

Education, Health and Human Services
Writing Sample Curriculum and Instruction (C&I) Ph.D. Program

Directions: Please complete Item #1 and either Item #2 or #3 below. Applicants should be completed and either postmarked or delivered to 418 White Hall in 2 weeks. Be certain that your writing sample follows the guidelines provided. Your response to these items will be used to assess your scholarly writing ability, your general knowledge of education, and your understanding of your educational specialty.

Item #1: Professional Statement – Provide a brief statement of your reasons for pursuing a doctorate in curriculum and instruction from Kent State University (not to exceed 500 words). This statement should include: your personal motivations, research interests, professional goals, and any other pertinent information that demonstrates your readiness to enter the C&I Ph.D. Program.

Item #2: Published Article – Provide a recent sample (within the last three years) of your professional/academic writing during graduate study and/or any subsequent research work. This sample must be an article of yours published in a national refereed journal.

Item #3: Well-argued Response: Choose one of the articles from 418 White Hall and compose a 5-10 page scholarly response to the article. Respond to the article from the perspective of your envisioned doctoral study specialty and/or emphasis. Be sure to provide sufficient literature and experiential support for your main points. When you reference others' works, be sure to follow the guidelines from the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th edition).

C&I Faculty will rate the content and form of your paper holistically (and anonymously) with the results forwarded to the C&I program coordinator and if necessary to the C&I admissions committee. The following criteria serve as general guidelines for a well-written piece of scholarship. Apply them in a way that is appropriate to your essay.

- Your essay presents a clearly defined thesis/position statement.
- Your essay articulates a convincing rationale as to why the thesis/position statement is worthy of disciplined study.
- Your essay is informed by relevant theory and research.
- Your essay provides a clear argument in support of your position.
- Your essay does not just present information but uses this information to support a logical & coherent argument.