



Professional Semester III Final Report

Faculty of Education

Field Experiences

Fall ____ Spring ____ Semester, 20_ (Please check appropriate semester)

Professional Semester III is a five-course equivalent integrated semester including half-time teaching and professional study in curriculum design, leadership, advanced methods, and reflective practice. Intern Teachers are assigned full time to schools for the semester during which they assume responsibility for approximately one-half of the teaching day. PS III professional study is designed to complement and enhance the internship. The professional study components may occur on or off-campus and are coordinated by the Faculty Mentors in collaboration with Intern Teachers and school personnel.

Place a checkmark (✓) in front of the course in which you are registered

- Education 4571 – Elementary Education
- Education 4572 – Secondary Internship
- Education 4573 – Special Focus Internship
- Education 4574 – Fine Arts Internship - Art or Drama
- Education 4575 – Fine Arts Internship - Music

Intern Teacher _____ Grade Level(s) 9 and 10

School _____ Administrator _____

Teacher Mentor _____ Faculty Mentor _____

Intern Teacher's Descriptive Report:

During my PSIII internship I had the most rewarding experience of my life. I was welcomed to the staff very enthusiastically. I was told immediately that I would not be treated like a student teacher but rather like a real (certified) teacher who is teaching half time. I was given a five credit science 10 class in which my teacher mentor was _____. The school was very accommodating for me in providing a diverse array of classes. My science class consisted of thirty-five students ranging from ages fifteen to seventeen. As well as having a range of ages, my students also came in with a range of abilities, having prerequisite grades from fifty to ninety one percent. This created a challenge for me as a teacher, making the material appealing and understandable to all of the students. I taught units on earth sciences, biology, chemistry and physics.

I have a science degree and have student taught science ten and chemistry twenty, however the third stream of my general science degree is kinesiology and I found that I really enjoy teaching an assortment of classes. My first phys ed class was phys ed ten. In this class I had thirty-two students, seventeen females and fifteen males. This was an excellent group of kids that willingly participated in all activities. I taught them units in football, volleyball, lacrosse, basketball and weight raining. My other phys ed class was a grade nine class. It was scheduled to be taught at the same time as another grade nine phys ed class, so my colleague and I divided the classes into boys and girls. I taught the boys basketball, lacrosse, weight lifting, and personal living skills. I taught the girls lacrosse and personal living skills. This was a great opportunity for me to diversify the types of classes in which I am comfortable teaching.

During my internship I made a life transition from being an athlete, to coaching athletes. I agreed to be the offensive assistant coach for the school football team. This was the most rewarding experience of my

Intern Teacher's Descriptive Report (Continued)

time at _____. I enjoyed my duties immensely, and worked myself into a roll where I was able to contribute to our team's success in repeating as the tier three provincial champions.

I mainly worked with the receivers and quarterbacks. My other extra-curricular activity that I was involved in was weight lifting. As the weight room coordinator I was responsible for making sure that everyone working out had filled out a waiver form and paid his or her fees. I also was in charge of weight room management, such as having the fitness center clean, and keeping up the usability of the equipment.

A new experience for me this semester was working with parents to draw out the potential in my students, through both direct contact and through parent teacher interviews. I found that through open communication and immediate direct contact when necessary, parents show gratitude and appreciation. This also makes teaching an easier profession because through parental involvement the students are helped at home as well as at school with their personal areas of difficulty.

In conclusion, _____ welcomed me with open arms and has provided an atmosphere where I felt secure and confident. This helped me to develop as a complete and well-rounded teacher. I have found that I am excited to teach my classes everyday, and I am having fun with every class I teach. If I ever questioned my decision to choose teaching as a profession, I no longer do. Now I cannot picture my life without teaching in my future.

Intern Teacher Signature

Date

This page is to be attached to the Intern Teacher's Report.

School Administrator Comments:

_____ made an excellent start in his PSIII Internship at _____. He came to visit the school, his mentor and myself several times prior to our August Professional and Operational days. _____ immediately volunteered to support our extra-curricular program by becoming a coach with our football program. This was a huge commitment on his part, in addition to his teaching assignment, with practices scheduled after school every day and a season of 16 games, including the Provincial Final. The coaching staff have recognized his contribution to our Football team's success this year.

_____ was very eager to involve himself in the curricular areas of Science and Physical Education and as a result, he mentored with two teachers during his internship. He was able to receive a solid grounding and good understanding of the teaching and related pedagogy strategies involved in these curricular areas.

From informal and formal observations, _____ was very successful in both of his curricular teaching assignments. I identified numerous teaching strategies to actively engage students in their learning during my observations. _____ expertise in the Chemistry area of the Science 9 curriculum was particularly evident during one lesson observed. During this lesson, his enthusiasm, energy and expertise was responsible for further engaging the students in higher level thinking and questioning. _____ related well to students both inside and outside the classroom during his internship. All interactions observed were positive and encouraged student participation. _____ has very good verbal skills and uses a variety of classroom management strategies to support the warm and positive learning atmosphere in his classroom.

_____ has all the attributes to be a successful and professional teacher. He has worked hard at _____ during his internship and has been rewarded with a positive teaching experience over the past three months. I would not hesitate in recommending _____ for a teaching position in any school setting that he may make application to.

