

Mid-Semester Check-in

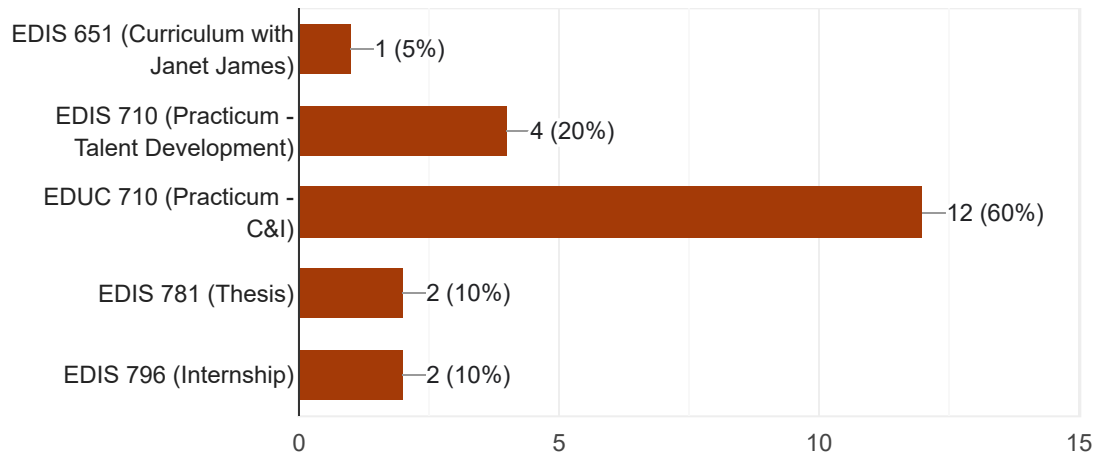
20 responses

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For which course(s) are you enrolled?

 Copy

20 responses



What aspects of the course are helping you learn best?

20 responses

Doing the assignments and the weekly videos

The aspect that helped me learn best was being given the chance to research how other teachers and schools have studied the effects of vocabulary instruction. I found great ideas that I can adapt to use in my classroom.

I am learning a lot from my field placement teacher by watching her teach and interact with her students.

I want to thank you for sharing examples of assignments and expressing what we should be working on through your videos. I feel like the examples that you have shared inspired me and encouraged me to create ideas for my own project. The videos that you share are funny and help me to understand and be more organized with my project tasks. I also appreciate that you are always willing to assist if we have questions.

I thought the annotated bibliography was helpful in starting my research.

The project is helping me to enhance the instruction currently happening in my classroom.

The live videos

self-directed, so I can choose something that pertains to me :)

The open-endedness of the project to help best serve me in what I'm doing in the classroom

The research for the annotated bibliography was eye opening and helped me learn about my topic.

I think having weekly check-in and assignments is helping to organize the work for this course. Sometimes, in a self-paced course, it can be challenging staying on top of things without deadlines. I like that you have structured this course to include small deadlines to help us stay on track!

I really like the weekly spreadsheet where we check in. I find that it has been a very easy way for us all to communicate and it has helped to make me accountable each week.

Doing research on my field project was helpful to get more ideas in how to best support students through reflection and guided study. I like the weekly check-in videos just to make sure I am aware of upcoming deadlines and things to continue working on over the long-term.



I really enjoy the Padlets. Collaborating beyond a forum and responses has been engaging. I also appreciate how the professor is there, but understands students have jobs and the workload has been very manageable! Also... LOVE the GIFs!

I really appreciate both instructors for their willingness to differentiate larger projects to accommodate my position as an administrator out of the classroom.

the research for information related to my topic allowed me to learn about my topic and different areas related to education.

I like the feedback I am getting from the modules. Also being given the freedom to develop or improve a practice for the project is going to help me both academically and in my career.

What has helped me most is completing the annotated bibliography (learning more about my topic) and talking with Dr. Groman.

Researching, the weekly log, and Zooms are helping the most.

breaking the assignment down into chunks helps me manage my time but also slowly develop my project. I appreciate your humor and your animated videos and it makes it engaging and not a bore to watch. Thanks for keeping it lite!



What aspects of the course are hindering you?

