

The College of New Jersey
School of Graduate, Global, and Online Education
EDUC 700 Capstone Project
For Completers 2026 and Beyond

Who is this for?

Students who are completing the M.Ed. Instruction program after Jan. 26 2026 should follow the instructions in this document. Students completing the program in 2025 should follow the [prior instructions](#).

What is EDUC 700?

The College of New Jersey requires that all master's program graduates complete a culminating experience, also known as the Capstone Project. The culminating experience for the M.Ed. Instruction program is assessed in EDUC 700, a 0-credit, 0-tuition course that results in a Pass/Fail grade. The Capstone Project requires graduating students to document enduring understandings resulting from their master's degree studies at the RTC.

What does EDUC 700 entail?

This Capstone Project requires you to document and share your learning through two interrelated components:

- An evidentiary portfolio that includes samples of pedagogic materials, classroom artifacts, and other practice-rooted documentation that illustrates the program-to-practice connection.
- A 12-minute virtual presentation that offers a reflective review of significant transformative aspects of the program and how they influenced your teaching and learning.

Your portfolio and presentation must document learning related to the M.Ed. Instruction **Program Goals** that reflect Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP) standards:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in the pedagogic knowledge and skills required for effective teaching practice. (*Standard 1a*)
2. Select and employ current educational technology tools and systems to support learning. (*Standard 1f*)
3. Support the cognitive, social, and emotional growth and development of learners. (*Standard 1g*)
4. Create positive and productive learning environments in the classroom and school. (*Standard 2c*)
5. Enact culturally responsive and sustaining educational practices with diverse learners (*Standard 2b*)

6. Gather and use trustworthy evidence to support student learning and to inform your professional practice. (*Standard 2e*)

What should my portfolio entail?

1. Select one or two pieces of evidence to show what you learned in relation to each of your Program Goals. Curate your evidence carefully to showcase your highest quality work in the areas that had the greatest impact on your teaching.
2. **Ensure all student-identifying information is removed from the files.**
3. House all portfolio artifacts in your Google drive with sharing permissions that allow “anyone with the link” to “view.” [[How to share files from Google Drive.](#)]
4. Organize your portfolio by copying [this Google sheets template](#) and embedding hyperlinks to the evidence in the appropriate column. (You can create buttons by clicking the “tab” after copying the link into a cell.)
5. Identify the course(s) the artifact is associated with, explain the specific information you learned in the course, and explain how the artifact applied the learning from the course to your classroom. Reflect on the outcomes of these efforts or any additional things you have learned from implementation.
6. Ensure your portfolio has the sharing permissions that allow “anyone with the link” to “view.” You will share this link with your EDAD 700 instructor.

What should my presentation involve?

You will prepare and deliver a 12-minute presentation to an audience on Zoom. You may create slides using PowerPoint, Prezi, Canva, or similar software. Develop a well-organized presentation that includes images and graphics to enhance the text. Practice your presentation to ensure you stay within the 12-minute time limit.

Include the following features:

- Explain any educational or pedagogical challenges you were seeking to overcome or improve during your time at RTC.
- Show the tangible impact of what you learned in your classes on your instructional practices and students by sharing:
 - Photographs
 - Sample work products
 - Anecdotes describing specific impact
 - Examples of projects or initiatives that built on your learning
 (The information in your presentation can overlap substantially with your portfolio artifacts.)
- Organize your presentation around the six program goals and the scoring rubric using explicit headings and key words to facilitate the evaluation process.
- Reflect on critical questions you still grapple with and next steps in your professional development.

How will my project be scored?

The EDUC 700 instructor will score your project using the Culminating Experience

Assessment Rubric. Students must score at least 14 points for a passing score on the presentation. Students who do not pass on the first try may take EDUC 700 one additional time.

EDUC 700 SCORING RUBRIC

	Developing (1)	Proficient (2)	Exemplary (3)
1. Pedagogic Knowledge and Skills (AAQEP 1a)	Candidate mentions a new pedagogic skill or understanding connected to their experience within the M.Ed. program.	Candidate presents detailed evidence of at least one way their M.Ed. program expanded the breadth of their pedagogic knowledge.	Candidate presents detailed evidence of at least two ways their M.Ed. program expanded the breadth of their pedagogic knowledge.
2. Technology Profile (AAQEP 1f)	Candidate mentions a new educational technology or tool connected to their experience within the M.Ed. program.	Candidate presents detailed evidence of implementing a new educational technology or tool in their classroom that stemmed from their M.Ed. Program.	Candidate offers detailed evidence of using a new educational technology or tool in creative ways that enhance teaching and learning in their classroom.
3. Cognitive, Social, and Emotional Development (AAQEP 1g)	Candidate mentions how their M.Ed. program helped them address social-emotional or cognitive learning in their classroom.	Candidate presents detailed evidence of how their M.Ed. program helped them enhance student social-emotional learning and critical thinking in their classroom.	Candidate presents detailed evidence of how their M.Ed. program helped them enhance social-emotional learning (teacher and student) and critical thinking in their classroom.
4. Productive Learning Environments (AAQEP 2c)	Candidate mentions how their M.Ed. program helped them increase student engagement in their classroom.	Candidate presents detailed evidence of how their M.Ed. program helped them increase student engagement in their classroom or school.	Candidate presents detailed evidence of how their M.Ed. program helped them increase student engagement in their classroom and contributed to a

			positive culture in their school.
5. Cultural Responsiveness (AAQEP 2b)	Candidate mentions how their M.Ed. program helped them increase their use of culturally responsive and sustaining educational practices.	Candidate presents detailed evidence of how their M.Ed. program helped them increase their use of culturally responsive and sustaining educational practices.	Candidate presents detailed evidence of how their M.Ed. program helped them increase their use of culturally responsive and sustaining educational practices with diverse learners.
6. Evidence-Informed Practice (AAQEO 2e)	Candidate mentions the relationship between enhanced teaching practices resulting from their M.Ed. program and increased student learning.	Candidate's materials present evidence that illustrates at least one connection between enhanced teaching practices resulting from their M.Ed. program and increased student learning.	Candidate's evidentiary materials illustrate more than one connection between enhanced teaching practices resulting from their M.Ed. program and increased student learning.
Overall Impression and Quality of Materials	Presentation and supporting documents are disorganized, difficult to read, or contain multiple errors.	Presentation and supporting documents represent student's learning in a cohesive and professional manner.	Presentation and supporting documents strongly represent student's learning in an engaging, cohesive, and professional manner. Candidate critically reflects on next steps in professional development.

TOTAL POINTS _____

Students must achieve a minimum of 14 points to pass. Students who do not pass on the first try may take EDCU 700 one additional time.