

# **Master of Arts in Education: Instructions for the Professional Essay**

## **ALL APPLICANTS TO THE MASTERS OF ARTS IN EDUCATION PROGRAM:**

Select one of the following discussion topics and write an essay of 750-1000 words. Give careful attention to clarity, depth of expression and grammatical correctness.

- Analyze the sociological, psychological and/or spiritual influences that have shape your choice of career field.
- Discuss what you consider to be the key future issues in your career field.
- Discuss the concept of a liberal arts education as it relates to your graduate field of study.
- Using illustrations from your professional experience, analyze a contemporary problem area in your field.

## **SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:**

Submit your professional essay, with a cover sheet, to the Admissions Office at Simpson University. Include your name, address, phone number and email address on your cover sheet.

*Mail:* 2211 Colledge View Dr. Redding, CA 96003

*Email:* [edadmissions@simpsonu.edu](mailto:edadmissions@simpsonu.edu)

*Fax:* (530) 226-4861

The following standards characterize quality graduate writing. Graduate students should attend to these elements in the writing of essays, papers, and examinations. Clear and accurately written communication should be developed by students in every graduate course. Instructors may include these standards in grading criteria. The evaluation of graduate professional essays will be based on these characteristics.

### **I. CONTENT**

- \*Worthwhile ideas
- \*Referencing (form and frequency)
- \*Scholarship (breadth and depth)
- \*Adequate support of topic
- \*Clear, precise expression and meaning
- \*Evidence of analysis and synthesis

### **II. STRUCTURE**

- \*An introductory statement
- \*Topic sentences to assert what each paragraph is about
- \*Summary statements and transitional words/phrases
- \*Unity and continuity

### **III. STYLE**

- \*Correct spelling
- \*Properly constructed sentences
- \*Standard usage
- \*Grammatical correctness
- \*Formal punctuation and capitalization