



EDU 6307: Emerging Issues in Education

Module 6: Group Issue Investigation Assignment Guidelines and Rubric

Overview:

The purpose of the Issue Investigation is to critically analyze an issue in education and to be able to reflect on both sides of the issue in writing and through peer-to-peer discourse. In order to do this, each group will be assigned to a textbook chapter from the required module readings to research a major issue and to create a PowerPoint presentation (15 slides max) to be posted on the class Discussion Board, along with 5 discussion questions. This presentation will promote awareness of the issue, and foster analysis of the various factors and proposals for dealing with the issue. You are required to respond to your peers' posts.

Directions:

Each group's presentation must include:

- At least two views on the issue (15 slides max)
- Videos (You Tube, TeacherTube, Ted Talks, or other), website links, narration can be used to make the presentation interactive. An engaging presentation is encouraged!

Additionally, each group must also submit the following:

- The questions the group posted in the discussion board they facilitated
- A reference for **one key article** that enhances the discussion and/or understanding of the issue cited in APA style, and including a web link, library permalink, or uploaded full PDF version
- Reference list of 15 other sources related to the selected topic, cited in APA style. **Note:** These sources count toward the annotated bibliography assignment, but for the purposes of this assignment the reference citations are all that is required (**without annotations**).

Finally, each student must individually write a 1–2 page summary of all sides of the issue. Specifically, the written summary must include the following:

- Frame the issue, briefly summarizing any critical background information, and referencing the key article identified in the group submission
- Synthesize the opposing arguments surrounding the issue
- Conclude with a paragraph sharing your personal thoughts and views on the issue and explaining how you will apply what you have learned about this topic or issue to your own classroom or school

Note: Your active participation facilitating and engaging in the Group Issue Investigation discussion boards in Modules 4–6 will also be considered and assessed as part of your grade for this assignment, as well as the presentation and discussion question drafts due the module prior.



EDU 6307: Emerging Issues in Education

Guidelines for Submission:

1. **Group Submission:** One group member should submit the presentation as a Microsoft PowerPoint file. One group member should also submit the discussion questions, one key article, and the full reference list formatted in APA style as a Microsoft Word document.
2. **Individual Submission:** Each student must also individually submit their written summary as a Microsoft Word document with 12-point font, double spacing, and one-inch margins. Any sources cited should be formatted according to APA style.

Instructor Feedback: This activity uses an integrated rubric in Blackboard. Students can view instructor feedback in the Grade Center.

Group Submission Rubric (35 points)

Criteria	Exemplary (100%)	Needs Improvement (75%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Group Grade: Issue Investigation Presentation Slides	Presentation slides summarize of all sides of the issue and contain interactive elements	Presentation slides may summarize only some sides of the issue, may lack interactive elements, or may be unclear or inaccurate.	Presentation slides do not summarize the issue and do not contain interactive elements	10
Group Grade: Issue Investigation Discussion Questions	Discussion questions are purposeful, thought-provoking, open-ended and relevant to the issue and major course themes.	May have submitted less than 5 discussion questions, or discussion questions may be yes/no in style, may not provoke purposeful discussion, or may not be relevant to the issue.	Did not submit discussion questions.	10
Group Grade: Key Article	Submission included a full citation and a weblink, library permalink, or uploaded full PDF version of a key article that enhances the discussion and/or understanding of the issue.	Reference to key article was incorrectly cited or did not include a weblink, library permalink, or uploaded full PDF version, or does not appropriately enhance the discussion and/or understanding of the issue.	Reference for key article was not submitted.	10
Group Grade: References	Reference list included 15 other sources related to the topic, cited in APA style.	Reference list may have included less than 15 other sources related to the topic, or they may not have all been appropriately related or scholarly in nature, or they may not have been accurately cited in APA style.	Reference list was not submitted.	10

EDU 6307: Emerging Issues in Education

Group Grade: Facilitation of Group Issue Investigation Discussion	A revised presentation and five related discussion questions was posted (on time) after integrating instructor feedback from the previous module's draft and checked in to the discussion board regularly to answer questions and facilitate an ongoing engaging class dialogue throughout the module.	Presentation and related discussion questions were posted and the group answered questions and facilitated an ongoing class dialogue in the discussion board, but they may have been posted late or the group may not have engaged in regular dialogue with peers on the topic throughout the module.	Presentation or questions may not have been posted or discussion may not have been facilitated.	40
Group Grade: Draft of Issue Investigation Presentation Slides and Questions	Draft of slides was engaging and summarized at least two views on the topic and 5 open-ended discussion questions.	Draft of slides was incomplete, only partially summarizing views on the issue, or did not submit at least 5 open-ended discussion questions.	Did not submit draft of slides and discussion questions.	20
Total =				100 %

Individual Submission Rubric (40 points)

Criteria	Exemplary (100%)	Needs Improvement (75%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Individual Grade: Participation in Group Issue Investigation Discussions	Individual actively participated in discussions about presentation topics, addressing at least three of the five questions; providing constructive feedback on the presentation; and asking thoughtful questions about the topic or issue, and may have engaged with peers' response posts to contribute to a meaningful discussion about the presented issue.	Individual participated in discussions about presentation topics by addressing less than three questions posed by presenting group.	Individual did not actively participate in discussions about presentation topics.	50
Individual Grade: Written Summary	Individual written summary frames the issue, briefly summarizing any critical background information, and referencing the key article identified in the group submission; synthesizes the opposing arguments surrounding the issue; concludes with a paragraph sharing personal thoughts and views on the issue and explaining how what was learned about this topic or issue will be applied to classroom or school setting; and no grammar or spelling errors that distract the reader	Some of the following might be missing from the individual written summary, or may be unclear or lacking in detail: frames the issue, briefly summarizing any critical background information, and referencing the key article identified in the group submission; synthesizes the opposing arguments surrounding the issue; concludes with a paragraph sharing personal thoughts and views on the issue and explaining how what was learned about this topic or issue will be applied to	Individual written summary was not submitted.	50



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EDU 6307: Emerging Issues in Education

	from the content. All sources used are cited using APA Style, 6th ed.	classroom or school setting; or minor errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. All sources used are cited using APA Style, 6th ed.		
Total =				100 %