Elementary Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) Degree

Comprehensive Examination Preparation

This preparation sheet offers you information about what the Ed.S. examination may address. First, recognize that the Ed.S. examination does not necessarily have the same format from one year to the next. The examination may be constructed as a single task with multiple parts or a couple of questions with multiple parts. In either case, the elements noted here are common to Ed.S. examinations.

Generally, the exam is centered on practical and reflective classroom research known as action research. The exam may take the form of a paper, a case study or take on other authentic contexts. If a paper is required, you may be asked to develop an action research study based upon what you have learned throughout your Ed.S. program coursework. If the examination takes on a different format, you may be asked to develop specific aspects of the research and analyze other parts of it.

No matter the format of the exam, you should be prepared to do the following:

- Develop, critique and/or apply methods of action research appropriate for the problems or questions being addressed in the exam
- Describe a rationale for the study and/or its research approach
- Describe, critique and/or develop data collection techniques appropriate for the research conducted
- Conduct a literature review that is informed and clearly addresses the issues involved in the research study.
- Describe clearly and coherently the issue or problem addressed in the research
- Address diversity and any ethical issues that may be associated with the study or the study’s research methods
- Demonstrate scholarship through use of relevant resources selected to support ideas presented.
- Create a well conceptualize, organized response(s) to the task that is clear, coherent and free from grammatical and typographical errors. (Use APA 6th edition for paper and references)