

A Re-Imagined Teacher Education Program's Alternative Field Experience

Rebecca Horeth, Program Coordinator
Kathy Hibbert, Associate Dean, Teacher Education

Western  Education

Alternative Field Experience

What is the AFE?

Where is the AFE completed?

How is an AFE arranged?



a field placement or research or leadership project, in support of specialty courses, or, with approval, another aspect of teacher development

3 + 4 weeks; international, interdisciplinary

teacher-candidate led, faculty arranged

Program Perspectives

Credits

Required Outcomes

Partnerships & Transferable Skills



experiential credit courses towards BEd

collaboration, support, accessible education

preparing candidates outside the classroom and making connections between education and communities

Learning Outcomes and Objectives

... as identified by second year Teacher Candidates



classroom management, collaboration, lifelong learning, supporting students with exceptionalities and/or language needs, building relationships, resource development, learning about education outside the classroom

approximately 70% of teacher candidates complete the AFE in a non-teaching setting

Learning Outcomes and Objectives

Handout



Faculty-identified Outcomes vs. Student-identified Outcomes: Which is which?

Teacher candidates report on their experience by reflecting on their objectives

1. Gain mentorship in the field of education outside of a classroom setting
2. Explore other subject or age settings to determine if one will pursue additional qualifications
3. Articulate specific objectives, pedagogies, and transferrable skills in preparation for interviews
4. Explore experiences that will bring unique experiences to future classrooms upon graduation
5. Understand the roles of non-classroom staff in schools
6. Discover similarities and differences between educational settings
7. Try other professions to determine what one's next career steps may be
8. Network with professionals in the field of education who can support throughout one's career
9. Strengthen teaching skills and define philosophy to become the best educator
10. Enrich knowledge of the broad communities in which one will work

Reflections

What did Teacher Candidates identify as gained knowledge/skills?

How does this relate to the program's goals for the AFE?



teacher candidates articulate and report on their own learning and gaps in learning

co-discovering the field of education

professional relationships with colleagues, self-growth, leadership

Next Steps

What actions are being taken?

How have final reports informed program changes?

Does field-integrated learning continue?



highlighting areas of education through human libraries and professional development

promoting professional reflection and goal-setting through Annual Learning Plans

practicum, transition to professional practice (T2P), AFE, community volunteering (CCC)

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