



KSU Teacher Education Field Experiences

KSU Teacher candidates, you must complete 200 hours of approved, unpaid field experiences before you may be admitted to student teaching. This is important information you need to know about completing your field experiences.

- You must submit an **approved criminal history report** to the KSU Field Office before you may enter a school or any other setting that serves children/youth to complete field experiences.
- All experiences related to teacher education now are called **field experiences**. Field experiences include what we used to call “early field experiences” as well as what we used to call “clinical experiences”. The term “clinical practice” refers only to student teaching.
- All field experiences are linked to courses. If you want to complete more than the hours assigned to a course, you may. Link the hours to a course, with your instructors’ knowledge and permission.
- **Courses are assigned to schools**. You must go to the schools assigned to your courses. If your instructor requires field experiences and the course is not assigned to a school, contact Dr. Rainey, Coordinator of Field Experiences & Clinical Practice at joanne.rainey@kysu.edu or HH 111.
- **Course instructors create specific assignments for you to complete in the field, and they communicate directly with school principals about these assignments**. You do not go to schools just to clock field hours. You go to schools to connect what you learn in specific courses to the real world of teaching & learning in P-12 schools.
- You may observe/assist **no more than two** teachers for any one course. You may not work with the same teachers across multiple courses. We want you to have experiences with a variety of teachers, across courses - but not within courses.
- If you are not sure whether an activity will qualify as a field experience, ask Dr. Rainey **before** you participate in the activity. According to 16 KAR 5:040 (Admission, placement, and supervision in student teaching), **field experiences must be based in P-12 education** - in schools and related agencies - and they must include the following activities and settings, over the course of your 200 hours: Family Resource Centers *or* Youth Service Centers, tutoring P-12 students, interacting with families of P-12 students, attending school board meetings, attending school-based council meetings (SBDMs), participating in a school-based professional learning community, and assisting P-12 teachers/other school professionals.
- As of fall 2014, you must enter all your field hours in the new **Kentucky Field Experiences Tracking System (KFETS)**, established by the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB). We offered seven KSU trainings on KFETS between 8/29/14 and 9/16/14. If you did not attend one of the trainings, you may get instructions about KFETS via an EPSB Power Point presentation that you may get from your course instructor or from the kiosk on the “Education hall” (1st floor Hathaway).
- **Field experiences are verified by your course instructors through Field Verification forms that you complete and submit to them electronically**. There is nowhere in KFETS to submit these forms. Your course instructor will tell you whether to submit them in Blackboard or in LiveText. No paper copies of Field Verification forms are kept in your files.