## CASE STUDY INSTRUCTIONS

All students will submit a type-written case study (on the case of their choice). This study must be a minimum of four pages in length (excluding references and title page). The paper should include a description of the case, back ground information/theory, student analysis, and appropriate citations.

What is a case study? In teacher education, we use case studies to examine the problems and problem-solving strategies teachers might experience in the real world. A case study (1) presents the background for the case (that is, a situation or problem), (2) describes the case in detail, (3) offers several alternative solutions for the case, and (4) offers and informed recommendation on the how case should be handled.

What do I have to write? In your submission (minimum four pages in length), you will make sure to include each of the four components listed above. Your case can be something you observed during your field experience, it can come from a book or movie you saw, or you can make something up.

What else should I include? As you can see in the rubric below, it is important that you refer to the academic ideas and principles we have discussed thus far this semester. Use appropriate academic language. Also, don't just tell me what happened; you should use your informed opinion to analyze the case and to offer alternative solutions to the case. Because you are developing into scholars, you should be including outside references to help you write your paper. A minimum of five outside references must be included. Please cite these sources in appropriate APA format. NOTE: use ONLY refereed sources (try not to use any websites as sources). Issues of plagiarism will result in an automatic zero.

Criteria	Target	Acceptable	Unacceptable
Background	The student's description of the background for the case indicates an awareness of the educational contexts. The student's description evidences an understanding of Ecological Theory and includes sufficient details to help the reader understand the contexts of the case. (20)	The student's description of the background for the case indicates an awareness of the educational contexts and includes sufficient details to help the reader understand the contexts of the case. (15)	There is little to no description of the background of the case. (10)
Details	The student's submission includes a description of the case that allows the reader insight into the situation/problem being described. Use of academic language is sophisticated and indicates an understanding of how such language is applied in educational discourse. (20)	The student's submission includes a description of the case that allows the reader insight into the situation/problem being described. The submission includes use of appropriate academic. (15)	There is little detail offered to aid the reader in understanding the case AND/OR The submission fails to include appropriate academic language. (10)
Alternative Solutions	The student's submission includes at least three possible solutions. Each solution is logical and supported by appropriate academic theory/language. (20)	The student's submission includes at least two possible solutions. Each solution is logical and supported by appropriate academic theory/language. (15)	The student offers one or no solution to the case. (10)
Logic of Preferred Solution	The student's preferred solution is supported by logic and strongly supported by outside references. (20)	The student's preferred solution is supported by logic and some academic theory/sources. (15)	The student offers one or no solution to the case OR the solution offered is not supported or logical. (10)
Grammar/APA	The submission has no obvious grammatical errors and few, if any APA errors. The submission is at least four pages in length. (20)	The submission is at least four pages in length. There are no distracting issues in grammar or APA. (15)	There are a number of distracting errors in grammar and/or APA. (10)