

# Stony Brook University – Professional Education Program

## Teacher Candidate Dispositions Essay Cover Sheet

Teacher Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ Semester: \_\_\_\_\_

Course: \_\_\_\_\_ Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_

What does it mean to be a professional, ethical teacher? What kinds of issues should good teachers think about as they go about the daily tasks of planning, conducting and evaluating lessons? How should they include others in their decisions about teaching and learning? What approaches should teachers consider as important and sometimes difficult social issues arise as a result of class discussion? These are difficult questions with no one right answer.

To address these kinds of questions, several important educational organizations have developed documents, which we will work with in the Professional Education program:

- The New York State Education Department’s “Code of Ethics for Educators”
- The Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium’s Dispositions from their “Model Standards for Beginning Teacher Licensing and Development: A Resource for State Dialogue”

**Directions to Teacher Candidates:** In connection with the above documents, you have written an essay that responds to classroom scenarios. The scenarios have come from your methods instructor or from your own and your peers’ field experience. (In Methods I, the emphasis is on instructor-provided scenarios; in Methods II, instructor-provided and peer-provided scenarios receive equal emphasis; in Student Teaching Seminars, student-provided scenarios receive the greater emphasis. Thus, we acknowledge teacher candidates’ increasing experience.) Please carefully examine your essay and list the numbers of the codes and dispositions to which your essay speaks. In this manner, you will demonstrate your awareness of and your ability to address these points. It may not be practical for every essay to speak to every code and disposition. Since you will complete three of these essays in your work in the Professional Education Program, please pose as a goal for yourself that you will address each of the codes and dispositions at least once by the time you have written all three essays. This cover sheet and your essay should be included in your Teacher Candidate Portfolio.

	NYS “Code of Ethics”	INTASC “Dispositions”
Dispositions Essay Title:		