

# **EDUC 4685/4686 SPECIAL EDUCATION SENIOR SYNTHESIS SEMINAR**

## **GUIDELINES FOR SENIOR PROJECT**

The senior project is a self-selected project designed to enhance the overall objectives of the teacher education program. It allows you to bring your educational and professional expertise and the interest to bear on a real situation outside of student teaching. You may choose to: compile instructional materials, develop curriculum, develop presentations using technology, provide a community service, complete action research, or another activity that requires personal and professional skills. Each senior project requires 30 hours of service. The hours do not have to be spent in the public school system, but must be relevant to the student's licensure.

When selecting a Senior Project, keep in mind the following criteria:

- The project should be an education-related service to individuals or organizations.
- The project should extend or enhance some of the skills developed while in the Teacher Education program.
- A Senior Project Contract is required (see attached form).
- The project proposal should be written and signed (indicating approval) by the sponsor before it is discussed with the faculty instructor.
- The project requires prior approval from the faculty instructor and should not be a repeat of something previously done.
- The project requires a second project sponsor signature at the conclusion of the project, indicating satisfactory completion. Project sponsor comments are encouraged.

## **PROFICIENCY ASSESSMENT**

The following activities are required to verify the satisfactory completion of the Senior Project:

- **Completed Senior Project Contract**, with description of project, two sponsor signatures (beginning and end of project), and university supervisor signature.
- **Learning log** that records project activity, consisting of:
  - dates of activities (i.e., each time you worked on the project)
  - time spent doing each activity
  - description of each activity

The total number of hours spent on the entire project should also be indicated.

- **Professional, one-page summary**. Include a discussion of the service rendered and the benefit to others. Reflect on what you learned as a result of this experience and how it enhanced your professional growth.
- **Oral summary presentation**. A five-minute presentation (celebration!) of your project during the Senior Synthesis Seminar at the end of the semester. Must include some visual representation of the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, actual project materials, etc.) (Submit the previous three items at the time of your oral presentation.)

**SENIOR PROJECT CONTRACT**  
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Student \_\_\_\_\_ Semester \_\_\_\_\_

Description of intended project:

Project Sponsor Signatures (with dates):

\_\_\_\_\_ (approval prior to beginning project)

\_\_\_\_\_ (upon completion of project)

Project Sponsor Comments:

University Instructor Signature (with date):

\_\_\_\_\_ (approval prior to beginning project)