

Guidelines and Policies for Practicum and Student Teaching for Master of Education Licensure Route Students

Practicum in Education (EDUC 5860)

The practicum (EDUC 5860) is a course for field work experience in an assigned classroom. To register for EDUC 5860 (2 credits), Lynda Goucher will enroll you for the course once you have been cleared by the MEd Program Director and Kathy Spendlove. The EDUC 5860 is a CR/NC course.

- Elementary and secondary licensure track MEd students must first complete MED 6050 (Curriculum Design, Evaluation, Assessment, 3) before taking this course.
- Another prerequisite for EDUC 5860 is a completed fingerprinting and background check. Please go to the following website for information on how to complete this: <http://weber.edu/fingerprinting>.
- When going into schools for practicum work, you must wear your ID badge which is your WSU wildcard, and includes the fingerprinting clearance card on the back of your ID badge. The Office of Student Advisement (ED 230) will provide a lanyard for you to wear when you are in the schools. This will properly identify you and give you permission to be in the schools.
- **You cannot do your practicum in a classroom in which you are working or being paid.**
- To set up your practicum, go to the MEd program chair's office (Dr. Eliason, Ed 235) and she will introduce you to Kathy Spendlove, secretary for the Teacher Education Fieldwork Coordinator, who will work on an appropriate placement for your practicum. If you are secondary and think you want to teach high school, do the practicum in junior high and then do student teaching in high school. On the other hand, if you think you want to teach junior high, do the practicum in high school and student teach in junior high. If you are elementary and think you want to teach intermediate grades, do the practicum in the primary grades and student teach in an intermediate grade. If you want to teach primary grades, do the practicum in an intermediate grade and student teach in a primary grade.
- After Kathy organizes your practicum and assigns your mentor teacher, work with that teacher to set up a time schedule in order for you to get 60 clock hours of time. You will also work with the mentor teacher to plan experiences in **observing, tutoring, working with small groups, and teaching some lessons** as determined in collaboration with the mentor teacher.
- When you are ready to be observed teaching, your university supervisor will come to your classroom and do a formal observation. She or he will give you feedback on things you did well and things in which you can improve. **Make sure you have a written lesson plan ready for the university supervisor of lesson you are teaching.** The university supervisor will do a minimum of one visit and perhaps more as needed. You must coordinate a time for the university supervisor to visit with the mentor teacher, university supervisor, and your schedule.
- To get the credit for this course, you must fulfill the 60 clock hours, turn in the completed Practicum Experience Log signed by your mentor teacher to the graduate secretary, and be observed teaching at least one lesson.

