

EDUC 315/EDUC 315L Overview of Early Education--Practicum

WHO: Early Education Majors or Endorsement Candidates

PRE-JUNCTURE

Course Description:

This course is designed to acquaint pre-juncture candidates in early education or carrying an early education endorsement with the historic background and modern-day trends relative to the aims and content of the curriculum of early education. This course meets weekly and is designed to be taken concurrently with a field placement (EDUC 315L) in an early education classroom where field-based assignments will be carried out.

Practicum Description:

The EDUC 315L practicum course is the companion section to the EDUC 315 seminar. The practicum course provides clinical experiences necessary to the practical application of those approaches unique to early education. Under the supervision of qualified professionals, candidates will observe in a variety of settings in which young children birth through eight are enrolled. Candidates will complete a total of 30 hours of observation in two early education (PreK/K) settings, one private and one public.

Supervisor Responsibilities:

- The EDUC 315L course instructor acts as the supervisor overseeing this practicum answering questions raised by school administrators, facilitating teachers, or teacher candidates
- Work with the field placement coordinator to identify the number and type of classrooms needed
- Contact facilitating teachers to clarify expectations and answer questions before candidates begin
- Provide candidates with placement contact information, introduce them to the Shepherd University Code of Conduct collecting agreement forms.
- Review course expectations and responsibilities.
- Visit each classroom to observe and highlight with the candidate the teaching and learning conditions present to promote reflective dialog regarding the practicum experience.

Teacher Candidate Responsibilities:

- Contact the facilitating teacher within the time frame provided to set up an initial meeting where a schedule of field hours will be determined
- Provide required documentation for TB tests or other requirements required by the school
- Arrive on time and stay the full time designated in the agreed upon schedule.
- Maintain professional conduct at all times as indicated in the [Shepherd University Code of Conduct for Teacher Candidates in the Field](#).
- Observe and assist with individuals and small groups under the direction of the facilitating teacher.

- Complete reflections and other field-based course assignments as designated by the course instructor.
- Notify the teacher AND supervisor in the event of illness or other unavoidable circumstance that make it impossible to attend as scheduled. Follow supervisor direction regarding scheduling a makeup day.

Facilitating Teacher Responsibilities

- Welcome the teacher candidate to the class and include him or her in viewing all aspects of being an early education teacher.
- Answer questions about early education and provide direction for the candidate to work with individuals and small groups in activities planned by the teacher.
- Verify that the teacher candidate fulfilled the agreed upon scheduled field hours and complete a summary evaluation of the teacher candidate.