20 responses

none

I think the fact that this course is a semester long is throwing me off. I feel as though I am missing something by not having an "assignment" every week for the course, even though I am working hard on my project. I know if the course was only 7 weeks long, it would feel like the "right" amount of workload.

I am feeling out of my comfort zone and a little in culture shock from experiencing a completely different teaching dynamic from what I am used to.

I do not have a particular aspect of your course that is hindering me from learning.

I don't feel hindered at this time.

Nothing at the moment

time constraints

time- line... how to do all that I have in mind in 3 weeks??? Should I just focus on the beginnings of it? Do I need to submit plans and units I will implement next fall?

A little bit more direction as sometimes I just need a little more direction.

The lack of research on executive functioning made finding applicable research tough. I ended up using some research that was for college students since the age difference is only 1-2 years. It is much more applicable than elementary age or middle school age research.

None!

This course is very self-paced which has been a challenge for me. With the craziness of the weeks, I tend to get lost if I don't have specific deadlines to meet. Without that in this course, I have learned that I need to set them for myself and not break them. If I break my own deadlines, I am only hurting myself in the end.

Nothing really. I am going to be working on my project closer to the end of March, so I will be a bit rushed to complete my authentic audience presentation and slides.

None.

It's not an aspect of the course, but there are many things about the current state of the Gifted



program in my district that make some of the practical assignments difficult.

N/A

The padlet is confusing at times, especially when there are a large number of responses. After the grades were divided, it helped. I found it hard to see which posts I replied to and which I needed to.

I do not feel as though anything is hindering me.

There is nothing with the course itself that is hindering.

None really. I think its going well.



What specific advice would you give to help me (Dr. Groman and/or Janet James) improve your learning in this course?

16 responses

The weekly videos are helpful for staying on track. I like that you have the content uploaded in advance, but sometimes the information is outdated, and I get confused on which directions I need to follow. For example, the content that was uploaded for the annotated bibliography assignment stated that we needed 4-5 sources, but then the updated video and syllabus said that we needed only 4 sources. It would be helpful if all the requirements matched in the different content places.

I am unsure.

Dr. Groman, at first I was a little confused using the syllabus about what date modules were due. However, the syllabus states that assignments are due on Sunday nights before midnight. I was just confused about Module 1. Maybe in the syllabus detail for the week include the exact due date next to the assignment detail.

I think the course is going well. I appreciate the exemplary work provided

Continue doing what you're doing.

none at this time

Nothing as of yet

One page with all of the deadlines and requirements for the project would be helpful. Additionally, adding dates to the titles of the modules would be helpful (Week 8 - 2/27-3/5).

None, I think this course has been great and how you have structured it has been easy to follow and keep up with.

Nothing, I think you are doing a great job at checking in with us. And I feel like I feel comfortable enough to reach out if I need help.

Keep it up!

I really value your explicit feedback.

If possible have two calendars for students who want to work ahead, this will put the students on a fast schedule for getting things done.

I love the videos, they help form a good interaction with an online format, please continue doing those.



I think that using Google Docs/Google Slides is an easier format than using Microsoft Office.

I think it is fine as is.

I do not believe anything needs changed.



Critique your own interaction with the course. What are you doing that is helping you learn?

20 responses

I am taking my time in understanding my project area and working hard

I loved this course because it gave me the push I needed to implement a vocabulary routine into my daily lessons. I am now thinking more critically about how my students can interact with vocabulary words to better their understanding of them.

Learning to embrace the uncomfortable in order for me to learn new things!

I have been researching (reading many research articles) and collaborating with a couple of teachers for more clarity on my topic.

Researching for my project.

Researching instructional strategies that can be implemented in my own classroom

Using padlet and interacting with peers

LOVE getting to research and learn about the Depth and Complexity model and actually "make" myself do it in my classroom :)

Keeping all my dates and deadlines written down

I listed out all of the weeks and deadlines for each of my classes and cross them off as I finish them. This has helped me stay organized with my work.

I am making sure to follow along with the syllabus and completing each task for each week. With how busy my life is, I need deadlines to follow or I will get lost in the craziness of the week :)

Setting weekly goals for myself has really helped. Sometimes, the researching, reading, outlining, and writing can seem very overwhelming. By breaking it down into weekly goals I am finding that it is becoming more manageable.

