

## Syllabus

### Welcome to your Capella University online course, EDD-FPX8010 - Foundations of Doctoral Studies in Education

This first course is designed to support you in your transition to an advanced level of study. This course is designed to provide learning experiences on critical thinking and scholarly writing—essential skills in a graduate program as well as professional practice. It allows you to acquire and practice the skills necessary for online learning to expand your understanding of the expectations of advanced, graduate-level work.

This course also examines how educators can ensure that student learning remains the key driver of all decisions made in schools, school districts, institutions of higher education, and other public or private organizations and businesses. Equally important is that these decisions are made ethically, with integrity and fairness.

This course requires study, examination, and analysis of essential elements of education leadership. At Capella University, courses are designed based on the competencies necessary to demonstrate a program's learning outcomes. The course competencies are the knowledge, skills, abilities, and professional attributes required to perform tasks successfully in a given context. Course competencies established by the university, School of Education, and your specialization guide the learning experiences of each course experience through to completion of your program.

**Important note:** You must complete the assessments in the order in which they are presented in the course.

### COURSE COMPETENCIES

To successfully complete this course, you will be expected to:

1. Determine how action research and systems thinking apply to professional problems, challenges, or issues in education.
2. Apply information literacy skills to locate and critically evaluate scholarly data, theories, and research.
3. Critically reflect on one's own professional decisions, attitudes, actions, and skills to direct one's own learning and growth.
4. Analyze the characteristics of ethical behavior and respect for diversity and civil discourse.
5. Communicate in a manner that is scholarly, professional, and appropriate to purpose.

### SCORING GUIDES

The following scoring guides will be used to evaluate your performance on the assessments in this course.

- Assessment 1: [Understanding of Research Requirements Scoring Guide](#).
- Assessment 2: [Literature Review Scoring Guide](#).
- Assessment 3: [Ethical Behavior, Diversity, and Civil Discourse Scoring Guide](#).
- Assessment 4: [Critical Reflection and Writing Process Evaluation Scoring Guide](#).

FlexPath courses are competency-based courses designed to allow you the flexibility to work at your own pace. Your progress in a FlexPath course depends solely on your ability to successfully demonstrate the course competencies. You will demonstrate these course competencies through multiple assessments that simulate the type of work you would be expected to do on the job. As a self-directed FlexPath learner, you will develop your own plan for completing the assessments.

To successfully complete each course, you must complete all assessments and demonstrate all course competencies at the level of:

- **Basic** or above for undergraduate-level courses.
- **Proficient** or above for master's and doctorate-level courses.

After each assessment is evaluated, your Competency Map shows your updated, cumulative progress toward demonstrating each course competency. You can access your Competency Map via the course home page or from your academic plan on Campus.

## Academic Community

To be a successful FlexPath learner, you must be skilled at the goal setting, time management, and self-direction needed to work independently. You will set your own pace, but you will also need to adhere to the deadlines you set. This can be difficult to manage alone.

As a learner at Capella University, you are a member of a scholarly community. Learning is a partnership; you are ultimately responsible for your own success, but you are not alone. As you work through the course assessments, take the time to build a network of people within the Capella community who can help you stay on track and achieve your goals.

## Course Target Dates

In every FlexPath course, you will begin by setting your assessment target dates. This will create your personal schedule for successfully completing all course assessments. **You must submit your target dates within 12 days from the course start date** which is shown on your Campus dashboard.

If you receive financial aid, submission of your target dates will release your financial aid funds.

After you submit your target dates, a timeline displays on the course home page and shows your target date for each assessment. This timeline pulls your target dates and reflects your progress as you complete each assessment.

You are expected to update and maintain your target dates until you complete the course and to use it to stay on track and on task. You can revise your target dates as unexpected changes to your schedule occur, or you can add time to incorporate feedback on your work.

## Course Engagement

You are expected to engage in your course weekly.

## Course Participation for FlexPath

Begin participating in your courses from the very beginning. Active participation helps to keep you from falling behind and gives you the opportunity to fully benefit from the course. It is also required for continuing enrollment, as stated in the [Course Registration policy](#) related to maintaining enrollment in the FlexPath "Initial Course Participation" and "Ongoing Course Participation" sections. To meet Initial Course Participation requirements in

FlexPath, learners must set target dates within the first 12 days of the course. To meet Ongoing Course Participation requirements, learners must also continuously submit courseroom activities (see list below) throughout the duration of each course to remain enrolled in their course(s). If you are not actively participating in your course for 14 consecutive days, you will receive an e-mail notification directing you to take action. If you do not engage for another 14 consecutive days (for a total of 28 consecutive days), you will be removed from your course, which will result in a 'non-performance' (failure) for your course.

#### **Initial Course Participation in FlexPath:**

- Setting target dates. The only way to participate initially is to set target dates. These must be submitted within 12 days from the course start date, which is shown on your Campus dashboard. Resetting target dates after the initial setting does not count as participation.

