



Essay Questions for Education Scholarship Candidates

Choose **one** topic below and write a 300 to 400 word essay on the topic.

Diversity in culture, race, language and exceptionality in today's classrooms impacts instruction, management and assessment. Jesus' command gives believers guidance towards the inclusiveness He expects. The command:

"When you give a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor your rich neighbors... But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just" (Luke 14:12 – 14).

Nyack College's School of Education SALT Standards (Service, Academics, Learning and Teaching) strongly embraces the invitation of all 'to the feast' by emphasizing service to individuals, communities and the world.

1. Discuss how your past educational, social and family experiences have influenced your current perspectives about diversity and the inclusion of all in today's classroom. Outline several goals that you could set for yourself as a student in Nyack College's School of Education to ensure that you will fulfill Jesus' command by developing the desired attitudes and beliefs.
2. Current research has highlighted the importance of moral education and the provision of ethics instruction in today's schools. In recently conducted surveys, parents, teachers, and administrators have indicated that they believe that such topics as morals, ethical behavior, and integrity have been sadly lacking from school curriculums and advocate their reintegration. What is your evaluation of the instruction of morals and ethics in public schools? How do you feel about the issue of the teaching of ethics and character in the classroom?
3. Many common sayings assert that, in essence, the children are our future. How do you interpret this maxim and what are its implications for teachers?
4. Reportedly, Mark Twain once observed that "there are two institutions that vie for the right to educate our youth: schools and prisons. If we don't do a better job of keeping them in the former, we will almost certainly ensure their matriculation in the latter." How valid is Twain's admonition? What role do teachers play in ensuring that children receive the skills, knowledge, and values they need to lead productive lives?