



Advancing Students' Professional Excellence with Certificates in Teaching Series

ASPECTS Certificate Essay: Instructions and Question

After you have attended all five of your ASPECTS sessions (the three sessions in the Certificate series and your two electives), you will be ready to write the required essay to receive your certificate.

You will write a 900–1200 word essay that incorporates application and self-reflection, essential components of teaching and professional development. The essay will be scored by a team of presenters using the scoring rubric below. Upon satisfactory completion and evaluation of the essay, you will receive a certificate.

Please submit your essay via e-mail as an attachment and send it to the ASPECTS Listserv at: aspects@lists.cc.utexas.edu. Please allow three weeks for us to return your essay with score and comments. The essay will be graded on a 1–5 scale with 5 being the highest score. A score of 4 and 5 are considered passing; 3 and below are considered to be failing scores.

If you should not score a 4 or a 5, please use the feedback provided to revise and resubmit your essay. We hope that everyone who conscientiously composes an essay will meet the requirements for a certificate.

Please read through the essay question, scoring rubric, and sample essays before you begin:

Question:

Imagine that you have the opportunity to use the ideas you've learned from your core ASPECTS series to develop an assignment, lesson plan, or course plan in your field of study. Please select a minimum of one key idea from each of your three core ASPECTS sessions, and describe how you would integrate these into an assignment, lesson plan or course plan in your discipline. Use concrete examples to illustrate how these ideas from ASPECTS could be applied to your specific instructional setting or subject area. Limit your response to 900–1200 words (4–5 pages double spaced).