

Section 5: Collaboration/Partnerships Language Arts (BX): Elementary Major and Minor

A. Early Field Experiences

While Language Arts majors and minors do not have opportunities for K-12 school experiences as part of their English, Communication, and Theatre course work, some courses do involve students in service learning projects and other activities that are adaptable to the elementary and secondary schools. English students are excellent candidates for tutoring students in the Writing Laboratory. Majors and minors who wish to teach are also excellent candidates for assisting in summer projects that bring K-12 students to UDM campus for study and fun. They are not required to work in a K-12 school setting until they take EDU 401 Introduction to Elementary Education, which is the gateway course for admittance to the Education program and designed to provide K-12 classroom experience to clarify career goals and aspirations, as well as an action learning opportunity to integrate the UDM teacher education conceptual framework of Teacher as Scholar, Inquiring Educator, and Moral agent.

In EDU 401, the candidates conduct and write up a case study based on a 30 hour K-8 classroom observation experience related to their major and/or minor area of study. A major outcome for the class is that they realize the appropriateness of Education as a career for themselves. In the laboratory course EDU 432 Psychology of Education, candidates practice tutoring K-12 students in a K-12 school for 32 hours throughout the semester. EDU 478/578 Reading in the Content Areas also requires students to spend time in K-12 settings and to reflect upon their experiences in written and oral presentations. Other courses such as 420 Philosophy of Education and EDU 512 Educational Policy Studies require students to support their presentations and papers with K-12 classroom experience, even to become involved in a service project and or community service. Currently the Education faculty is surveying its candidates and reviewing all pre-student teaching Education courses for their required field and service learning experiences. Once the data about field experiences is gathered, the Department will make any adjustments it deems philosophically and pedagogically sound.

B. Collaboration/Partnerships with K-12 Schools

Postponed until 2005-2010

The Education Department of UDM is currently maintaining and establishing new collaborative efforts and/or partnerships with the Detroit Public Schools, the Archdiocese K-12 Schools, metropolitan suburban school districts, public academies as well as Wayne County RESA (Intermediate School District). The partnerships will be detailed in the 2005-2010 PR/PE reports.

C. Collaboration/Partnerships with Community Organizations

Postponed until 2005-2010

The Education Department of UDM is currently establishing a new strategic plan which involves collaborative efforts and/or partnerships with various community organizations such as the Urban League and New Detroit. The partnerships will be detailed in the 2005-2010 PR/PE reports.

D. Collaboration/Partnerships with Other Post-Secondary Institutions

Postponed until 2005-2010

The Education Department of UDM is currently establishing collaborative efforts and/or partnerships with various post-secondary institutions such as Wayne State University, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Marygrove and Macomb Community College. The partnerships will be detailed in the 2005-2010 PR/PE reports.