

Over the first half of the semester, you will engage with articles from your discipline that discuss the particular demands of literacy in the classroom. The purpose of this work is two-fold. First, you will start to get a sense of the range of literature available to you as a professional educator. This literature can support you in planning instruction for your students and serve as a base of research support for administrators wishing to know why you've made the instructional decisions you have. Second, by focusing on writing in addition to content, you'll continue to develop your writing skills to the level expected of the professional you are becoming.

At three points across the semester, you'll be turning in an article review. This review will

1. *briefly* summarize the key ideas from the readings and your responses to them (this should be less than a third of the whole response),
2. discuss how it fits in our larger conversations about literacy and other related coursework, and
3. consider how to adapt and implement these ideas in a class in your discipline.

### **Expectations**

While there isn't a particular length I require, I imagine you'd have a hard time doing all of this in much less than 2 pages. My expectations for this assignment are that you demonstrate an engagement with the articles you've selected, an explicit knowledge of the course readings, and the potential for these ideas in a classroom. Further, I expect that you'll respond to the readings analytically by thoughtfully supporting your opinions using the range of sources at your disposal. The writing should be in formal, academic English with a minimum of grammatical errors. As noted below, I will expect these to improve across time.

*A note about writing:* I will be paying attention to the way in which you write these, not just the content. I do this because, as a teacher you will be writing to parents, administrators, students, community members, and many other people. You need to be able to do that writing in a professional manner and this is an opportunity to practice that.

### **Assessment**

The three responses will be graded as a whole, both for their own content and showing growth across the three. For each of the first two I will give brief comments indicating areas of strength and possible areas of growth for you to continue developing as you write the next response.