*One of the main foci of the undergraduate Liberal Studies program is to prepare students to be competent in the subject matter of teaching elementary school. The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing requires future teachers to demonstrate competency through coursework and testing (CBEST, CSET) before that student can receive a credential. Students in the Liberal Studies program have taken a number of classes in the subject areas of elementary education, including English Language Arts, History, Maths, Science, Fine, and Performing Arts, Human Development, and Physical Education.*

*In this assignment, reflect upon your experiences so far in becoming competent in the subject matter. In a 1-2 page paper, respond to the following prompts:*

*Why is subject matter competency so important to a teacher?*

*What benefits does a teacher’s subject matter competency offer to students? If a teacher is not subject matter competent, what are some of the consequences to students?*

*What areas of subject matter are you most confident in? In what areas do you feel future study and growth is still needed? How do you plan to pursue those areas in the future?*