

CLINIC FIELD EXPERIENCE

Clinic field experiences are one of the most important ways for teacher candidates to apply what they are learning in education courses. The sole purpose of learning theory is to operationalize it in a classroom. Observing the professional practices of experienced teachers followed by opportunities to gradually apply what is learned and observed allows for teacher candidates to gain competence and confidence.

The following is a list of **suggested** ways that a teacher candidate can participate in a clinic experience. This is **NOT a list of requirements**. Candidates will be expected to work with their university and hosting teacher to determine which of these suggestions best meets the needs of the student population they are serving. Some course instructors may choose to vary the suggestions in this document in order to tailor them to course specific learning targets.

In the Classroom:

- Discuss classroom issues with the clinic teacher
- Recognize the diversity within the classroom and assist with the celebration and centering of student assets in the learning community
- Collect baseline data on a student's classroom behavior and performance
- Assist with small groups of students
- Supervise/facilitate a cooperative learning group
- Answer student questions
- Research and collect materials for activities/units
- Develop classroom centers, webquests, reading lists, or displays to support student learning or enrichment related to a particular unit or school goal
- Supervise and/or manage computer time
- Provide one-on-one academic assistance
- Assist a teacher with a project
- Assist students with projects
- Participate in games and activities
- Read with a student
- Read aloud to a small group of students
- Read aloud to the class
- Share a talent or interest

- Team teach a class
- Manage a center/workstation
- Plan a lesson with a teacher
- Teach a small group lesson
- Teach a whole group lesson
- Assist a new student in class
- Shadow a student for a few hours
- Help students select books and/or research materials
- Assist in the integration of technology into the classroom
- Monitor a test or quiz
- Give directions to the class for an assignment, activity, quiz, or test
- Discuss systems for setting up a grade book, lesson plans, parent communication, etc.
- Examine and copy teacher resources for ideas about lessons, activities, etc.
- Help plan a field trip
- Help correct assignments

Routines, Procedures, and Transitions:

- Help with fire drills and other emergency procedures
- Take attendance
- Collect papers and materials
- Pass out papers and materials
- Check agendas/assignment books
- Learn class rules and procedures

Housekeeping:

- Design and put up bulletin boards
- Help compile, edit, or design a classroom newsletter or website
- With the help and monitoring of the clinic teacher, compose other communications for families

Around the School:

- Interview someone in the school community (this may be a course requirement)
- Help with duties (bus, recess, lunch, hall monitoring, study hall, etc.)

- Attend special classes with assigned clinic class
- Learn about bilingual or ESL program
- Learn about supports available for students with learning disabilities
- Learn about enrichment or gifted and talented program
- Observe a team-taught class
- Chaperone a field trip
- Review the school handbook
- Review the materials and services available for families
- Review the teacher handbook
- Become familiar with safety issues and emergency procedures
- Become familiar with the school facilities
- Follow the school rules and regulations

Working with Others:

- Discuss current issues in the school and education in general with school personnel
- Visit and/or work with other classrooms
- Shadow school personnel for a day (principal, school counselor, media specialist, assistants, etc.)
- Meet with the school librarian to discuss procedures and/or recommended resources for a particular lesson, unit, or activity
- Become familiar with parent organizations

Meet and discuss roles with personnel that can give insight into overall school processes:

- Grade-level and subject-specific teachers (same subject as clinic student)
- Specialized teachers (special education, art, music, technology, etc.)
- Support staff (secretary, counselors, nurse, psychologist, librarian/media specialist, custodian, social worker, physical therapist, etc.)
- Administrators

Professional Responsibilities:

- Write a letter of introduction – edited and approved by your clinic teacher – to send to parents/guardians
- Attend and participate in a teacher workday
- Attend an educational professional development and/or workshop

- Review the school’s policy on special education, etc.
- Review an IEP (need permission)
- Assist with and/or attend:
 - Open House
 - Afterschool clubs
 - Parent-Teacher Organization/Association meeting and/or event
 - Planning Placement Team (PPT) meeting
 - Faculty, grade-level, team/department and/or team leader meetings
 - Parent-teacher conferences
 - Book fairs
 - Science fairs
 - Festivals
 - School presentations or performances (plays, concerts, etc.)
 - Sporting events
 - Board of Education meetings