#### **Ongoing Participation for FlexPath includes:**

- Submitting or resubmitting an assessment
- Completion of a Course Activity.
- Engagement within the courseroom with your course instructor regarding your course content.
- Engagement with a tutor regarding your course content via Capella Connect (not available in select programs\*).

\*Tutors are not leveraged in the BSN, BS HCA, M Ed, and doctoral programs.

**Note:** Resetting target dates, communicating with an instructor via courseroom mail, in the Ask Your Instructor discussion board, or outside of the courseroom does not count as initial course participation. Also, it is not enough to contact your instructor when you are unable to participate in your course for more than 14 days. If circumstances prevent you from being an active participant in your course, please contact your Academic Coach immediately to review your options.

#### **Academic Team**

#### **FlexPath Coaches**

As a FlexPath learner, you have a FlexPath coach assigned to help you achieve your goals and complete your degree. Contact your coach if you have questions about your program or need help selecting courses to meet your degree requirements. Your coach can also help you understand Capella policies and procedures, and navigate through potential roadblocks. To contact your coach, use the Email link in your Coach menu at the top of the courseroom.

#### **FlexPath Faculty**

*Your faculty is there to support your learning. In courses, you can:*

- *Use the Message Your Faculty courseroom link to connect or follow-up on an assessment*
- *Post on the Ask Your Faculty discussion board*
- *Connect with your faculty member during office hours if offered.*

#### **Policies and Expectations**

Learners at Capella University are expected to follow all university policies and procedures. These policies can be found and reviewed on Campus or Visitor Center. The following links include the full list of university policies, and a few key policies and resources that learners should review.

#### [Campus – University Policies.](#)

The full list of university policies and procedures at Capella is available on Campus and Visitor Center.

### University Policy 3.01.01: Academic Integrity and Honesty.

The *Academic Integrity and Honesty* policy explains the concept of academic integrity and the consequences of plagiarism at Capella.

### University Policy 4.02.04: Discrimination, Harassment, and Assault.

The *Discrimination, Harassment, and Assault* policy states that Capella prohibits discrimination, harassment, and assault of any member of the university community and any retaliatory behavior related to reports of such conduct.

### University Policy 4.02.02: Learner Code of Conduct.

The Learner Code of Conduct policy outlines expected conduct and prohibited conduct at Capella. It also gives the resolution process when prohibited conduct occurs.

### SafeAssign Source Matching Tool.

This tool helps learners, staff, and faculty members identify content matches in academic work.

### Campus – Online Etiquette.

The online etiquette page on Campus serves as a resource for effective and courteous communication online.

## **Writing at Capella**

*Throughout your program, you will develop five core writing skills aligned to the Capella Writing Standards. In addition to the scoring guides that your faculty will use to assess your writing assignments, your faculty may also use the Writing Feedback Tool. The Writing Feedback Tool presents feedback related to Capella's five core writing skills:*

- Address assignment **Purpose**
- Develop strong **Organization**
- Integrate appropriate **Evidence**
- Use scholarly **Tone**
- Develop grammatically sound **Sentence Structure**

*Through use of the Writing Feedback Tool, your faculty will provide you with guidance and resources to target writing skill development. You are encouraged to study the Capella Writing Standards and to incorporate additional Writing Center resources and live support into your writing process.*

Capella University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to qualified learners with disabilities in all university programs and activities. Capella recognizes its obligations to accommodate the needs of learners with disabilities, according to the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and similar laws. Learners requiring academic accommodations should refer to Disability Services, e-mail [DisabilityServices@capella.edu](mailto:DisabilityServices@capella.edu), or call 888-CAPELLA and ask to speak with a Disability Services team member.

Learners approved for academic accommodations will receive a Letter of Eligibility for Accommodations from the Disability Services office.

**Important:** Learners who have been approved for accommodations must share this letter with the academic advisor in order to receive the accommodations. If you are a learner with a disability, you are encouraged to secure this approval as early as possible, as accommodations cannot be applied retroactively.

## **ACADEMIC WRITER**

Capella uses the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* as its style guide for scholarly writing. Using a single publication manual ensures a consistent style across degrees, programs, and schools. APA style is well respected and widely used in scholarly works and academic publications.

Capella provides a thorough selection of online resources to help you understand APA style and use it effectively. Capella learners can access the companion website to the APA manual directly at [Academic Writer](#) (use Firefox or Chrome). Academic Writer contains the content found in the manual and offers 24/7 access to in-depth tutorials, quick guides, tools, samples, and templates. For more instruction and guidance about APA style and Academic Writer, see the [APA Style and Format](#) section of the Capella Writing Center.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[VitalSource Bookshelf](#)

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[Academic Plan](#)

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[Connect with Academic Support](#)

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[Courseroom Help](#)

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[SafeAssign](#)

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[ePortfolio](#)

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[Send Us Feedback](#)

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