I am taking notes on videos, research articles, and student data. Notes help me stay organized with due dates and important topics.

Seeing examples. I'm most confident in my work when I see examples of what's expected and clear instructions on how to achieve it.



Trying to apply everything to my specific job so that it doesn't feel like just a box to check for my certification.

Focus on my project by getting some advice from my professor and my colleagues in our school. this year was full of learning opportunities for me as I was transitioning from a world language teacher to a kindergarten teacher. My project has helped me explore much information related to how ELLs learn to read. I also learn from other students' posts from the pallet, where I get ideas and example models on how to craft my project.

I am constantly thinking of my own students and what they need in order to succeed. Keeping them in mind is helping drive my project forward. It helps to think back to them as I find research and develop goals.

I can't wait to implement my project into my own classroom, even if I won't see results until next school year.

The actual "doing" is what is helping me learn now that the research is complete most...trying things, looking for resources, making changes etc.

Research, research research!

Breaking things down into parts and spreading some of the workload over time has been helping me. I appreciate your deadlines are realistic and manageable



Critique your own interaction with the course. What are you doing (or not doing!) that is hindering you?

19 responses

Sometimes I wonder if I am doing too much for my project and in changing my classroom routine. At the beginning, I felt overwhelmed with trying to balance creating these extra lessons on top of having to learn new content for this year.

Letting feelings of insecurities boil up!

I feel like my time management skills have been off. I really need to remember to take breaks. I have been studying for long hours the last couple of weeks and not sleeping well.

I think more interaction on padlet would be helpful. I have a hard time with discussion sometimes.

The only thing I can think of is that I am only focused on one instructional strategy at the moment.

time management

It is a lot of work.... teaching every day has me more than enough behind the eightball... adding this on top of that is VERY challenging.

Making sure that I give myself ample time to work and work effectively

It's been a very tough semester for me with my family and Covid. When caring for my son, I could've tried to fit in some coursework when he would take naps or after he went to sleep but I usually did housework. Making smaller, more attainable goals or actually scheduling time for coursework would've spread out the work over more time.

I just now need to make sure that I am carving out enough classroom time for my students to complete their independent research projects.

I know I need to be setting aside more time for researching, reading, outlining, and writing. Sometimes, with this course being self-paced and I realize that I need to be setting more time aside to work. Moving forward, I am learning how much time to set aside each week to meet my weekly goals that I have set.

I am not good with keeping up with long-term due dates, and I have been procrastinating and turning modules in very close to the deadlines.

I need to do a better job at checking in with the course more. Definitely not an excuse but it's a busy time in the classroom and I just need to be more disciplined!



I am really only able to dedicate Sundays to working on coursework so that makes it difficult to stay on top of communication and more in-depth assignments.

I feel like I moving at a slow pace and this is causing me to move away from my project and come back after a while and I find it not motivating.

I am not as involved in the Padlet as I could be. Looking at others ideas and posts could help me formulate ideas in my own classroom and with my project.

While I do not feel hindered, I do feel a little anxious trying something new (to this scale), and wanting it to go perfectly - which new things rarely do. :)

I need to be doing more on a daily basis, but it is difficult juggling everything.

I think for someone who is teaching full time and a mom to 4 kids and is taking another class along with this one, I think I am doing pretty well. :) I think I am working at a pace that works for me and I am able to accomplish what I need to do while having a Work Life Balance.



Anything else you want to say?

13 responses

I feel my eyes have been opened up to a whole new world of teaching!

I am enjoying working on my Substitute Teaching project.

N/A

I appreciate the straightforwardness within this course

anxious to see any comments you have on module 2 and 3 to see if I am heading in the right direction.

Is it ok that I have speaker notes on my PP, but that they probably did not show on your end when you view it?

Thanks, Christy

Not at this time

I've greatly enjoyed your class so far!

Thank you for always taking the time to make videos and check in each week. It is always nice seeing and hearing from you :)

I loved the Zoom between the three of us. When we get further into this project, I would love to do that again :)

Thank you for all of your support!

Dr. Groman is always willing to help her students and her feedback is thorough, clear, and encouraging. even though the course is online, Dr. Groman checks in every week with her videos and she was able to create a sense of an online course community that is helpful.

Thanks for all your help and feedback this year.

Thanks for keeping class fun!

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