

MAED 548 Literature Review Proposal Guidelines

Below is a description of what your proposal should contain. Remember, ultimately you need a minimum of 10 sources (MAT students 15 sources). Acceptable sources are journal articles, papers from conference proceedings, books, chapters from books, etc. At least 9 of these sources (MAT students 12 sources) must be **refereed research studies**. Websites are not acceptable sources unless approved by me. Notice that the focus of this proposal is on research conducted and findings from that research, not on what you think, believe, would like, ...!**

Topic Paragraph: What is your topic? This does not have to be the title of your final paper but should make clear the area of mathematics education you are researching. You need to be specific and descriptive. For example, simply stating you are going to conduct a literature review on research conducted in the area of block scheduling is not good enough. You need to include specific aspects of block scheduling that are of interest, importance, significance,... This will probably be the last section you write. Consider this an abstract for your paper.

Introduction: This section should include, but is not limited to, the following:

- A brief discussion of why you are interested in the topic you have chosen.**
- A general/broad overview or description of past and current research findings conducted in your topic area.
- A listing of at least 3 specific themes you have identified within the literature you have found thus far and plan on investigating further.

Major Themes/Issues: This section should include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Descriptions of at least 3 major themes/issues within your topic area listed in your introduction. Descriptions should include how the teaching and learning of mathematics are affected by the major themes/issues.
- A brief discussion of the extent to which the themes/issues are interrelated.

Discussion: This section should include, but is not limited to, discussions of the following:

- Recommendations (implications) from the research for improving the teaching and learning of mathematics with respect to the themes/issues mentioned. What obstacles are there to implementation of recommendations? Are the recommendations practical?
- Recommendations for further research needed within the area of your topic. How, who, what, why?
- A brief discussion of your ideas about what you have read and learned to this point and how the results from the research you have read are applicable to secondary mathematics education.**
- How do recent developments in technology fit into all of this? Is there a role for technology? What are the advantages/disadvantages of integrating technology into this area?
- Is there a connection between your area and the Common Core Standards?
- Has what you learned so far altered your perceptions of the teaching and learning of mathematics in some way? What have you learned that is surprising to you?

References: A list of references in APA style you will be using as sources for each major theme/issue immediately after each theme discussion. You should have a minimum of 5 research studies at this point. In text citations should also follow APA style.

Your grade on this proposal will be determined based upon how well you meet the above criteria and how well written your proposal is. If done correctly, portions of this proposal will become part of your final paper. So the more work and effort you devote to this project now will lessen your stress toward the end of the semester.

Please make an appointment to speak with me if you have questions about this proposal, are having difficulty finding resources, or simply need assistance in organizing your thoughts.