

## Education Seminar Interview and Observation 2

Students are expected to observe their mentor throughout the field experience process and to regularly solicit feedback on a range of topics relevant to teaching. At four points in the semester the student must complete and submit a formal observation of their mentor along with a reflection on a 10- to 15-minute interview with your mentor or another teacher related to a specific topic. In this case about classroom management. **Please note that students pursuing special education certification should conduct their interview and observation in a self-contained or life skills classroom.**

You should upload to brightspace both the full [Formal Observation document](#) and a 2-3 page summary of and reflection on your mentor's responses to your interview questions. You do not need to upload the mentor's responses to the interview questions. It is recommended that you identify 3-4 topics including the required question to address the primary question and focus on those using specific examples from your observation and interview.

*(Students Not Pursuing Special Education Certification):* **What are the hallmarks of a well-managed classroom and how do I achieve this?**

Complete a formal observation of your mentor's teaching using the Formal Observation Form on brightspace. Then, meet with your mentor to debrief the observation and conduct an interview with them regarding their classroom management (sample questions below).

- **Required:** What do you do to promote a positive environment in your classroom where students from all backgrounds feel that they belong?
- What are the key components of classroom management? What are the key challenges?
- What types of routines do you establish at the beginning of the year? Who determined your rules, consequences, and rewards? How do you communicate your classroom management system to your parents?
- How do you determine the grouping and seating of students? What role does this play in classroom management? What role does it play in instruction?

**What is the role of the teacher in a low-incidence or life-skills class?** *(Students Pursuing Special Education Certification)*

Make arrangements to observe in a life skills or low-incidence disabilities self-contained classroom. Complete a formal observation of the teachers and other staff members. Then, meet with the lead teacher to debrief the observation. Use the following sample questions to structure your interview:

- **Required:** What do you do to promote a positive environment in your classroom where students from all backgrounds feel that they belong?
- How is classroom management different in your classroom than in other classrooms?
- What strategies do you use for assessment in the classroom?

- How do you learn about, manage and adapt to the special health care needs of your students?
- How often do you communicate with families? What strategies do you use to communicate with families?

### Grading Rubric

	<b>Unacceptable</b> 4	<b>Developing</b> 6	<b>Acceptable</b> 8	<b>Exemplary</b> 10
<p><i>Content</i></p> <p>The student follows directions and meets the expectations of the assignment</p>	<p>The student did not follow the directions outlined for the assignment. The assignment is both missing required information and does not present information with a sufficient level of detail. The assignment demonstrates little understanding of and ability to apply course concepts.</p>	<p>The student did not follow many of the directions outlined for the assignment. The assignment is either missing some required information or does not present information with a sufficient level of detail. The assignment demonstrates a limited understanding of and ability to apply course concepts.</p>	<p>The student followed most of the directions outlined for the assignment. The assignment includes all required information with sufficient level of detail and demonstrates a clear understanding of the assignment. The assignment demonstrates an adequate understanding of and ability to apply course concepts.</p>	<p>The student clearly followed the directions outlined for the assignment. The assignment includes all required information with thorough level of detail. The assignment demonstrates a thorough and nuanced understanding of and ability to apply course concepts.</p>
<p><i>Organization and Clarity</i></p> <p>The assignment should be logically organized and the reader should be able to follow the overall argument with ease.</p>	<p>The writing is not logically organized. Frequently, ideas fail to make sense together.</p>	<p>In general, the writing is arranged logically, although occasionally ideas fail to make sense together. The reader is fairly clear about what writer intends</p>	<p>The ideas are arranged logically to support the central purpose or argument. Most ideas are linked to each other. With a few exceptions, the reader can follow the line of reasoning.</p>	<p>The ideas are arranged logically to support the purpose or argument. Ideas flow smoothly from one to another and are clearly linked to each other. The reader can follow the line of reasoning with ease.</p>
<p><i>Reflection</i></p>	<p>Reflection lacks critical thinking. Superficial connections are made with key course concepts. Conveys inadequate evidence of reflection on own work. Personal growth and awareness are not evident and/or demonstrates a neutral experience with negligible personal impact. Lacks enough inferences, examples,</p>	<p>Reflection demonstrates limited critical thinking in applying, analyzing, and/or evaluating key course concepts. Conveys limited evidence of reflection on own work. Demonstrates less than adequate personal growth and awareness. Demonstrates minimal thought of the future</p>	<p>Reflection demonstrates some degree of critical thinking in applying, analyzing, and/or evaluating key course concepts. Conveys evidence of reflection on own work. Demonstrates satisfactory personal growth and awareness. Demonstrates some thought of the future implications of current experience.</p>	<p>Reflection demonstrates a high degree of critical thinking in applying, analyzing, and evaluating key course concepts including those focused on culturally relevant and sustaining education practices. Conveys strong evidence of reflection on own work. Demonstrates significant personal growth and awareness of deeper meaning.</p>

	personal insights and challenges, and/or future implications are overlooked.	implications of current experience.		Insightfully synthesizes current experience into future implications.
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