CI410 Final Field Experience Reflection Paper

1. Begin with a brief description of your placement.  (2 points)

Use the first paragraph of your paper for this. Include some brief information about the grade level, the physical appearance of the classroom, and some information about the students' demographics (gender, race, age, etc.). You did this earlier in context for learning and the classroom environment paper, just remind me.

2. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning [18 pts]

Look at the Danielson Framework rubrics for Domain 1 (planning) and Domain 3 (instruction) as you complete this part. You don’t need to comment on everything in the rubrics--you may not have observed everything--but the rubrics will give you more ideas for comments.

A. List the subjects and instructional strategies you observed during the semester. Be specific and indicate your perceptions of the effectiveness of the strategies in promoting student learning.

* Instructional strategies include "whole class instruction" (lecture/presentation/videos) that can be passive (little student participation) or active (students actively engaged in discussion). Reading-based activities--individual, group, or whole class round robin--can also be passive or more active. Writing-based activities can be rote written "practice" activities--worksheets with one-word or phrase responses, or more complex writing activities--graphic organizers, stories, reports, research papers, lab journals, etc. Did you see theme-based or project-based learning or anything similar? Did you see hands-on science, art, music, etc.?
* What is assessment like? (Look at the assessment category for Domain 3)

B. Where does the curriculum come from? Commercial purchased materials or district/school/teacher-designed? If a set commercial curriculum, to what extent does the teacher stick to the curriculum, to what extent does he/she modify it? Do you think the curriculum is effective in promoting student learning?

C. Comment on the planning for instruction you observed, both short term and long term. Is planning day-to day or in advance? Is it inflexible or flexible? Etc. (Look at the Domain 1 rubric.)

D. What did you find out about implementation of the RTI (Response to Intervention) mandate at this school (if a public school)? (ASK the teacher if necessary.) This is ACADEMIC intervention, not behavioral.

E. What did you see for differentiated instruction?

3. Management and Environment (2 points)

You have already addressed management and environment in an earlier assignment. Briefly summarize here what you feel you learned from this placement about establishing an effective classroom learning environment and managing it. (If you unfortunately learned mostly things not to do, that's OK, reflect from that perspective)

4. Middle School Structures (3 points)

What kind of teaming (if any) is done at the school? What kinds of things were done by the teams during team time?

Does the school have “advisory?” If so, what is done for advisory?

Does the school have any kind of non-traditional scheduling? Is any type of special exploratory curriculum offered? (May be just a week of special classes or something like that)

5. Concluding reflections: Think about the following questions. (5 points)

How did your placement match your own teaching style?

What ideas, techniques, and models will you take away with you?

What have you learned that will make you a better teacher?

This reflection paper is worth 40 total points.