understand how difficult creativity is to identify, "teach," and assess. I feel like you need to open your mind before you even begin to learn about it. Meditation before beginning the work helps! As you go along in the course you start to open up to your own creativity.
EDIS 710 Practicum, EDIS 781 Thesis Capstone	The weekly video's as well as office hour's	Knowing how long of a paper it is and APA	Nothing, I think you're doing great!	

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

EDIS 781 Thesis Capstone	Having access to office hours to talk directly to Dr. Groman	Nothing to my knowledge. After I look at the notes on my first draft, I may have follow up questions.	None at this time	
EDIS 781 Thesis Capstone	The freedom to work on what is relevant to me.	I knew this would be the last class so once I came across a topic that I was excited by I started to collect things for it and work on it, which isn't really allowed I guess. I thought it was a culmination of learning it would be okay to prepare for it before the class actually started. So I felt like I was a little lost after that misunderstanding on my part. I have turned in a draft and hopefully am on the right track now.	The weekly check-in sheet is hard to read and respond to. Next class you do try giving each person their own tab across the bottom and we can go to each tab to give feedback. There would be more room.	Hope you're doing good!
EDIS 781 Thesis Capstone	N/A	N/A	I really don't have any.	I am hoping to get the first draft of my thesis completed by the end of the week next week. I might send you a draft of the literature review before hand though.
EDIS 796 Internship	The flexibility on assignments and the options for the video, meaning face-to-face or electronic format.	Nothing at this point	Maybe have a class session where we can share our ideas for our lesson and get feedback from peers.	No
EDIS 796 Internship	Dr. Groman is very helpful	Teaching full time :)	None	
EDIS 796 Internship	I am very thankful that this class is self-paced. This has allowed me to design lessons that both showcase what I have learned in this program, best serve my students and my colleagues.	None at this time!	I do not have any advice at this time. Maybe I will have some more specific feedback at the end of the quarter.	Thank you for all that you do! It looks like you are balancing quite a load this semester.
EDIS 796 Internship	The internship plan helped me think about gifted education despite my course load which is	My teaching placement is really making me think creatively to get this work done.		

Fall, 2021

Mid-Semester Check-in, All Courses

	not traditionally conducive to gifted education work.			
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