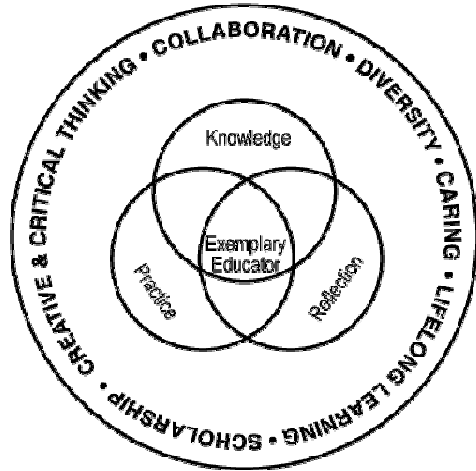


Department of Mathematical Sciences
Northern Illinois University

MATH 401
Clinical Secondary School
Experience in Mathematics



Course Description

A discipline-based clinical experience for students seeking initial secondary certification in mathematics. The course includes seminars, portfolio development, and 40-50+ hours of observation, reflection, self-evaluation, feedback, supervised and evaluated teaching experiences in a particular setting, one semester before student teaching. **PRQ:** Pass the TAP/ Basic Skills Exam, pass the Math Content Area Test, AND Consent of Mathematical Sciences Department

Course Objectives

- Identify and observe learning and teaching styles in secondary mathematics classes.
- Discuss Cooperating Teacher's teaching philosophy, instructional and assessment strategies, organization techniques, lesson planning, recordkeeping, class policies and procedures.
- Observe, develop strategies to establish and maintain a positive, productive learning environment.
- Focus on student engagement in learning and what it means for developing and planning lessons.
- Create and implement lesson plans using a variety of standards-based instructional strategies.
- Practice questioning, wait time and informal assessment techniques for getting student feedback.
- Develop motivational techniques; help students make connections in and outside of mathematics.
- Develop and adapt lessons to meet the needs of students with a range of learning styles.
- Observe and practice good classroom management techniques.

Course Requirements

- Observe and teach in a secondary school for 40+ hours (50+ hours recommended).
- Complete assignments professionally and accurately for your MATH 401 Portfolio.
- Start to incorporate standards-based instructional strategies to enhance learning.
- Ask for evaluation of specific teaching experiences by your Cooperating Teacher(s).
- Plan for observation by NIU/Coordinator of Teacher Certification in Mathematics.
- Attend and actively participate in all MATH 401 Seminars.
- Portfolio
- Observation of your teaching by Coordinator of Teacher Certification in Mathematics
- Communication: One Coordinator of Teacher Certification will contact your cooperating teacher(s) at least once to discuss your progress, professionalism, strengths, areas needing improvement
- Seminars
- Final Assessment

Clinical Expectations

- Teaching at least four lessons
- 2 or more Evaluation of Lesson Checklists from your Cooperating Teacher
- 1 NIU Faculty Observation/Supervision Report
- 1 Final Evaluation Form from your Cooperating Teacher

Course Lab Fee

A lab fee charged for enrollment in this course is used to replace and update materials pertaining to instruction of the course and research on instruction of the course.

NIU Students and Conduct

It is expected that all NIU students abide by the NIU student handbook regarding conduct. Academic misconduct will be treated and reported according to the NIU guidelines.

Students with Disabilities

NIU abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation act of 1973 which mandates reasonable accommodations be provided for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability and may require some type of instructional and/or examination accommodation, please contact me early in the semester so that I can provide or facilitate in providing accommodation you may need. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with the Disability Resource Center (formerly ACCESS Center) on campus. The telephone number of the Disability Resource Center is 815 -753-1303. This center provides services such as administering exams with accommodations for students with disabilities

Changes may be made in the syllabus when judged appropriate by the instructor. Such changes, should they occur, will be announced in class.