

CLDDV 101

Philosophy Statement Assignment

To Be an Excellent Teacher

Becoming a teacher may be the most exciting and difficult thing you have done. To be an excellent teacher, it is important that you know, understand, and reflect upon your own philosophy about how children learn, how you want to teach, what you expect from children, what you expect from yourself, and how you will advocate for these things. To this end, this assignment is intended to guide you to some of those answers.

This paper is to be word processed (typewritten), 12 point font, double spacing with the typical format at the top right hand side of the page (i.e. last name, first name, Philosophy Paper, due date, date turned in.)

Follow the instructions carefully, as your grade will be affected by format, content, and quality of writing. This paper should be in essay format, with appropriate paragraph breaks. Cite sources if you use them. Students may use MLA or APA format. Here are sites that will give you numerous examples for how to cite your work: <http://library.duke.edu/research/citing/within/apa.html> or <http://library.duke.edu/research/citing/within/mla.html>

Your statement will have an introductory paragraph, a concluding paragraph along with several paragraphs in-between. Each of the statements starts a new paragraph. The entire paper is a minimum of seven paragraphs.

First paragraph: Introductory Paragraph (Discuss what brings you to the world of children and families! A short, interesting anecdotal story about you and the world of children and families can set the stage for what is to follow in this paper. As you share this information, your goal is to get the reader's attention and let the reader know what the writing is going to be about.)

Next paragraph: Excellent teachers are teachers who are intentional in all aspects of their role. One facet of teaching that I find exciting in regards to being intentional is _____

Next paragraph: State your expectations of children. Children learn and develop best when they are _____

Next paragraph: My role as a teacher, to support optimal learning, will be to _____

Next paragraph: To prepare myself for this work, the following skills will be essential for me to master. _____

Next paragraph: I believe that I can make a contribution to the field of education because _____

Next and final paragraph: Conclusion paragraph (This is your chance to share your final words including what you learned about yourself as a future professional in the field of child development. Also, it gives you a chance to state the importance of this essay. What are the consequences of your findings? It is NOT necessary to start this final paragraph with 'In conclusion . . .')