

Dear [Course Number] Graduate Student:

Welcome to the capstone course, Teacher Leader II, in the master's program Curriculum and Instruction. The purpose of this course is to deepen and broaden your concept of and skill base for teacher leadership. This purpose will be assisted through your synthesis, application, and extension of the knowledge you have gained through courses and field experiences in which you have participated.

There are two main aspects of the course which intertwine to create what I hope will be an active, exciting, and thoughtful learning environment. 1) You will explore the notion of teacher leadership and its implications to your role as a teacher. 2) You will engage in a long-term project that will allow you to step into the greater school community. (For some, you will also complete your Culminating Portfolio for the program.)

This first assignment will help lay some of the foundation for the course experiences. Please read these two articles (attached and with permission).

1. Danielson, C. (2007). The many faces of leadership. *Educational Leadership*, 65(1), 14-19. [Click here to retrieve the article from the College's library.](#)
2. Wei, C., Andree, A., & Darling-Hammond, L. (2009). How nations invest in teachers. *Educational Leadership*, 66(5), 28-33. [Click here to retrieve the article from the College's library.](#)

Send an e-mail on or before March 25 that includes (this can be submitted in the body of the e-mail or as an attachment):

A. For each article, write a thoughtful reaction to each article

How to approach constructing your thoughtful reaction:

1. As you read each article. Think about 1 or 2 major points you want to articulate in your reaction paper.
2. Describe each point (What you agreed on or with or "What you disagreed on or with") followed by
3. Justifying (support) why you think this way and provide one or two real-world example(s) - You may use any example from your teaching.
4. Develop three questions for discussion.

The course materials, available at the bookstore:

1. Collay, M. (2011). *Everyday teacher leadership: Taking action where you are*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
2. Yendo-Hoppey, D., & Dana, N. F. (2010). *Powerful professional development: Building expertise with the four walls of your school*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin.
3. Course packet

I am looking forward to meeting you on Wednesday, March 27, at 5:00!
If you have any questions, feel free to call me XXX-XXX-XXXX or e-mail me.

Sincerely,
[Instructor's Name]