

MULTICULTURAL FIELD EXPERIENCES

Multicultural Hours Requirement

Each student entering the Teacher Education program will complete 100 contact hours involving personal interaction with groups and individuals representing ethnically or culturally diverse populations. If students are a part of or have grown up in an ethnically or culturally diverse group, they are encouraged to plan multicultural experiences with or in a different diverse group. This gives them an opportunity to experience an ethnicity or culture that is not their own. The 100 hours include:

- 25 hours (minimum) in ethnically diverse PK-12 Classrooms in American School(s)
- 55 hours in other settings (experiences that deal with diverse people groups)
- 20 hours in EDU 340 (the required Human Relations course)

You must individually arrange your own placement for 80 of the multicultural field experiences hours (25 hours in schools & 55 hours in other settings) and you must document completion of the 100 hours according to specific requirements listed in this form prior to student teaching. Check the education office for required due dates.

Rationale for the Requirement

Beginning teachers must become inter-culturally competent in order to effectively prepare all children and youth for an increasingly pluralistic society. The purpose of the multicultural field experience requirement is to provide opportunities for NWC students to learn about major issues related to diversity and personally interact with individuals and groups who represent ethnically and culturally diverse populations.

Arranged Hours in PK-12 Classrooms in American Schools	25 hours (minimum)
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- All experiences need to be in a diverse (racially, ethnically) PK -12 classroom. A certified teacher needs to be in charge of the classroom.
- Direct interaction with students during the field experience is important (e.g., small group instruction, one-to-one discussions and/or support of individual student learning, classroom assistance for the teacher). Watch how the classroom teacher works with all learners.
- ESL classrooms or classrooms that have ESL students who need support, are good options for this experience. This is also a good way to give back to our local schools. They can use the extra support with the ESL students.

A 2-3 page typed reflection of your experience is due upon completion of the hours. Focus on the following three things: **The experience itself; what you learned from a multicultural point of view and how you will use the experience in your future role as a teacher.**

Arranged Hours in Other Settings	55 hours
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Please check with the Multicultural Director prior to beginning your multicultural field experiences in other settings to make sure your plans meet the specific requirements and you have gained approval for the number of hours you plan to count for each experience. You will need to meet with the director in person to discuss what you have learned and sign the necessary papers upon **completion** of all of your multicultural field experiences. Please make an appointment to meet and bring your paper(s) with you.

Documentation of the arranged hours in other settings includes a 2-3 page reflection paper. Briefly **explain the experience, how it impacted you, and how you believe it may impact your teaching.**

Options include, but are not limited to the following (**must occur during your college experience – not a pre-college experience**)

1. Tutoring one-on-one with an international student or ESL student
2. Travel in diverse areas of the U.S. or abroad
3. ESL or similar programs
4. Day Care/Preschool programs
5. Social Service Agency programs (5 hours max)
6. Spring Service or Summer Service projects approved by the Director (possibly all 55 hours)
7. Excursions to multiethnic/multicultural events
8. Summer volunteer or employment settings approved by the Director
9. Work with the elderly (5 hours max)
10. Work at a shelter or food pantry (5 hours max)
11. Participating in International Club activities
12. Participating in multicultural club activities
13. Work with special needs youth or adults (5 hours max)
14. Opportunities on campus that are suggested/recommended as they occur. (Spanish chapel, guest speakers, plays, ethnic fair etc.)

Hours in EDU 340 (Human Relations Class)

20 hours

The 20 hours and documentation of the hours associated with the Human Relations Class (EDU 340) are met during the semester in which you are enrolled in the course and are explained within the course syllabus. The hours include field trips, in-class guest speakers, school visits, and other options for completing the requirement.

Please check with the Human Relations instructors for expectations.

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