Elementary Education Field Experiences

Students participate in a variety of field experiences prior to student teaching. You will work with your instructor and the Clinical Experiences Office to set up a schedule where you will be observing a teacher in his/her classroom. You will be required to participate in a variety of diverse field/clinical experience settings (rural, suburban, and urban with varying socio-economic demographics). Student teaching/clinical practice is the culminating field experience for all elementary education majors. Potential placement sites can be found at http://education.okstate.edu/placement-sites.

Experiences in the School

CIED 2450: Early Lab and Clinical Experience in Elementary Education I.
This is an initial pre-professional clinical experience in schools, first through grade eight. The intention of this course is for students to have an introduction to elementary teaching. Students spend 30 hours during the month of August with an elementary classroom teacher learning what it takes to set up a classroom and an introduction to how a teacher facilitates the establishment of a classroom culture that is caring and conducive to student learning.

CIED 3430: Early Lab and Clinical Experience in Elementary Education II.
Directed observation and participation in classrooms, kindergarten through grade eight. Concurrent seminar exploring multicultural education and integrated programs.

CIED 3622: Middle Level Education.
An overview of the academic, social, and emotional nature and needs of early adolescents as well as an examination of how the needs of early adolescents are integrated into the curriculum, instruction, classroom management, and physical structure of the middle school. The interaction and role of middle school personnel, parents/guardians, and community are examined. A field-based experience in a middle school allows for participation in classroom activities and in one full day of teaching selected scientific concepts in an outdoor setting. Written reflections about weekly experiences in the middle school guide field experience observations.

CIED 4450: Internship in Elementary Education.
This advanced clinical experience, commonly referred to as Student Teaching, takes place in Oklahoma first through eighth grade classrooms. Students are placed for 15 weeks with a single cooperating teacher who has been identified by their principal as a highly qualified teacher whose record demonstrates increased student achievement. For student teaching both the students cooperating teacher and a university supervisor complete formal evaluations at the midterm and end of the student teaching experience. For information on the intent to student teach meeting and a copy of the student teaching handbook go to http://education.okstate.edu/intent. For specific questions regarding student placements contact Harley Justus, 405-744-1088, harley.justus@okstate.edu. Students who wish to student teach internationally need to visit with Dr. Patricia Jordan, 405-744-8142, patricia.jordan@okstate.edu at least a year prior to the semester they are planning on student
teaching. During the student teaching semester students are only allowed to enroll in CIED 4453: Senior Seminar in Elementary Education.

Other Required Experiences working with Children

Reading Tutoring.
As a part of CIED 4233: Literacy Assessment and Instruction, elementary education majors are assigned to work one-on-one tutoring a child in grades 1-7 for at least ten sessions, under the supervision of a University instructor. Students conduct a variety of language and literacy assessments in emergent literacy, phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, and writing, determine tutoring goals based upon these assessments, and plan lessons based upon the assessment data. Additionally, the elementary education major has multiple opportunities to communicate with parents/guardians during the experience.

Mathematics Tutoring.
As a part of CIED 4153: Teaching Mathematics at the Intermediate Level, elementary education majors are assigned to work one-on-one with a child in grades 3-7 for at least ten sessions, under the supervision of a University instructor. Students assess the mathematics level of their child, determine tutoring goals based upon this assessment, and plan weekly tutoring sessions based upon these goals. Additionally, the elementary education major has multiple opportunities to communicate with parents/guardians during the experience.

Clinical Interviews.
As a part of CIED 3153: Teaching Mathematics at the Primary Level, elementary education majors conduct a series of a minimum of four clinical interviews with a child in grades K-3 over the course of the semester. The purpose of these interviews is to explore and analyze the mathematical thinking of a young child applying concepts and techniques learned in class. Students are expected to write up an analysis of each interview and then a final formal analysis across all interviews and make suggestions for

Science Day at the Middle School. Each semester as a part of CIED 3622, elementary education majors learn about either NASA (Fall) or Project Wild (Spring) curricula resources. As a part of a small group, elementary education majors create two lessons that they teach to multiple small groups of middle school students as a part of a fall and spring science day at Stillwater Middle School.