



NORTHWEST
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

ESSAY CRITERIA

Select one of the following topics from the program you are applying for and compose a 1-2 page essay. The essay must be double-spaced using 12-point font. **It is important that you use no outside sources for your essay and that it is entirely your own work (excludes Ed.D).** The purpose of the essay is to provide evidence of writing competency.

M.Ed. Curriculum, Instruction, and Innovation

The Master of Education in Curriculum, Instruction and Innovation offers emphases to promote personalized learning. To direct your research focus throughout the program, please write on your preferred emphasis using one of the emphases below:

- Curriculum Design – Focus on curriculum that is appropriately scaffolded to meet the diverse needs of students while maintaining integrity to content
- Instructional Coaching – Focus on instructional practices and strategies that improve student accessibility to learning and increase proficient levels of achievement.
- Innovation – Focus on original and engaging approaches to teaching and learning by use of a variety of appropriate strategies and activities.

M.Ed. Educational Leadership - Building Administrator

- The Difference between a Manager and an Instructional Leader
- The Value of Reflection as a Tool for Professional Development
- What Makes an Effective School Principal
- Methods of Decision Making

Ed.S. Superintendent/Building Admin/Director of Special Ed

- The Difference between a Manager and an Instructional Leader
- The Value of Reflection as a Tool for Professional Development
- What Makes an Effective District Superintendent/School Principal/Dir of Special Ed
- Methods of Decision Making

Ed.S. Leadership and Organizational Development

- The Difference between a Manager and a Leader
- The Value of Reflection as a Tool for Professional Development
- Methods of Decision Making

Ph.D / Ed.D. Educational Leadership

- A 10-15 page paper from your previous coursework (include outside source citations)
- Statement of purpose: 3-5 page statement in which you explain:
 - (a) your academic and professional interests
 - (b) the reasons behind selecting this particular program and Northwest Nazarene University
 - (c) how this degree will impact your role in the educational community