

College of Saint Mary
Rule 24 Section 1c, 1d and 1e
Contextual Information

Endorsement: Early Childhood Education

1c. Describe all field experiences required for the endorsement, including the number of hours for practicum experiences and the number of hours/weeks of clinical experience or internships.

Each student requesting a clinical placement must have completed at least 100 hours in field experience. At the undergraduate level, these experiences are required and provided within course structures that meet field experience/clinical practice requirements. At all levels, some coursework is tied to field experience placement. It is the responsibility of the student to log hours and have the sheet signed by cooperating teachers or administrators for each field experience they complete. A complete list of all field experience school sites, cooperating teachers, and hours must be submitted at the time a student applies for clinical practice. At the end of each field experience the student is evaluated by the cooperating teacher using one of two evaluations common to the undergraduate program. Field experiences are an essential element in teacher development. A poor performance evaluation or dismissal from a field experience site may also result in dismissal from the Teacher Education Program/MAT program and College of Saint Mary.

At the graduate level, students are expected to maintain a practicum portfolio. Within the portfolio, students are held accountable for making direct connections to practicum and each MAT course. The portfolio also houses each evaluation and students are required to document a reflection in response to each evaluation ([link to sample portfolio](#)).

Endorsement specific unique field experiences:

Crestview Homework Club is a service learning field experience between College of Saint Mary and Mercy Housing. The mission is to serve children from diverse backgrounds and help them through tutoring. CSM students go to Crestview, a Mercy Housing site, for an afterschool program. Tutoring is provided for elementary and middle school children in the areas of reading and mathematics, as well as other enrichment activities. Students enrolled in Guidance and Classroom Management and Human Relations complete a total of 30 hours over two terms with this experience.

Operation S.M.A.R.T. (Science, Math, And Relevant Technology) is a joint venture between Girls, Inc. of Omaha and College of Saint Mary. Within Operation S.M.A.R.T., first through sixth grade girls from Girls, Inc. come to the campus in an after-school program twice a week for instructional activities that emphasize “hands-on” natural and social science, math and technology as well as addressing gender equity. Students enrolled in teaching math, science/social science, and technology courses provide instruction and complete 32 practicum hours each term with the Operation S.M.A.R.T. experience.

L.I.F.E. (Literacy Influences Future Experiences) is the field experience in both Teaching Reading and Reading Diagnosis and Assessment. Students enrolled in these courses provide instruction to Kindergarten through eighth grade learners in reading literacy and diagnose and assess learners’ performances. The L.I.F.E. program is a partnership with local elementary. Students complete 40 - 80 practicum hours within the L.I.F.E. program.

Early Childhood Level: Students work with children ranging from infancy through early primary grades, The Spellman Early Childhood Education Center located on the CSM campus and various community based centers and schools are utilized for these field experiences. Program who hold National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Center Accreditation are preferred field experience sites.

Table 1c Field Experiences for Initial Candidates

Endorsement Program - Elementary Education with ECE Minor				
Course Name		Credits	Type of Field Experience*	Total Number of Hours
EDU 101	Intro to Education	3	P	10 hrs.
EDU 312	Educational Psychology and Measurement	3	P	20 hrs.
EDU 342	Children's Literature	3	P	20 hrs.
EDU 350	Teaching Reading and Language Arts	4	P	40 hrs.
EDU 353	Teaching Natural and Social Sciences: Elementary and Middle	3	P	32 hrs.
EDU 355	Teaching Mathematics: Elementary and Middle	3	P	32 hrs.
EDU 375	Human Relations in a Multicultural Society	3	P	10 hrs.
EDU 470/ EDU 471	Clinical Practice: Primary OR Clinical Practice: Intermediate and Middle	5	C	
PED 357	Health and Physical Education Methods	3	P	8 hrs.
SPE 101	Intro to Special Education	3	P	10 hrs.
SPE 240	Guidance and Classroom Management	3	P	20 hrs.
SPE 430	Diagnosis and Evaluation of Reading	3	P	40 hrs.
ECE 231	Play, Creativity, and Artistic Development in ECE	2	P	10 hrs.
ECE 232	Language Arts in Early Childhood Education	2	P	10 hrs.
ECE 233	Health, Safety, and Nutrition in Early Childhood Education	2	P	10 hrs.
ECE 234	Teaching Math, Science, and Social Studies in ECE	2	P	10 hrs.
ECE 235	Observation and Assessment In ECE	2	P	10 hrs.
ECE 236	Physical Development and Creative Movement	2	P	10 hrs.
ECE 470	Clinical Practice: Primary	5	C	

Endorsement Program – MSE with Early Childhood				
Course Name		Credits	Type of Field Experience*	Total Number of Hours
ECE 631	Play and the Integrated Curriculum	3	P	15 hrs.
ECE 632	Advanced Language Development & Literacy in Early Childhood	3	P	15 hrs.
ECE 635	Observation, Documentation & Assessment in Early Childhood Education	3	P	15 hrs.

1d. Provide information about program completers for two academic years.

Program Completers and Level – Content Area: Early Childhood Education										
Academic Year					Number of Endorsement Program Completers					
					Bac	Post Bac	Alternate Route	Masters	Ed. Specialist	PhD
20	14	to	20	15	3	0	0	0	0	0
20	15	to	20	16	2	0	0	0	0	0

1e. Appendix A

Appendix A1: Academic Advising Worksheet

Appendix A2: Sample Plan of Study