
Teaching Practicum

COURSE DESIGNATOR: MONT 3212

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 3

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

CONTACT HOURS: 10 hours mentoring, 112 hours student teaching

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Under the supervision of University of Montpellier education faculty, students participate in a substantive teaching practicum in the English classroom in the local Montpellier schools. Students are also supervised and mentored by the English teacher in the local school. Group reflection meetings and one-on-one feedback from the University of Montpellier faculty provide context and mentoring.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To build intercultural competence, observe, compare and contrast educational systems.
- To reflect on teaching and learning in culturally diverse settings.
- To become a reflective practitioner and to analyze one's practice and view it from a critical perspective.

METHODOLOGY

Discussions and feedback on the student's experience in the classroom (with classroom teacher as supervisor).

COURSE PREREQUISITES

None.

REQUIRED READINGS/ MATERIALS

Bassot, B. (2013). *The Reflective Journal*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Dewey, J. (1933). *How we think: A restatement of the relation of reflective thinking to the educative process*, Heath & Co, Boston

Leblanc, S. (2007). « Concepts et méthodes pour valoriser l'activité professionnelle au sein de la formation initiale et continue des enseignants », in *Formation et pratiques d'enseignement en questions* N°6 / 2007 /pp. 11-3311

Simpson, Douglas J., Jackson, M. B., & Aycock, J. C. (2005). *John Dewey and the art of teaching: Toward reflective and imaginative practice*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Schön, D. (1987). *Educating the Reflective Practitioner*, San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. 355 + xvii pages.

Somogyi-Toth, K. (2012) *Observation Tasks, a Workbook for Student Teachers*. Teacher Training Journal. Volume 26. Number 3.

GRADING

Grading Rubric		
A	93-100	Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
A-	90-92	Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.
B+	87-89	
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.
C+	77-79	
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.
D+	67-69	
D	60-66	
F	0-59	Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.

SUMMARY OF HOW GRADES ARE WEIGHTED

Participation	40%
Lesson plans	30%
Journal entries	30%
Overall grade	100%

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

STANDARDS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE FOR TEACHERS ASSESSED IN THIS COURSE

Standard 1, subject matter. (INTASC Standard # 4: Content Knowledge)

A teacher must understand the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the disciplines taught and be able to create learning experiences that make these aspects of subject matter meaningful for students. The teacher must:

- 2A. understand major concepts, assumptions, debates, processes of inquiry, and ways of knowing that are central to the disciplines taught (INTASC 4j)
- 2F. use varied viewpoints, theories, ways of knowing, and methods of inquiry in teaching subject matter concepts (INTASC 4a, 4g)

Standard 2, student learning. (INTASC Standard #1: Learner Development)

A teacher must understand how students learn and develop and must provide learning opportunities that support a student's intellectual, social, and personal development. The teacher must:

- 3A understand how students internalize knowledge, acquire skills, and develop thinking behaviors, and know how to use instructional strategies that promote student learning (INTASC 1d, 1j)

- 3B. understand that a student's physical, social, emotional, moral, and cognitive development influence learning and know how to address these factors when making instructional decisions (INTASC 1b)
- 3C. understand developmental progressions of learners and ranges of individual variation within the physical, social, emotional, moral, and cognitive domains, be able to identify levels of readiness in learning, and understand how development in any one domain may affect performance in others (INTASC 1e, 1h)

Standard 3, diverse learners. (INTASC #2: Learning Differences)

A teacher must understand how students differ in their approaches to learning and create instructional opportunities that are adapted to students with diverse backgrounds and exceptionalities. The teacher must:

- 4A. understand and identify differences in approaches to learning and performance, including varied learning styles and performance modes and multiple intelligences; and know how to design instruction that uses a student's strengths as the basis for continued learning (INTASC 2g)
- 4C. know about the process of second language acquisition and about strategies to support the learning of students whose first language is not English (INTASC 2i, 2o)
- 4D. understand how to recognize and deal with dehumanizing biases, discrimination, prejudices, and institutional and personal racism and sexism
- 4E. understand how a student's learning is influenced by individual experiences, talents, and prior learning, as well as language, culture, family, and community values (INTASC 2j, 2m)
- 4F. understand the contributions and lifestyles of the various racial, cultural, and economic groups in our society (INTASC 2k)
- 4G. understand the cultural content, world view, and concepts that comprise Minnesota-based American Indian tribal government, history, language, and culture
- 4H. understand cultural and community diversity; and know how to learn about and incorporate a student's experiences, cultures, and community resources into instruction (INTASC 2d)
- 4I. understand that all students can and should learn at the highest possible levels and persist in helping all students achieve success (INTASC 2c, 2l)
- 4J. know about community and cultural norms (INTASC 2k)
- 4K. identify and design instruction appropriate to a student's stages of development, learning styles, strengths, and needs (INTASC 2a)
- 4L. use teaching approaches that are sensitive to the varied experiences of students and that address different learning and performance modes (INTASC 2a)
- 4M. accommodate a student's learning differences or needs regarding time and circumstances for work, tasks assigned, communication, and response modes (INTASC 2b)
- 4N. identify when and how to access appropriate services or resources to meet exceptional learning needs (INTASC 2f)

Standard 4, instructional strategies. (INTASC #5: Application of Content)