School Administrator Signature

Date

This page is to be attached to the Intern Teacher's Report.

Teacher Mentor Letter (Mentor 1):

I have had the pleasure of working with _____ while he completed his internship at _____. During his four month internship he taught Science 10 with me as well as some Physical Education classes with _____. _____ taught Science 10 with a lot of enthusiasm and the students were always involved in their learning. He consistently integrated laboratory experiments, demonstrations, and group projects into his course.

_____ had the knowledge and background in science to teach Science 10 without any difficulty. In a class of 35 students, he was able to answer questions without hesitation. This enabled _____ to keep a learning atmosphere in each lesson. He was always prepared in advance for several lessons allowing flexibility in timing and content when student interest encouraged changes. _____ linked his lessons together with review of previous lessons as well as insights into upcoming lessons. References were often made to future courses and the importance of current topics. Board work and overhead notes were clear and legible. Discussions of notes often added extra insights or examples to help clarify key points. Diagrams were always clear and concise. _____ voice projection and classroom movement helped to increase student participation while his enthusiasm and energy contributed to student achievements as well as classroom work which resulted in high accountability given to each student for his or her actions. Assignments, projects, labs, and tests were marked promptly and returned to students with discussions on key points, praise, and possible improvements.

_____ was required to participate in several Science 10 team planning meetings. He often gave up his time before or after school to attend these meetings and always came with ideas and enthusiasm. _____ hard work and determination has helped him to become a better science teacher. During our two professional development days he participated with our entire science department in sessions on increasing student engagement.

_____ outstanding personality and work ethic have allowed him build a rapport with the students he taught. _____ offered extra help to his students at noon and helped coach with our Provincial Champion football team after school and on weekends.

His dedication and commitment to our school was outstanding. I have been fortunate to have had _____ as a member of my science team this year and would look forward to teaching with him again in the future.

Sincerely,

This page is to be attached to the Intern Teacher's Report.

Teacher Mentor Letter (Mentor 2):

Dear _____

During the four months of being an intern teacher at _____ you were always on time and ready to teach. Your professional manner helped in relations with students and staff.

You were assigned both Phys. Ed. and Science and took on an assistant coaching role in the football program and ran the weight room.

In the Phys. Ed. classes your knowledge of the subject material was very good and you were more than willing to research and find material that aided in your teaching. All your lessons followed a logical and sequential order. You encouraged total student participation in every class. As well, unit and daily lesson plans were excellent and you were flexible by being able to modify a lesson if the situation warranted. You demonstrated very good class control, which enabled the students to learn. They knew and understood all of your expectations in the gymnasium.

It is super that you were willing to do the extra that makes a school a better place for the students. Your involvement in running the lunch hour weight room club showed great initiative. You also volunteered your after school time and weekends to the High School Football program. The time you spent doing the extra was much appreciated. It was apparent that you enjoyed many of _____ activities with students and staff.

Predictive Summary Statement

_____ you have all the qualities necessary to be a fine teacher. Your enjoyment teaching students, your constant work to improve and your willingness to put in extra time and effort reveal your potential talent as a teacher. Your disposition and enthusiasm will be an asset to any teaching staff. Both students and staff will miss you at _____. Good Luck!

Sincerely,

This page is to be attached to the Intern Teacher's Report.

Faculty Mentor Comments:

This was a 'distance' (out of Lethbridge district) practicum placement and therefore on-site visits by me were not made. Communication with the student, the mentor teachers, and the school administration were by telephone, email, and surface mail. The following constitutes a summative statement on my evaluation of the success of the student in the practicum, based on the above sources of information.

_____ had an outstanding practicum. He excelled in all aspects of his duties, displaying both a very high level of professional excellence and technical competence. He consistently functioned at the level of a certified teacher, rather than a teacher in training.

He is resourceful, takes on challenges with a positive attitude and great energy, won the respect of staff and students alike, and provided a very positive learning environment for his students. His mentor teachers and school administration were unconditionally positive in their reports on him – from the beginning to the end of the practicum. Every indication I have confirms their impressions.

Some particular strengths of _____ internship warrant mention. First he is to be commended for the great amount of extra time he put into helping coach the school football team. This required an incredible time commitment from him and was a tremendous boost to school morale, as has been commented on by his mentors and principal. Indeed, his work ethic has been most favorably noted by all. That work ethic is not manifested only in his willingness to take on onerous extra duties such as coaching football evenings and weekends. It is found in, among other things, his well prepared lessons, the energy he put into making those lessons relevant and exciting for his students, his willingness to take on new tasks, working with other teachers outside of school hours, and offering extra help to students outside of class time. _____ strong work ethic speaks to both his professional integrity and his character as a person.

Second, _____ clearly knows his content. His high level of knowledge, in science and in physical education in particular, has been noted; he brings disciplinary expertise to his teaching. Third, in transmitting that knowledge, it has been consistently reported that he is a gifted intern teacher. He employs a variety of teaching strategies, is able to link individual lessons into a seamless and meaningful whole for students, is able to engage students in higher thinking, facilitates dynamic and interactive lessons for students, has excellent classroom management skills, is sensitive to student needs, motivates students, and evaluates students in a timely and appropriate manner.

I have read the complete Final Report and certify that the assigned grade is PASS.

Faculty Mentor Signature

Date