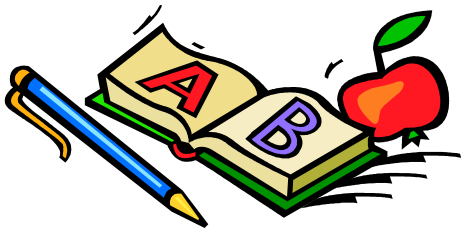
Educating Leaders of Faith and Character

School of Education
3800 Montrose Blvd.
Houston, TX 77006
713-525-3540

The University of St. Thomas is committed to providing equal educational opportunities without regard to race, color, national or ethnic origin, disability, or veteran status.

University of St. Thomas

School of Education



Professional Field Experiences

PROFESSIONAL FIELD EXPERIENCES

What are professional field experiences?

Professional field experiences include direct work with children and youth. These activities provide practice and involve the application and testing of teaching and learning theories, simulations, and microteaching.

How many hours of professional field experiences are required prior to student teaching?

Each student must have on record in the Office of the Director of Field Experiences a minimum of **80 clock hours** of professional field experience before he/she can do student teaching.

- 50 hours of school-related activities (including 6 hrs of tutoring)
- 10 hours of community or church-related activities
- 20 hours of professional development activities

How are professional field experiences reported?

Each student is expected to complete the **Report of Professional Field Experience** form at the end of each experience. These forms are available in the reception area in the School of Education in Malloy Hall.

- The original form should be placed in the Field Experiences inbox located in the reception area of the School of Education.
- The yellow copy should be kept in your records.
- Any questions should be directed to Debbie Fernandez, Undergraduate Assistant, at fernanda@stthom.edu or 713-525-3829

What are some of the professional field experiences?

School-related activities:

- Observing students
- Assisting Teachers
- Reading to children
- Telling stories to children
- Assisting students in the library
- Tutoring (grades K-12)
- Teaching songs
- Directing arts and crafts activities
- Directing speech and drama activities
- Directing physical education or athletic activities
- Assisting with after-school programs

Community and church-related activities:

- Judging
- Scout activities
- Summer camp
- Recreational activities
- PTA activities
- Fund-raising activities
- Teaching Sunday school
- School and Church carnivals
- Working at school events
- Assisting with after-school programs

Professional Development activities:

- Attending professional meetings, conferences, or workshops
- Memberships and participation in professional organizations including:
  BESO – Bilingual Education Student Organization
  ATPE – Association of Texas Professional Educators
  KDP – Kappa Delta Pi
  CEC – Council for Exceptional Children