A teacher must understand and use a variety of instructional strategies to encourage student development of critical thinking, problem solving, and performance skills. The teacher must:

- 5A. understand Minnesota's graduation standards and how to implement them
- 5C. understand principles and techniques, along with advantages and limitations, associated with various instructional strategies (INTASC 5i)
- 5D. nurture the development of student critical thinking, independent problem solving, and performance capabilities (INTASC 5m)
- 5G. use multiple teaching and learning strategies to engage students in active learning opportunities that promote the development of critical thinking, problem solving, and performance capabilities and that help students assume responsibility for identifying and using learning resources (INTASC 5c and 5m)
- 5H. monitor and adjust strategies in response to learner feedback (INTASC 5d)
- 5I. vary the instructional process to address the content and purposes of instruction and the needs of students (INTASC 5c)
- 5J. develop a variety of clear, accurate presentations and representations of concepts, using alternative explanations to assist students' understanding and present varied perspectives to encourage critical thinking (INTASC 5e)
- 5K. use educational technology to broaden student knowledge about technology, to deliver instruction to students at different levels and paces, and to stimulate advanced levels of learning (INTASC 5l)
- 5L. develop, implement, and evaluate lesson plans that include methods and strategies to maximize learning that incorporate a wide variety of materials and technology resources (INTASC 5n)

Standard 5, learning environment. (INTASC Standard #3: Learning Environment)

A teacher must be able to use an understanding of individual and group motivation and behavior to create learning environments that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation. The teacher must:

- 6C. know how to create learning environments that contribute to the self-esteem of all persons and to positive interpersonal relations (INTASC 3d)
- 6D. know how to help people work productively and cooperatively with each other in complex social settings (INTASC 3j)
- 6E. understand the principles of effective classroom management and use a range of strategies to promote positive relationships, cooperation, and purposeful learning in the classroom (INTASC 3k)
- 6F. know factors and situations that are likely to promote or diminish intrinsic motivation and how to help students become self-motivated (INTASC 3f)
- 6O. maximize the amount of class time spent in learning by creating expectations and processes for communication and behavior along with a physical setting conducive to classroom goals (INTASC 3e)
- 6P. develop expectations for student interactions, academic discussions, and individual and group responsibility that create a positive classroom climate of openness, mutual respect, support, inquiry, and learning (INTASC 3f)

Standard 6, communication. (INTASC #8: Instructional Strategies)

A teacher must be able to use knowledge of effective verbal, nonverbal, and media communication techniques to foster active inquiry, collaboration, and supportive interaction in the classroom. The teacher must:

- 7B. understand how cultural and gender differences can affect communication in the classroom
- 7C. understand the importance of nonverbal as well as verbal communication (INTASC 8m)
- 7D. know effective verbal, nonverbal, and media communication techniques (INTASC 8g, 8r)
- 7E. understand the power of language for fostering self-expression, identity development, and learning (INTASC 8l)
- 7F. use effective listening techniques (INTASC 8p)
- 7H. use effective communication strategies in conveying ideas and information and in asking questions (INTASC 8s)

- The *MN-SEPTs* can be read in their entirety at: <http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/arule/8710/2000.html>
- The national inTasc Model Core Teaching Standards are available at: https://www.ccsso.org/sites/default/files/2017-12/2013_INTASC_Learning_Progressions_for_Teachers.pdf

COURSE CONTENT

Session 1

Activities and Readings

Whole-class feedback on group visit to schools
 Observing, analyzing and comparing school environments
 Reading: Observation tasks, Kati Somogyi-Toth, 2012

Assessment

Group discussion followed by teacher-fronted recap

Session 2

Activities and Readings

Whole-class feedback on group visit to schools
 Observing, analyzing and comparing school environments

Assessment

Group discussion followed by teacher-fronted recap

Session 3

Activities and Readings

Whole-class feedback on group visit to schools

Observing, analyzing and comparing school environments

Reading: Observation tasks, Kati Somogyi-Toth, 2012

Assessment

Group discussion followed by teacher-fronted recap

Session 4

Activities and Readings

Individual feedback on school placement and teaching practice

Reflecting on pedagogy and the specificities of teaching foreign languages to young children

Reading: Lesson Plan Format, Kati Somogyi-Toth, 2012

Assessment

Self-analysis and evaluation of teaching practice followed by teacher's guidance for improvement

Session 5

Activities and Readings

Individual feedback on school placement and teaching practice

Reflecting on pedagogy and the specificities of teaching foreign languages to young children

Reading: Self-Observation tasks, Kati Somogyi-Toth, 2012

Assessment

Self-analysis and evaluation of teaching practice followed by teacher's guidance for improvement

Session 6

Activities and Readings

Individual feedback on school placement and teaching practice

Reflecting on pedagogy and the specificities of teaching foreign languages to young children

Assessment

Self-analysis and evaluation of teaching practice followed by teacher's guidance for improvement

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to be on time and attend all classes while abroad. Many instructors assess both attendance and participation when assigning a final course grade. Attendance alone does not guarantee a positive participation grade; the student should be prepared for class and engage in class discussion. See the onsite syllabus for specific class requirements.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:

Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" or "N" for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

STUDENT CONDUCT:

The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.