

Forestville Elementary School

Junior Field Experience

State University of New York at Fredonia
Responsive Educator Program

Office of Field Experiences
(716) 673-3443

Semester long junior level early field experience providing data-driven literacy and mathematics instruction to learners in grades 1-6.

“I did not expect this would be one of the most beneficial field experiences that I would have. This placement prepared me for student teaching and has given me the confidence to not only prepare a provoking lesson plan, but stimulate critical thinking, while focusing on student’s individual needs and interests.”

– Brittany Toapha, *Early Childhood/Childhood Ed*

In fall 2005 the College of Education partnered with a local rural elementary school, to provide junior teacher candidates with a unique field experience. The principal wanted to provide his pupils with additional instruction in literacy and mathematics. This led to a combined classroom and after-school field experience.

The *Cultural & Linguistic Diversity in the Classroom (EDU 305)* course is taught on campus. Teacher candidates leave campus twice a week to experience the last hour of the school day followed by participation in direct instruction with a group of pupils.



Teacher candidates are exposed to multiple levels of Response to Intervention Services (RTI) at Forestville Elementary School. The candidates work alongside cooperating teachers in an Academic Intervention Services (AIS) classroom. During the second hour of the field experience, candidates tutor pupils who are participating in the After School Literacy and Mathematics Program.

The principal provides an orientation at the start of the field experience each semester. The candidates are taught how to interpret data from the STAR Reading and Math assessments. Progress-monitoring data from STAR drives lessons and instruction. Lesson plans are differentiated based on pupil performance and the NYS Common Core Learning Standards. Teacher candidates send weekly summaries are sent to the principal. A Field Representative from the Office of Field Experiences provides assistance. The College of Education is dedicated to positively impacting pupil outcomes.

Program Highlights

- ~ Teacher Candidates practice listening & comprehension skills with children
- ~ Teacher Candidates work along side a teacher & then provide direct instruction to pupils
- ~ Progress-monitoring data is shared with teacher candidates to assist them with lesson planning
- ~ Lesson plans are differentiated based on student performance
- ~ Teacher Candidates learn how to co-plan and co-teach with a partner
- ~ Teacher Candidates are implementing Common Core Standards