**Teaching and Learning Across Cultural Differences**

Due: Friday, January 9th, midnight

This paper will demonstrate your ability to acknowledge and critically reflect upon own cultural perspective. You will first identify your own cultural values, beliefs, and capital. You will then integrate your perceptions of your own cultural capital in relation to your own experiences, your interactions with students, and your attempts to promote their learning and success.

*Looking Back:* In order to prepare to write this paper, please do the following:

* Revisit Yosso’s framework from last year to help you think about your own cultural capital
* Re-read your diversity paper from last year: what can you learn about your own filters, biases, and privilege from reflecting on your student teaching experiences?
* Write 2-3 paragraphs in which you identify your own cultural values, beliefs, and capital.

Then, consider the following questions:

*Teaching Across Cultural Differences*

* What does culture mean to you? What cultures were represented in your classroom?
* How did you try to work with individual students across cultural differences? How do you think your perceived culture affected your interactions and relationships with students?

*Subject-Area Content and Culture*

* What is the intersection of your perceived cultural capital and the ways in which you select and bring content to the classroom? In other words, how might perceived cultural capital play a role in your selection of content and the pedagogical choices you make regarding that content? Choose one specific subject area.

*Looking Back and Looking Ahead*

* Given your recent student teaching experience, what did you notice about how cultural differences within a class played out in the dynamics of learning and relationships?
* What are some questions you have about where you need to know more or learn more about working with a particular student or group of students?  How could culture influence the dynamics?

This paper should be 4-5 pages in length (APA formatted) and should attend to the Cultural Encapsulation element on the Student Teaching Rubric below.

**Reflects in Writing upon Own Cultural Encapsulation**

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| **Inappropriate** | **Emerging** | **Developing** | **Skilled** |
| Candidate makes no effort to reflect upon own cultural perspective or to come to know how that perspective influences understanding of, and actions toward, individuals from groups different from own received culture. | Candidate minimally able to acknowledge and critically reflect upon own cultural perspective and come to know how that perspective influences understanding of, and actions toward, individuals from groups different from own received culture. | Candidate is able to acknowledge and critically reflect upon own cultural perspective and come to know how that perspective influences understanding of, and actions toward, individuals from groups different from own received culture. | Teacher uses insights of cultural encapsulation to make culturally appropriate contributions to student learning and school improvement activities. |

\*\*Bring a draft to class on Tuesday, January 6th. During class, you will have an opportunity to share your current thinking with a small group of peers. From this conversation, you will then revise your paper and submit it for evaluation by Friday, January 9th at midnight.\*\*