

Senior Student Teaching

UHON 493 | TIMES ARRANGED

During this second semester of the Senior Teaching Option, prep students will put last semester's planning to use, participating in all aspects of guiding and facilitating an Honors seminar under the direction of the Master Teacher.

The Co-Teaching Dynamic

Master Teachers must not allow student teachers to prepare all classes by themselves or be completely in charge of all classes during the teaching semester. This is a co-teaching experience and the Master teacher is ultimately responsible for the success of the class. In order to create this unique working dynamic Master Teachers and their student teachers must hold weekly pre-seminar meetings of at least one hour, covering the intellectual agenda for the day. They should also hold a post-seminar debriefing and must adhere to the contract made in the previous semester regarding shared responsibilities. The Master Teacher ensures he/she is dedicating ample time to mentor the student teacher throughout this semester. The Master Teacher must allow the student teacher to facilitate at least 1 (or 2) classes independently. (The student should use the plan for one class facilitation created during the preparatory semester). Student teachers must also facilitate one class completely alone (with no Master Teacher present during one hour and fifteen minutes, or part of an entire class period). The rest of the time, Master Teacher and student teacher should always facilitate classes together.

Requirements

At the end of the semester, student teachers write a final paper reflecting on what student teaching has meant to their lives and their education, including both positive and negative aspects. The paper is more than just a response and more than just anecdotes; it must be a well thought-out synthesis of the two-semester process. Some students use a simile to describe their experiences: "Teaching is like...". In any case it has to be reflective and thoughtful with a specific title. The length of the paper ranges from 10-15 pages and is due the Friday before exam week. One copy is given to the Master Teacher and a second copy is given to the Honors Director for permanent inclusion in the Honors Library.

Evaluations

At the end of the semester, student teachers must print off ample copies of the Student Teacher Evaluation Form and distribute to students before the last class. Master Teachers will collect these evaluations and keep them confidential until grades have been posted for the students. Student and Master Teachers share the responsibility of completing Honors Student Evaluations for the class. These forms are distributed to faculty two weeks before the end of term. Additionally Master Teachers must complete a Final Evaluation of the student teachers. Evaluation forms can be found online: http://honors.unm.edu/senior-teaching_teach-semester.html.

Workshops

Student teachers and Master Teachers must attend two (2) mandatory meetings during the teaching semester. The first is a Senior Teaching Workshop scheduled for the Friday after the semester break (Fall Break or Spring Break). Along with discussions, student teachers meet with prep students and go over what teaching is really like. Student teachers will schedule a second meeting before the end of the semester to synthesize and share their experiences. This meeting can also be used to stimulate ideas for the final papers.

For more information, please visit our website or contact a Peer Advisor by phone at 277-7415, or visit SHC Room 17C during advising hours.