

# CORE M.Ed. Comprehensive Exam Study Guide

Use this study guide to prepare for the M.Ed. Comprehensive Exam required for the M.Ed. in Elementary Education, Secondary Education, and Special Education

**Note:** M.S.Ed. Special Education Students should use the M.S.Ed. Special Education Study Guide found on the following webpage:

<https://www.xavier.edu/graduateschool/med-comprehensive-exam/index>

TESOL, Reading Education, Multicultural Literature, and Educational Administration students should also find the appropriate M.Ed. comprehensive study guide found via the link above.

If you have any questions, please contact your academic advisor or April Thomas, School of Education Licensure and Accreditation Coordinator, at 513-745-3701 or [thomasa7@xavier.edu](mailto:thomasa7@xavier.edu).

### **EDFD 500, History/Philosophy of American Education Course Related Questions**

1. Common (public) schools: Define “common school,” and describe the “educational ladder” concept within the common/public school system. Who are significant persons or groups involved with--and their respective contributions toward--establishing the common school? Describe the status of the common school today in the United States. How would you grade (assess or evaluate) today’s common/public school system? Why? Provide evidence.
2. Reforms in public schools: Identify 2 major reform movements in the history of public schools in the United States. Describe the important policy and legislative elements, as well as social elements, of the reforms. How did the reforms impact practice in schools and school districts, and how were students directly impacted?
3. Philosophical/theoretical orientations to teaching: Identify and define two (2) major philosophies or theories of education. Next, what is your philosophy of education? State the roots or grounding of your philosophy. How do you (or how will you) apply it? Further, what appears to be the dominant educational theory or philosophy of education today? Name it and explain it. What is your evidence?

### **EDFD 505: Organization of Ed. Systems in the U.S. Course Related Questions**

4. What are the major issues in education relative to curriculum, law, and finance?
5. What is the constitutional basis for the federal government’s role in education? Support your opinion with facts, references, and examples.
6. What is administration? What is leadership? What are the major tasks of administration? Discuss administrative theory.

### **EDFD 507/508: Educational Research Course Related Questions**

Please select one of the three Educational Research Topics:

Topic 1: The role of student discipline in the public education system.

Topic 2: The authority of the teacher and its role in the education process.

Topic 3: Educational discrimination and its impact on the future of the students.

Please write a research proposal using the topic you selected above that includes the following:

7. Based on your topic selection, write one quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods research question.
8. Please write a purpose statement, assumptions of the study, and problem statement based on your research question.
9. Please describe and explain the 3-4 topics you would review in your literature review and why?
10. Please summarize the research design, including data collection strategies, and a rationale for the design selected. Why quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods?
11. Please describe your recruitment process, any recruitment protocols, and the sampling method you selected, and why?