



Ed.D. Applicant Writing Assessment

Overview:

Writing a short essay is part of the application process to the Educational Leadership for Social Justice (ELSJ) program. This essay is intended to **assess** your **original** writing from the perspective of how you:

1. Convey your view of education, schooling, and/or educational leadership as a social justice endeavor,
2. Represent the issue and its causes that you discuss,
3. Identify and rationalize proposed changes,
4. Organize and articulate your thinking,
5. Formulate an argument and analysis with specificity, and
6. Apply writing conventions.

As part of submitting your application, please upload a double-spaced written response to the prompt listed **below**. Please be specific, provide examples from your own work or lived experience, and include citations/references where appropriate. Your response should be between 5 and 10 pages in length using 12 point font. Please do not exceed 10 pages. Please do **NOT** use artificial intelligence (A.I.) software to generate your writing. It is important for us to observe YOUR thinking as shown by YOUR writing.

Prompt:

Numerous research studies provide evidence that the structure of public education in the U.S. creates **inequitable learning experiences, exacerbates unwellness, recognizes and attends to limited aspects of the whole child, and prepares students to know where they fit within the unequal relations of power of the larger society.**

Choose **at least one** of the identified issues above as the focus of your response, and address these questions.

1. How would you name the core problem and its root causes?
2. What is your analysis of some of the root causes?
3. How might this/these issue(s) manifest in everyday practice?
4. What can or should leaders in the field of education, whether PK-12 schooling, higher education, or community-based organizations do to counter this issue?
5. In what ways do you see your pursuit of the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership as an avenue for you to contribute to needed changes, including your interests in possible dissertation research topics and your role as a leader?