TEACHER EDUCATION FACULTY AND THE EDTPA: A PHENOMENOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

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OLIVET NAZARENE UNIVERSITY; SCHOLAR WEEK
What is edTPA?

- edTPA is a subject specific, web based, teacher performance assessment designed to measure a beginning teacher’s readiness to enter a classroom.

- edTPA measures and supports the skills in three primary areas: planning, instruction and assessment.
BACKGROUND

A teacher performance assessment “FOR the profession, BY the profession”

edTPA as created by:

What is the edTPA™?

Picture courtesy of edTPA, 2014
What is edTPA?

Currently there are 736 Educator Preparation Programs in 39 states and the District of Columbia participating in edTPA.

*Picture courtesy of edTPA, 2017*
RESEARCH DESIGN

Transcendental Phenomenological Approach

Edmund Husserl
Clark Moustakas
Max Van Manen
MY STUDY

I examined the experiences of university faculty expected to implement the edTPA within a teacher preparation program.

PHENOMENON

Preparation for the edTPA
Implementation of the component of the edTPA
SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

- The growth of attention the assessment is receiving from States and institutions nation wide.
- The potential use of the edTPA as a National Assessment.
- The gap in the literature
  - Few edTPA studies used a qualitative approach
  - Most of the literature focus on the teacher candidates
  - No studies have researched the faculty experience
THE DATA

- I examined 12 questionnaires, 12 interviews and 3 focus group interviews. 27 total sources.
- With the help of NVivo software using significant statements. (1,820 references into 92 phrases or codes)
- Merged and Reworked the Codes (56 codes)
- Color Coded each of the Codes by the four research questions
- Developed a table that supported the synthesis of each family to determine the themes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Sources</th>
<th>References</th>
<th>Themes by Research Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reaction to the edTPA</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>34</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Language edTPA expert or liaison</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concerned experience or frustrations</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Overwhelmed</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Research Question One: Evolving process and academic language</td>
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<td>Pilot Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feelings</td>
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<td>Changing obstacles overtime</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee Work</td>
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<td>Wait it out</td>
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<td>High Stakes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty have no say</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
RESULTS

How does a teacher education faculty member make sense of the edTPA?

Theme 1: Evolving Process
And
Theme 2: Academic Language
RESULTS

What does it mean for a teacher education faculty member to prepare for the edTPA?

Theme 3: Local and Official Scoring
What does it mean for a teacher education faculty member to implement the edTPA?

Theme 4: Embed into the Coursework
RESULTS

How has the implementation of the edTPA impacted teacher educators’ perception, goals, priorities, and values in training their teacher candidates?

Theme 5: Good Teaching
DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS
WHERE TO GO FROM HERE

- Complete a study that unpacks the struggle with Academic Language in teacher education.
- Answer the question, “Does the edTPA lead to good teaching, and by which standards?”
ANY QUESTIONS?