

You Can't Say You Can't Do edTPA!

Ten Tips to Students for Surviving the edTPA Process

By Claire Kopp and Tiffany Ferris

1. Continuously reference (throughout the edTPA process) the glossary at the end of the handbook as it offers clarification of the terminology used in the prompts and cites examples.
2. Look ahead at the curriculum and standards you will be teaching. Set specific dates for video-recording these lessons in order to allow adequate time for planning and completing the appropriate tasks **before** teaching.
3. Bring the video camera into the classroom at least two days before the lesson segment you will be teaching for edTPA. Explain to students the purpose of your recording and account for this time in order for students to become more comfortable with its presence during your lessons. This will also allow for you to determine the quality of your video and sound, experiment with its placement in the room and ensure that all devices are properly functioning.
Tip: Although you are only required to submit up to a 15-minute video of your teaching, record for the entire duration of your lesson as this will allow you flexibility in choosing the best representation of your teaching abilities.
4. The handbook provides more clarification for the writing prompts/templates you will completing on TaskStream. Simultaneously look at the templates and the corresponding task in the handbook for more specifics.
5. Leave ample time to upload and submit your task and video to the TaskStream server, as it is possible that there may be technical complications and require support from Pearson.
6. Review the *Evidence Chart* as it details the supported files and minimum number of documents that must be uploaded in order to have a successful submission. Be cautious of this!
7. When planning your lessons, use previous textbooks as references to cite relevant theories, as this will strengthen the educational practices you choose to implement in your lessons.
8. Use your resources such as your professors, host teachers and supervisors when you have questions regarding the specifics for the edTPA process. Also, consult your host teacher to clearly outline the requirements for this process, as they may not be familiar with edTPA.
9. Explore TaskStream and Pearson before beginning to plan your lessons, as there are templates, additional resources specific to the tasks and space to organize and save your lesson plans.
10. When planning your lessons and thinking about the academic language you will want students to use during your lessons, brainstorm possible student

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misconceptions in order to ensure that students have a strong conceptual understanding.