2015 THIRD YEAR THEME PAPER

GUIDELINES
Students will complete a Theme Paper requirement in their third year of study. The Theme Paper should be a publishable conceptual paper that reviews the literature in the student's chosen sub-field, and, in doing so, puts forth and defends a thesis.

This requirement will be fulfilled by approval of the Theme Paper by a committee of two Senate Faculty members in the School of Education, with final review by the Ph.D. Steering Committee. The committee members will be appointed by the Ph.D. in Education program director, typically in consultation with the student’s advisor.

Within 10 days of receipt of the paper, the committee will provide one of three marks: Pass or No Pass on the first round, and Pass or Fail on subsequent rounds, and will also provide written commentary for the student. The Ph.D. Steering Committee will review the scoring and the Dean will provide written notification of the Committee’s decision to each student.

Papers given a Pass successfully complete the requirement. Students who receive a No Pass on the first round will have 30 days to revise and resubmit their paper for a second scoring by the committee. Students who receive a Fail on the second round will be placed on Academic Probation with consequences, and be given 30 days for one final attempt to pass. Students who receive a second Fail will be recommended to the Graduate Dean for Disqualification.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES
Students may submit their Third Year Theme Paper at any time after they receive a passing grade on the Second Year Research Paper, with a final submission deadline of 5:00 pm on September 15 of their fourth academic year in the program.

Students email one .docx copy with student name included, one .docx copy with all name identifiers removed, and one .pdf copy with name included to lfellus@uci.edu. Submission guidelines are in the process of being updated and students will be notified when new guidelines become available.
EXAMPLES OF THEME ESSAYS:

• Research Synthesis 1: Marital Conflict and Child Adjustment: What About Gender (Jessica R. Snyder)

• Research Synthesis 2: Does Child Temperament Moderate the Influence of Parenting on Adjustment (Kathleen Cranley Gallagher)

Additional examples can be found in the following journals:

• Developmental Review
• Review of Educational Research
• Society for Research in Child Development Social Policy Reports