

## Secondary Education Field Experiences

Field experiences are an integral part of a teacher education preparation program. The Department of Teacher Education at Arkansas State University offers three distinct levels of participation in area public schools. Through these guided and controlled experiences students at Arkansas State University are assured of a gradual transition into the teaching profession. There are three undergraduate professional education courses that require field experiences and they must be taken in the following sequence:

- a. SCED 2514, Introduction to Secondary Teaching
- b. SCED 3515, Performance Based Instructional Design
- c. TI\_\_ 4826, Teaching Internship in the Secondary School

### Level I: Introduction to Teaching (Observations and Interviews)

Field experiences at the early awareness level consist of secondary classroom observations and the interviewing of various school personnel. The purpose of this level is to assist students in determining their aptitudes and interest in teaching. Furthermore, the experiences provide students with a basic knowledge of teacher and administrator roles, school governance and secondary student characteristics.

### Level 2: Performance Based Instructional Design (Tutoring Students and Assisting Teachers)

Mid-level field participation is designed to give students an opportunity to assist teachers. Performing clerical tasks, tutoring students, helping with extra curricula programs, and teaching mini-lessons are examples of Level 2 experiences. Content of the course includes the Pathwise for Effective Teaching Strategies, which will be applied by students in teaching mini-lessons. Level 2 field experience is prior to the internship (student teaching) semester under the guidance of the public school clinical supervisor (supervising teacher).

### Level 3: Teaching Internship

The purpose of the final undergraduate field experience is to provide students with practical, contemporary practice in teaching secondary students. Under the guidance of a public school clinical supervisor and a university supervisor, interns will assume the roles and responsibilities of a practicing teacher for sixteen weeks.

### Field Experience Sites

In determining school sites for the three levels of field experiences the following guidelines will be followed:

- a. Levels 1, 2 and 3 field experiences may not be done in the high school from which the student graduated.
- b. Each level experience should be completed at a different school site and is based upon a diversity categorization matrix.