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| **International Graduate Program for Educators**  **Graduate Credit for Conference Attendance**  **2018-2019 Information Packet** |  |

This information packet outlines instructions for applying for, completing, and submitting conference coursework for graduate credit (EDU 596) through the International Graduate Program for Educators (IGPE) at SUNY Buffalo State. It is important to note that in order to earn graduate credit for conference attendance and related assignments, **you must have applied to and been officially accepted by the SUNY Buffalo State Graduate School**. There are no exceptions to this policy, and credit may not be applied retroactively. We have three acceptance deadlines throughout the year: May 1 (spring), August 1 (summer), and December 1 (fall).

**IGPE Contacts and Support**

We are here to help before, during, and after the conference. Please e-mail Nicole Calamunci ([calamund@buffalostate.edu](mailto:calamund@buffalostate.edu)) with questions about the application process and acceptance requirements; and Cathy Beecroft ([molendaca@buffalostate.edu](mailto:molendaca@buffalostate.edu)) with questions about registration. Your instructor of record for the conference assignment is Dr. Michael Lovorn ([lovornm@buffalostate.edu](mailto:lovornm@buffalostate.edu)), Director of the International Graduate Programs for Educators. E-mail Dr. Lovorn with questions about assignments or processes.

**Earning Credit for Conference Attendance**

IGPE and SUNY Buffalo State invite accepted conference participants to register for one, two, or three graduate credits (EDU 596) when attending a professional educators’ or leaders’ conference. Each credit requires 15 contact hours and approximately 30 assignment hours. Three credits (equivalent to most full graduate-level courses) require 45 contact hours and approximately 90 assignment hours. In this context “contact hours” are those you spend attending sessions or workshops and participating in conference-related learning activities; and “assignment hours” are those you spend on homework assignments in the course. See the table of examples below.

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| **Acceptable Contact Hour Activities** | **Acceptable Assignment Hour Activities** |
| * Attendance at sessions, workshops & presentations * Discussions with colleagues, presenters & members of the educational community * Reading about, watching videos on related topics, reviewing conference website and conference program * Networking, following up with contacts for future connections * All activities may be performed before, during, after conference | * Reflection on conference goals and rationale (Section 1) * Reflection on learning ops & interactions (Sections 2 & 3) * Reflection on implementation and results (Section 4a) or Material Development (Section 4b) * Documentation of products/outcomes (photos, links to online forums developed, feedback from colleagues, student work, etc.) |

. To earn credit, you will be required to:

1. Download the appropriate EDU 596 registration form from the association’s conference website.
2. Submit your completed registration form (making sure to indicate the number of credits you are seeking to earn) prior to the start of the workshop or seminars you will be attending.
3. Participate in various conference sessions and/or workshops as outlined.
4. Complete the IGPE Conference Credit Form (page 2 of this packet) and all required assignment.
5. Submit your completed assignment to the instructor of record (see below) by the posted deadline.

**IGPE Conference Credit Form**

The completed form should be e-mailed to IGPE Director Michael Lovorn at [lovornm@buffalostate.edu](mailto:lovornm@buffalostate.edu).

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| **Your Name** |  |
| **Your School** |  |
| **Your E-mail Address** |  |
| **Conference Name** |  |
| **Dates of Conference** |  |
| **Conference Website** |  |
| **Conference Description (from the website)** |  |
| **Your Rationale for Attending this Conference (100 words in length)** |  |
| **Documentation of Contact Hours (CH)**  **Carefully document and explain all hours you have devoted to earning this conference credit. Include hours for each component of the evaluation.**  **1 credit = 15 CH**  **2 credits = 30 CH**  **3 credits = 45 CH** |  |
| \*You must attach proof of your attendance at this conference (registration e-mail, photo of name badge, etc.). | |

**Conference Assignment Evaluation**

Conference assignments are intended to be reflective and contextualized to your conference and professional experience. As you attend various conference sessions, workshops, and other activities, consider the following four components. They will frame the evaluation of your submitted work.

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| **Components** | **Sample Activities** | **Possible Points** |
| 1. Pre-conference activities | Examining goals, big ideas, rationales & readings | 10 |
| 1. Attending conference sessions and workshops | Experiencing new ideas & techniques | 30 |
| 1. Informal conference interactions | Engaging colleagues, speakers or other conference attendees | 20 |
| 1. Post-conference activities | Implementing learned concepts, developing materials, analyzing results | 30 |
| 1. Documentation of contact hours | Included in the Conference Credit Form | 10 |
| **Total Points:** | | **100** |

