

Northern Arizona University Educational Leadership

K-12 Leadership Comprehensive Examination

Study Guide

Below are some general guidelines to help prepare for the written examination for Part I and Part II of the Educational Leadership K-12 Leadership Comprehensive Exam.

- This is a comprehensive examination- students need to demonstrate a culmination of their learning in the NAU Doctoral Program.
- Grading will be based on content (e.g., accuracy and thoroughness of information) AND form (e.g., written clearly, good grammar and spelling).
- Students are expected to appropriately cite different scholarly sources. Full references will not have to be memorized, only name and date of citation will be needed (e.g., “Baker, (2008)”.
- Make sure you answer all questions. It is recommended that students utilize headings and sub-headings to add clarity and organization to their responses.
- Make sure responses are thorough and are “deep”. Shallow or surface level responses are not appropriate.
- Begin preparing for your examination early. Dedicate considerable time for studying.

Part 1 Study Guidelines

- 1) Review AdvancED standards along with other information relevant to AdvancED accreditation found at <http://www.advanc-ed.org/>.
- 2) Review data sources collected by local, state and national educational entities which are utilized to evaluate schools.
- 3) Identify schools and school districts that have been identified in need of turnaround leadership. Research various reports and case studies regarding these schools and districts.

## Part 2 Study Guidelines

- 1) Review and study the following leadership theories/theorists and or models:

Transformational leadership

Transactional leadership

Formal/structural perspectives

Collegial/human Resource perspectives

Political perspectives

Cultural/symbolic perspectives

Situational/contingency approaches

Power, authority and leadership

Moral/ethical leadership

Systems thinking

Change theory

Program evaluation

NOTE: There are overlaps between these various lenses through which leadership and organizations may be viewed