# FINAL PAPER GUIDELINES

| TOPIC | Your written paper should have the following title:  
*Secondary Education Mathematics and* ____________

where you fill in the blank with the topic of your choice. For example, your paper might be

"Secondary Education Mathematics and the Learning Disabled,"

"Secondary Education Mathematics and Writing Across the Curriculum,"

"Secondary Education Mathematics and Math Anxiety," etc.

You will serve yourself best if you choose something that you do not currently know much about, but would like to. I hope that what you learn from writing this paper will help make you a better prepared student teacher and eventually a more qualified professional.

| REASONS | As a budding professional, you need to become aware of the seriousness of your chosen profession along with the dedication required. Part of being a professional is staying current in your field, always questioning your current practices and wanting to improve. By writing this paper, you will become more aware of what is going on in the field of mathematics education and how it might affect you. Such a paper will also be a welcome addition to your professional portfolio.

| LENGTH | While the length may vary according to the topic selected, your paper should be between 3000 and 5000 words (approximately 10–15 pages, double-spaced, word-processed).

| REFERENCES | You must include citations throughout the paper (see APA Style handout) and use a minimum of ten references (listed at the end of the paper), at least four of which must be recent journal articles (database searches will help you here), at least two of which must be books, and at least two of which must be WWW (World Wide Web) references (no wiki's!).

| FORMAT | This paper is first and foremost a research paper (with the emphasis on the "search" part of the word "research"), gathering information from different sources and condensing it into a cohesive and meaningful whole.

In addition to reporting the results of your search, your paper should also include a section at the end with your reactions, opinions, etc. It should be clear, however, when you are stating your opinions as opposed to those of the experts (proper "referencing" should help with this task).

Your paper may also include (but does not have to) results of personally-conducted interviews, surveys, opinion polls, questionnaires, etc., fully documented and appropriately statistically analyzed (you do not have to get overly sophisticated here).

| DUE DATE | April 25, 2014

| QUESTIONS | If you are overly anxious about this paper, please come see me. I will try to put your mind at ease, as best I can.

This is a serious project, but remember, it counts for only 10% of your final grade. Those of you who will be going on to graduate work should gain valuable experience in the preparation of serious research papers.

| STYLE | APA Style preferred (per handout).