

Buffalo State College

Alternative-B Certification: Physics

Initial Field Experience

The Alternative Physics Teaching Pathway at Buffalo State College is a program that allows physics professionals or current physics degree graduates to enter the teaching field after one summer of intensive training. Coursework required for certification and a Master of Science in Education: Physics degree can be completed in 18 months.

Each Alternative Certification Teacher Candidate is required to participate in a minimum of 40 hours of field experience in high school physics classes. This experience must include participation in the same high school physics class for a minimum of five consecutive days. This field experience will take place in the weeks prior to the pedagogical and methods training during the summer.

You are required to keep a log of each observation and a reflective journal. These documents will be collected at the end of your field experience.

The field experience may include the following experiences:

- Observing an experienced physics teacher. This observation should be followed by a conference where the teacher and the Teacher Candidate can discuss the lesson, learning and teaching goals, and teaching methods.
- Working with small groups of students as they work on lab activities, practice problems or other activities.
- Leading activities that have been developed by the teachers. This experience might include managing a whole class of students. To maximize this experience, the teaching experience should be followed by a conference with the cooperating teacher.
- Observing students in nontraditional class settings such as physical education class, music class, study halls, or lunch. The focus should be on observing students and their behavior.
- Assisting the teacher in class and lab preparation. This experience will help the Teacher Candidate become familiar with all aspects of teaching as a profession.

The field experience will be supervised by Dr. Dan MacIsaac. He may be contacted at 878-3802 or <macisadl@buffalostate.edu>

Signature of Candidate: I agree to fulfill the requirements of this agreement.

Printed Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Signature of supervisor: The aforesigned candidate has successfully completed this agreement.

College supervisor: Dr. Dan MacIsaac Signature _____ Date _____