

What Can I Expect in My Field Experience?

- Build meaningful relationships with students and their colleagues.
- Put student learning first and are dedicated and show passion for teaching and learning.
- Welcome feedback, whether it is positive or critical and put it into action.
- Take notes and reflect about the experience of student teaching.
- Remind themselves that good teachers spend their whole careers trying to get it right, and some of the very best admit they still have a lot to learn.
- Ask a lot of questions and are not afraid to ask for help.
- Act professional at all times and are organized and prepared.
- Are proactive and show initiative.
- Recognize that being flexible is important in the unpredictable world of teaching.
- Understand the importance of taking risks and making mistakes.

Field experiences provide student teachers with the opportunity to develop skills, strategies and professional identity in a school. The following is a summary of the field experiences offered through student teachers' continuum of growth.

Orientation Field Experience: Orientation to School Culture and Contexts (EDFX 200)

- EDFX 200 is an **open-option** early field experience that is offered to education students in the second year of their program in either the Fall (September-December) or Winter (January-April) term. In order to qualify, students must have completed EDU 100 or 300, but cannot have completed their IFX.
- EDFX 200 is a course that includes 12 one hour on-campus seminars and eight half day school visits. The main purpose of the course is to introduce students to the school setting with a focus on the multiple roles and responsibilities of teachers.
- Students are placed in schools in which the school coordinator has the flexibility to determine how the placements will be organized i.e., students may be placed in one classroom for the eight weeks or in multiple classrooms. Students must allow for one half day of availability each week for the school visits and will develop the visitation schedule collaboratively with the school coordinator. Please note that placements will not be program (elementary/secondary) specific.
- The emphasis of the school visits will be on active observation. While at the school students may assist teachers with tasks such as: daily routines, working with small groups of students, preparing/marking instructional materials, preparing displays. Students **are not expected** to plan or teach lessons.

Elementary (EDFX 325) Introductory Field Experience (IFX)

- This is typically student teachers' first experience with teaching.
- Student teachers are placed in the winter term for 2 days from mid-March to early May.
- Student teachers in IFX complete an 8-week preparatory seminar which covers topics including professionalism, classroom management, and the expectations required to be successful in their field experience. They have also completed curriculum and instruction classes to support their theory and pedagogy. This is typically the student teachers' first experience with teaching. As such, they will require scaffolding and multiple means of feedback and support.
- Student teachers will work up to teaching a minimum 0.5 of teachers' FTE which equates to 750-800 minutes per week.
- Two student teachers can be mentored by the same mentor teacher.
- Student teachers may also have more than one mentor teacher.
- Student teachers develop their teaching competency by collaborating with their mentor teacher on a growth plan and final assessment based on the TQS.

Elementary (EDFX 425) Advanced Field Experience (AFX)

- Student teachers will continue to work on achieving the TQS competencies and will work towards independence.
- Student teachers are placed in the fall term (Beginning of October to mid-December) for 45 days.
- Student teachers in the AFX have completed their 25-day IFX and have continued to take curriculum and instruction classes to support their theory and pedagogy.
- Student teachers may have more than one mentor teacher.
- Student teachers will work up to teaching a minimum 0.8 of teachers' FTE in their major which equates to 1100-1200 minutes per week; however, some teaching in the students' minor may also be included.
- Student teachers develop their teaching competency by collaborating with their mentor teacher on a growth plan and final assessment based on the TQS.

Supplementary Specialized Field Experience Elementary and Secondary (EDFX 490)

- EDFX 490 student teachers complete a 15-day placement in either Fall (September-December), Winter (January-April), or Spring (May) term.
- Spring term placements run for 15 consecutive days in May according to the university calendar.
- Students completing this field placement in the fall and winter terms usually have other on-campus courses to complete; therefore, the student teachers' schedule is developed collaboratively with the mentor teacher.
- EDFX 490 student teachers will have the opportunity to be exposed to specialized educational contexts/settings (moderate to severe special learning needs in site specific or inclusive settings, early learning programs, or outreach programs) other than those offered in their required field experiences (IFX and AFX). EDFX 490 student teachers have completed at least their IFX and many have completed their AFX.
- With mentor teacher support student teachers develop context specific goals and engage in opportunities for one-on-one, small group, or whole class (if appropriate) instruction.
- EDFX 490 student teachers have completed at least their IFX and many have completed their AFX.

Secondary (EDFX 350) Introductory Field Experience (IFX)

- This is typically student teachers' first experience with teaching.
- Student teachers are placed in the fall term (early November to mid-December) or winter term (mid-March to early May) for 25 days.
- Student teachers in IFX have completed an 8-week, on-campus preparatory seminar which covers topics including professionalism, classroom management, and the expectations required to be successful in their field experience. They have also completed curriculum and instruction classes to support their theory and pedagogy.
- Student teachers will work up to teaching a minimum of 0.5 of teachers' FTE in their major which equates to 750-800 minutes per week; however, some teaching in the students' minor may also be included.
- Two student teachers can be mentored by the same mentor teacher. Student teachers may also have more than one mentor teacher.
- Student teachers develop their teaching competency by collaborating with their mentor teacher on a growth plan and final assessment based on the TQS.
- In the fall term, placements are made in the majors of art, sciences, CTS, drama, english, math, music, physical education, second languages, and social studies. In the winter term, placements are made in the majors of sciences, english, social studies, and physical education.

Secondary (EDFX 450) Advanced Field Experience (AFX)

- Student teachers will continue to work on achieving the TQS competencies and will work towards independence.
- Student teachers are placed in the fall term (early October to mid-December) or winter term (early February to early May) for 45 days.
- Student teachers in the AFX have completed their 25-day IFX and have continued to take curriculum and instruction classes to support their theory and pedagogy.
- Student teachers will work up to teaching a minimum 0.8 of teachers' FTE in their major which equates to 1100-1200 minutes per week; however, some teaching in the students' minor may also be included.
- Student teachers may have more than one mentor teacher. Student teachers develop their teaching competency by collaborating with their mentor teacher on a growth plan and final assessment based on the TQS.
- In the fall term, placements are made in the majors of sciences, English, social studies, and physical education. In the winter term, placements are made in the majors of art, sciences, CTS, drama, English, math, music, physical education, second languages, social studies.