Clinical Experience Toolkit

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A Strong Foundation

In order to provide all students with the education they deserve, teacher preparation programs must offer clinical experiences that maximize learning for both K-12 students and pre-service teachers. The Sanford Inspire Program Clinical Experience Toolkit provides resources that:

- Develop mentor teachers as partners in the teacher candidates’ growth.
- Require teacher candidates to demonstrate proficiency in core areas.
- Provide individualized support for teacher candidates.

What’s Inside

CONTEXT OF DEVELOPMENT

The Sanford Inspire Program operates as part of The Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University.

Our resources support iTeachAZ, the college’s two-year professional teacher preparation program for pre-service teachers. The Sanford Inspire Program worked with ASU faculty members in developing the iTeachAZ Program by writing courses, developing mentor trainings, and creating curriculum resources.

While produced in cooperation with iTeachAZ, Sanford Inspire Program resources can be integrated into any teacher preparation program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>iTeachAZ Clinical Experience Overview</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two semester-long internships involving 75 hours of classroom time each.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>One full-year student teaching experience in a K-12 classroom, four days per week.</td>
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To view a list of Sanford Inspire Program resources aligned to the college courses for which they were developed, visit: www.bit.ly/courseintegrationlist

For more information on current and future initiatives, please contact: SanfordInspireProgram@asu.edu

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Mentors as Partners

The relationship between a teacher candidate and their mentor is central to the student teaching experience. University faculty and mentor teachers provide essential knowledge and skills for teacher candidates. To ensure a common vision for teacher candidate development and establish a common language, it is critical to effectively train mentors.

Upfront Online Mentor Trainings

The Sanford Inspire Program developed an upfront four-hour training module that all mentor teachers, university supervisors, and teacher candidates complete to ensure a common vision for teacher candidate development.

This training sets the mentor/teacher candidate relationship up for success by:

- Establishing a common understanding of the roles and responsibilities of mentors, teacher candidates, and university supervisors.
- Describing the key features of our iTeachAZ program model, including how coursework is integrated with clinical experiences and the variety of co-teaching configurations we expect mentors and teacher candidates to implement.
- Providing an overview of our teacher candidate evaluation rubric along with sample lesson plans and video lessons to help participants develop a common understanding of proficiency levels.
- Offering guidance on different coaching strategies to use with novice teachers at different points in their development.

Human Interest Piece: Mentor Praise


The Sanford Inspire Program works closely with mentors to provide enriching clinical experiences for teacher candidates. In this story, several outstanding teacher candidates share the impact of mentors during their residency program as they prepared to begin their careers as teachers.
Teacher Candidate Proficiency

Inspirational teachers possess many skills, four of which are listed below. Though this list is not exhaustive, these particular skills are essential and often overlooked. The Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College requires that teacher candidates demonstrate proficiency in:

- Using data to set meaningful, ambitious goals
- Developing and implementing an investment plan
- Monitoring progress and adjusting instruction
- Reflecting on student and teacher learning

Assignments to Measure Proficiency

The Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College uses three structured clinical assignments to measure teacher candidate proficiency.

Unit Plan Assignment
https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/192510 (Sample unit plans)
Teacher candidates plan a unit of study and use data to develop meaningful, ambitious goals for their students. This assignment requires teacher candidates to:

- Set SMART goals for student achievement
- Align content to state standards
- Determine needed resources (i.e. texts and materials)
- Create formative and summative assessments

Investment Plan Assignment
https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/192994 (Sample investment plans)
Teacher candidates create a comprehensive system to invest their students in a unit of study. The assignment requires teacher candidates to:

- Set SMART goals for student achievement
- Create student data tracking systems
- Provide evidence of communication with families
- Show both student and teacher candidate reflections

Student Achievement Assignment
https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/211020 (Sample assignment)
Teacher candidates create an academic intervention based on student data, monitor progress towards intervention goals, and reflect on the success of the intervention. The assignment requires the teacher candidate to:

- Show evidence of student achievement
- Give evidence of student data tracking (including diagnostic, formative, and summative data)
- Describe key teacher mindsets needed to improve student achievement
- Explain teaching strategies used to impact student achievement
- Reflect on lessons learned from the assignment that will be used in the future
Aligned Resources: Curriculum Resource Catalog

The Sanford Inspire Program offers a variety of resources that support teacher candidates in developing skills in backwards design, monitoring and responding to student learning needs, and fostering student investment and motivation. This catalog describes the collection of resources to support the ongoing professional growth of teachers. Through video modules, facilitator guides, and exemplar lesson plan banks, teachers have access to knowledge and tools on a variety of topics to assist them in their practice.

Sample Presentations and Templates

These sample presentations and templates are materials designed to help teacher candidates build the skills assessed in the clinical assignments.

**Analyzing Diagnostic Data**
https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/211014
This presentation (with handouts) introduces teacher candidates to a four-step process for analyzing diagnostic data.

**Creating a Unit Plan**
https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/211015
This presentation (with handouts) prepares teacher candidates to write their first unit plan.

**Creating an Investment Plan**
https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/211016
This presentation (with handouts) introduces teacher candidates to methods for investing their students in learning.

**Foundation of Investment Plans**
https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/211017
This presentation (with handouts) explains how to create a big picture vision for one's classroom.

**Using Data to Set Goals**
https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/211018
This presentation (with handouts) walks teacher candidates through a process of setting goals for their class.

**Big Goal Reflection Template**
https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/211019
This template allows teacher candidates to reflect on where their students currently are and what actions they need to take to help them reach their goals.
**Individualized Support**

To fully support teacher candidates, faculty must offer individualized feedback and steps for growth. The following resources allow the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College to leverage the best of what technology has to offer with the coaching experience and support of our face-to-face faculty. Sanford Inspire Program resources help provide a research-based solution that meets individual needs.

### On-Demand Modules


On-Demand Modules provide targeted, relevant professional development for pre-service teachers. Each 60-minute micro-course is grounded in current research and provides teachers with a resource that can be used in the classroom immediately. On-Demand Modules include a coaching guide, so faculty and mentor teachers can effectively support teacher candidates in using these resources.

### ‘Made For You’ Collections

[https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/192133](https://pll.asu.edu/p/node/192133)

‘Made For You’ documents direct teacher candidates to hand-picked Sanford Inspire Program resources. These resources are aligned to the teacher candidates’ program of study and term in the iTeachAZ program. They allow teacher candidates to quickly access resources that will be most beneficial to them. Teacher preparation programs should consider organizing resources by term to provide their pre-service teachers with timely support based on their course progression.