

Year Three Overview

The purpose of the third year Introduction to Schools practicum is to co-plan and co-teach a series of consecutive lessons and receive feedback from the Associate Teacher. Candidates are also encouraged to develop strategies related to students with exceptionalities.

Candidates in third year must complete 15 days of practicum in an Ontario OCT accredited school with an OCT certified teacher in good standing. All practicum days must be completed in one classroom or subject during the same academic year. There is a faculty supervisor assigned to oversee the Introduction to Schools placement in third year and the 15 days are counted as part of the 80-day practicum requirements specified by the Ontario College of Teachers.

Primary-Junior (PJ) candidates are placed in a primary or junior classroom (FDK to grade 6).

Intermediate-Senior (IS) candidates are placed in a grade 7 to 12 setting.

Practicum Requirements

The candidate:

- Observes in the classroom, other learning spaces, and at other school events
- Records and shares observations with Associate Teacher
- Co-plans and co-teaches five lessons in a traditional classroom setting. It is important for at least 3 of the 5 lessons to be taught consecutively so the candidate can review the lesson with the Associate Teacher, build on strengths and make any necessary changes prior to co-teaching the next lesson. This will allow the candidate to experience the influence of one lesson on another and begin to see meaningful progression towards meeting learning expectations.
- Incorporates strategies for accommodating students with exceptionalities within their instructional plans.
- Makes reflections and suggested changes on their plans after instruction occurs.

Planning materials (such as lesson plans), strategies for accommodation, and reflections will be discussed with the Associate Teacher.

Candidates are not expected to co-teach any more than the required five lessons. If the candidate is comfortable co-teaching a few additional lessons, this can be discussed with the Associate Teacher.

Candidates complete the following Professional Studies course:

PROF 310 – Self as Professional; Introduction to professional judgement and decision-making as it relates to the beginning teacher in the Primary-Junior and Intermediate-Senior divisions. Exploration of legal rights and responsibilities as professionals and reflection on and thinking critically about experiences in classrooms and host schools, adapting practices for exceptional learners and addressing equity issues faced in schools.

Note: one copy of this information is for the candidate and a second copy should be given to the Associate Teacher