The following activity is constructed in relation to your meeting with and getting to know your 495 supervisor, your growing understanding of the 495 requirements as well as how your learning about teaching will be evaluated. For this task, we ask that you think carefully about what it is that you want and need from your PSU supervisor to support your own personal & professional growth as an educator. Here’s the assignment:

1. Consider that your PSU Supervisor is a committed educator whose steps beyond classroom teaching have been prompted by a desire for more professional expertise, more theoretical understanding, and/or a yearning to participate in a larger “conversation” about schooling, learning, teaching, etc. Assuming this to be the case, create a short list of 3-5 questions that draw on your supervisor’s experiences to help you understand the teaching opportunities ahead of you (495, student teaching, et al.). When generating questions, consider what specific knowledge or skills you may feel less confident about as you approach your 495 teaching experience (ex. How do I plan lessons that include provisions for special needs students? or How can I be successful in my 495 experience if my mentor’s teaching philosophy is at odds with how I am learning in my XEd courses?, etc.).

2. Arrange a mutually agreeable time/place for this interview to take place. Consult your supervisor with the possibility of utilizing scheduled seminar time for the interview. IF your supervisor agrees to having the interview occur as part of your seminar, please be sure to note in your final narrative questions that you posed as distinct from questions and responses that arose from your peers.

3. After reviewing your notes of responses provided by your supervisor and discussing the interview with peers (where applicable), write a descriptive narrative of what you have learned from the interview that follows the format below:

   • Name of supervisor and any other pertinent background information (her/his past teaching experience, graduate degree sought/research interests, etc.)
   • Date/time/location/specific questions used in the interview
   • Descriptive synthesis of your understanding and first impressions of how you believe your 495 teaching and learning will be supported by this supervisor relationship following this interview. [Note: In this section of the write-up, take care to note both factual details as well as personal impressions of what lies ahead for you based upon this interview.]

   **NOTE:** Do NOT provide a write-up that follows the interview format, itself -- Question 1, Answer 1; Question 2, Answer 2; etc.

Due: 12 February, 2009 (To be submitted in class)