

TEAL Ph. D. in Education with Specialization in Curriculum and Instruction

Statement of Purpose Application Directions

Step 6 of the Ph.D. application for USU TEAL Curriculum and Instruction Doctoral Program is a Statement of Purpose (Application Essay). Complete an essay (approximately 500 words) as a separate document that you can upload into the School of Graduate Studies (online) submission portal. In your essay, provide information under the following headings:

Brief Introduction of Yourself: Share your name and current professional status.

Professional Goals: Explain why you want to pursue doctoral study. What are your career goals? How will attaining a doctoral degree support those goals? Describe the contributions you hope to make as a result of obtaining a doctoral degree.

Educational Experiences: Include information about your personal and professional experiences. How many years of teaching have you completed and in what grades, subjects, and schools? What background experiences do you bring to a doctoral program in education? How have you developed as an educator that will contribute to doctoral study (e.g., defining moments, certifications, challenges, opportunities, hardships overcome)? State your GRE scores (see Step 1 of the Ph.D. application) or your request for a GRE waiver (see GRE waiver request option).

Academic Interests: Identify your particular academic interests as they relate to advanced study of Curriculum and Instruction and to your preferred concentration within the program. What research topics or methods are of current interest? Which scholars, theorists, or philosophers have influenced your thinking and interest in advanced study?

Faculty Connections: Identify three USU graduate faculty members you think align with and might be able to support your research interests? Specify which of our graduate faculty members we might assign as your initial advisor.