

# Curriculum and Instruction

## Practicum Proposal

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The purpose for developing a practicum proposal to submit for approval to the Curriculum and Instruction Program Director and the Dean of the School of Education is to explain *what* you plan to do during the professional semester and *why*. The proposal may provide examples, outlines, or brief sections to let the reader understand clearly what is to be done.

**The practicum proposal should be no more than 8-10 pages in length, and will consist of 4 Chapters**

### **Chapter 1 – Introduction**

A brief introductory statement should address the interest that the participant has in developing, integrating, and/or revising K-12 curricular areas across disciplines, curriculum assessment planning, demonstrating effective communication techniques among teachers and administration, and assisting principals and teachers with professional development and training in the use and delivery of a variety of instructional strategies.

This introductory statement should indicate where the practicum will take place as well as enough demographic information to inform a reader of the nature of the work setting.

### **Chapter 2 – Setting**

Describe the context for the practicum and explain any prior work done in the setting that has explicit importance for this practicum.

Each school setting has its own unique characteristics. Since you know the history, the culture and the traditions within your work setting, you are in the best position to identify those areas where your knowledge skills and dispositions will be best utilized.

- Briefly include information about your specific work setting that is especially important for the practicum or for a reader to understand the practicum.

### **Chapter 3 – Research and Literature Review**

Rarely, if ever, does a participant find an issue or topic that is so unique that it has not been studied in another context. In fact, in most instances, participants will be working on issues, problems or projects that have been faced, and are presently being addressed on a local, state, regional, or national stage. Hence, the participant should become familiar with the research and literature that relates to his or her project if the practicum is going to add to the knowledge base.

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In this chapter, provide a brief dialog of what is being done in the field and on established best practice. Include a minimum of 15 resources you will utilize or reference to complete your project. Attach and annotated bibliography as a separate attachment at the end of your proposal.

### **Chapter 4 – Plan of Action**

Describe the project(s) you will be working on, who you will be working with and who will be supervising, your role in the project, specific guidelines or requirements that are in place to direct the project, and a timeline to complete the work.

What are the expected outcomes, and how will they be communicated with a variety of audiences (administration, teachers, students, community)?

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During the professional semester, you will demonstrate your knowledge, skills and dispositions in those areas required by the state of Nebraska to obtain an endorsement as a Curriculum and Instruction Supervisor. Use the following endorsement requirements as an outline to build your proposal to demonstrate mastery.

#### **A Curriculum and Instruction endorsement candidate must be able to:**

- a. Demonstrate knowledge of PreK-12 scope and sequence (articulation) skills of the school curriculum process.
- b. Demonstrate a process to integrate curriculum across disciplines.
- c. Demonstrate the ability to use research and best practices to create instruction systems that maximize the learning of all students.
- d. Demonstrate the ability to implement standards based curriculum to improve student performance.
- e. Demonstrate the ability to create instructional opportunities for diverse learners.
- f. Demonstrate effective communication strategies for various audiences.
- g. Demonstrate and implement staff development programs to enhance learning.
- h. Demonstrate the ability to use a variety of educational resources to plan comprehensive programs.

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- i. Utilize assessment instruments for guiding instruction to determine best practices for improved student learning.
- j. Develop criteria for evaluating data.
- k. Demonstrate an ability to lead adults through the change process in order to enhance curriculum and instruction.
- l. Demonstrate systematic practices for embedding technology in the curriculum.
- m. Demonstrate systematic practices to be culturally responsive to diverse learning needs.
- n. Exhibit an understanding of current curriculum issues and trends and be able to interpret them to both internal and external publics.

**The Plan of Action will serve as the framework when writing your final reflection and report of completion to conclude the practicum**