

Elon University School of Education Professional Disposition Instrument – For Student Information

The Disposition Instrument is used to assess attitudes/behaviors in ten different areas that are related to effective teaching. Instructors/clinical educators will use the rubric below to rate each candidate for each disposition based on their knowledge of the individual or observations of their behavior. A score of 3 equates to behaviors that exceed expectations for an educator. A score of 2 meets expectations. A score of 1 fails to meet expectations.

Dispositions The candidate demonstrates...	Fails to meet expectations 1	Meets expectations 2	Exceeds expectations 3
1 passion and enthusiasm for teaching and working with children/students	Reluctant to engage with children; says negative things about teaching and/or children	Seeks various ways to interact with children; talks positively about teaching and children	Constantly seeks ways to engage and work with children; speaks with conviction about the dignity of the teaching profession
2 integrity and honesty; meets ethical expectations	Plagiarizes material; uses other students' ideas as own; blames others for errors; violates confidentiality of students/teacher	Turns in original work; tells the truth; accepts responsibility for errors; keeps information about students/teachers confidential	n/a
3 flexibility and responsiveness to change	Complains about changes; reluctant to do new things; slow to comply with new requirements	Accepts changes and immediately adjusts to new requirements	Values and commits to changes inside and class; sees changes as opportunities and advocates for them
4 the ability to work collaboratively with peers, colleagues, and families	Reluctant/hesitant to work with others in the class; expresses wish to work alone; worries that parent interactions interfere with communication	Works well with assigned partners/groups in class; asks questions about how to effectively engage with others	Seeks extra opportunities to work with peers, families and colleagues beyond requirements
5 commitment to continued learning, reflection, and self-assessment	Superficial reflections on reading assignments; little evidence of growth and change over the term	Completes all assigned reading and reflects satisfactorily in written assignments; is able to self-assess and improve	Researches and reads additional material about the subject under study; brings outside materials into classroom; written reflections evidence much time and thought
6 value for student achievement and learning of all students	Displays favoritism for certain types/groups of students; minimal attention to differentiation in lessons; expresses skepticism that all children can succeed	Positive attitude displayed toward all children; candidate shows differentiation in lessons to address needs of individuals	Advocates for disadvantaged as well as gifted students; always reminds others of the need for focusing on each student; seeks out further information on disadvantaged/gifted students
7 ability to focus during learning process and respond positively to suggestions for improvement	Frequently daydreams or engages in tasks other than learning; on cell phone during class; argues and/or fails to respond when given suggestions for improvement	Consistently pays attention in class to teacher and material; responds quickly to suggestions for improvement	Always participates in class activities; seeks out feedback for improvement from peers and instructors
8 punctuality, attendance, and ability to meet deadlines	Arrives late to class and/or leaves early; absences; assignments are late	Always on time to class; all assignments done by deadline	n/a
9 determination; persistence in overcoming obstacles	Unaware or dismissive of obstacles, or expresses doubt in ability to overcome them	When confronted with obstacles, tries many times to deal with them	Anticipates obstacles and takes action to avoid them (i.e., has a back-up plan for car trouble)
10 positive attitude	Says negative things about the program, instructors, or peers	Compliments, says positive things about others and the class/program	Always complimentary about the class, the teacher, other students; turns negatives into positives