**Grading Scale**

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| **Component 1: Pre-conference activities (10 points)**  **9-10 points** – You have clearly demonstrated a deep examination of conference goals and “big ideas” appropriate to the number of credits you seek. You have expressed a coherent rationale for your conference participation, and it appears you have completed all pre-conference readings.  **7-8 points** – You have demonstrated a modest examination of conference goals and “big ideas”. You have expressed a fairly coherent rationale for your conference participation, and/or it appears you have completed most pre-conference readings.  **1-6 points** – Your account of pre-conference activities is incomplete, inadequate or incoherent; or you are missing (or haven’t submitted) significant elements of this component. |
| **Component 2: Attending conference sessions and workshops (30 points)**  **27-30 points** – You have clearly and comprehensively reflected on your conference participation appropriate to the number of credits you seek. You have included a reflection on how your practice may be positively impacted by these new ideas or new techniques.  **23-26 points** – You have reflected on your participation in conference activities in a clear and coherent manner. Your reflection includes a modest elaboration on how your practice may be positively impacted by these new ideas or new techniques.  **1-22 points** – Your account of conference activities is incomplete, inadequate or incoherent; or you are missing (or haven’t submitted) significant elements of this component. |
| **Component 3: Informal conference interactions (20 points)**  **18-20 points** – You have clearly and comprehensively reflected on your interaction with other conference participants appropriate to the number of credits you seek. You have included a reflection on how these interactions have helped contextualize your conference experience.  **15-17 points** – You have reflected on your interaction with other conference participants in a clear and coherent manner. Your reflection includes a modest elaboration on how these interactions have helped contextualize your conference experience.  **1-14 points** – Your account of conference activities is incomplete, inadequate or incoherent; or you are missing (or haven’t submitted) significant elements of this component. |
| **Component 4: Post-conference activities (30 points)**  **27-30 points** – You have clearly and comprehensively reflected on your conference participation appropriate to the number of credits you seek. You have included a reflection on how your practice may be positively impacted by these new ideas or new techniques.  **23-26 points** – You have clearly reflected on your conference participation. You have included a modest reflection on how your practice may be positively impacted by these new ideas or new techniques.  **1-22 points** – Your account of conference activities is incomplete, inadequate or incoherent; or you are missing (or haven’t submitted) significant elements of this component. |

**Additional Guidance in Completing Evaluative Components**

This section provides guidance and outlines expectations relating to depth, complexity, and length of submissions. All submitted work is relative to the number of credits you are seeking.

**Component 1: Pre-conference Activities**

In preparing for the conference, consider the goals and “big ideas” you have in mind and would like to accomplish. Formulate a few questions about themes you will be reviewing and/or researching throughout the conference. As appropriate, cite pre-conference readings and annotate resources that inform your thinking. Consider the word-length expectations at the end of this section when contemplating the complexity of your pre-conference activities submission and drafting your pre-conference reflection.

**Component 2: Attending Conference Sessions and Workshops**

As you attend conference sessions and workshops, make notes to guide your reflection on new ideas, innovations, and techniques you are learning. Reflect upon them in various contexts and from multiple perspectives. In evaluating the sessions and workshops, consider evaluating them via SWOC analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Challenges). Also consider the word-length expectations at the end of this section when contemplating the complexity of your conference attendance and participation submission and drafting your reflection.

**Component 3: Informal Conference Interactions**

Networking is a foundational element of professional conferences, and dialogue with your colleagues and representatives from other sites may emerge as some of the most meaningful conference activities. These dialogues can happen in small groups, with individuals, before or after the session, or before or after the conference. Summarize connections you make and topical discussions you have with other conference participants and evaluate their impact on your conference experience and professional approach. Consider the word-length expectations at the end of this section when contemplating the complexity of your dialogue with conference participants and drafting your reflection.

**Component 4: Post-conference Activities**

This component requires not only a comprehensive reflection on conference take-aways, but a plan for implementation of a conference-themed post-conference activity. Based on the conference theme, the instructor of record may send you a series of prompts and/or considerations to address. You will implement a concept you learned at the conference, and then share your experience. Alternatively, you may wish to develop new materials you can use in your classroom or office that are based on conference themes. Either way, your work activities should be guided by research. Thus, your final submission should include a brief review of literature on the topic of your post-conference reflection. Consider the word-length expectations at the end of this section when contemplating the complexity of your dialogue with conference participants and drafting your reflection.

**Conference Credit Assignment Workload Chart**

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| **Components** | **1 Credit** | **2 Credits** | **3 Credits** |
| **1** | 100 words in length | 200 words in length | 300 words in length |
| **2** | 200 words in length | 400 words in length | 600 words in length |
| **3** | 100 words in length | 250 words in length | 350 words in length |
| **4** | 200 words in length | 400 words in length | 600 words in length |
| **Totals** | 600-700 words, plus 3-4 references to scholarly products | 1200-1300 words, plus 5-8 references to scholarly products | 1800-2000 words, plus 9-12 references to scholarly products |