

Minnesota State University, Mankato Ed.D. Educational Leadership Program

Applicant's Essay Writing Sample

The Department of Educational Leadership's mission is to study the intersectionality among race, cultural responsiveness, and social justice. We prepare racially and ethically conscious leaders who are resolute in serving ALL learners in various educational settings. The department is committed to developing educators with solid skills in racial equity and instructional leadership. We seek to advance the capacity of leaders who will eliminate predictable racial disparities through project-based learning and learner-centered programming.

Through attention to leadership studies, organizational theory, public policy, advanced ethics, and research, the Ed.D. program in Educational Leadership provides students with the knowledge and skills to lead P-12 public schools, alternative educational organizations and charter schools, nonprofit organizations, experiential education organizations, and colleges and universities.

Essay Writing Sample –To better understand your research interests, educational aspirations, and academic writing skills, we ask you to submit one two-part essay in response to both prompts. Your work must meet the following requirements:

- Your essay must be 1000 words or less, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins, and 12-point Times New Roman.
- Include a cover page with a title and your name.
- Use at least three in-text citations in the body of your essay to support your claims.
- Provide a reference page with at least three recent articles or books to verify your in-text citations.
- The cover and reference pages are not counted toward your 1000-word maximum.

Please address the following two questions in your Essay Writing Sample.

Part 1: What question or topic might you research that demonstrates the intersection of education, leadership, and racial equity, and why?

Part 2: In your personal and/or professional life, what have you done to educate yourself and/or address predictable racial disparities?

All doctoral writing in this program uses the American Psychological Association's 7th edition (APA7). Academic writing is clear, concise, and supported by evidence or prior research. Use the following tools to aid your writing:

[Grammarly.com](https://www.grammarly.com) – a free downloadable writing aid

[Purdue OWL](https://owl.purdue.edu) – a free online guide to APA 7 style

[Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com) – a free resource to search for research articles

Please be aware that your essay will be reviewed for the use of Artificial Intelligence and plagiarism. Upon completion, please upload your document to the Program Materials section in GradCAS. Based on the application and essay scores, finalists will be selected and contacted for an interview with the faculty.

 MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO

COURAGE | EQUITY | ETHICS
EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP
