



Internship Clinical Practice

Internships provide teacher candidates with hands-on experience in real classrooms while also being supervised by on campus faculty. They learn to manage a classroom, adapt to individual student needs, and apply developmentally appropriate teaching practices. This practical exposure complements theoretical knowledge gained in coursework. Interns work in authentic clinical settings, allowing them to observe and participate in actual teaching scenarios. This exposure helps them understand the complexities of teaching, including diverse student backgrounds, learning styles, and classroom dynamics. Supervision by experienced mentor teachers and quality methods instructors provides valuable feedback, guidance, and support. Internships are completed before the student teaching clinical experience.

Internship Requirements

Elementary Education <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Literacy/Social St.• Math/Science	Takes place in a general education K-6 classroom with a licensed Elementary Education teacher. Requires 60-hours (30 hours per internship) of classroom observation time over the course of the semester.
Early Childhood Unified <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Infant/Toddler• Preschool• K-3 Primary Grades	Takes place in a state licensed childcare facility (excluding home- based daycares) and supervised by a lead qualified teacher, or an accredited school institution with a licensed professional teacher. Each internship is 40 hours of observation time over the course of the semester.
Special Education	Takes place in a high incidence resource classroom setting in which students are learning with Common Core Standards with a licensed special education instructor. This internship is 40-hours of observation time over the course of the semester.

Mentor Teacher Qualifications

- Holds a professional license related to the subject or grade level of observation.
- Minimum two (2) years' teaching experience.
- Desired skills: observant, provides constructive feedback, works collaboratively with others, etc., and exemplifies excellence by demonstrating a positive impact on student learning.
- Continued professional growth should be evident.
 - Should provide a classroom environment which is diverse in learning experiences.