

# BARNARD COLLEGE EDUCATION PROGRAM

## FIELDWORK IN EDUCATION

40hrs of fieldwork must be completed prior to Student Teaching!

The goals for fieldwork in education include the following:

- to explore your interest in working with young people
- to test your knowledge and skills in working with others
- to gain experience in teaching, tutoring, working with children and adolescents
- to learn about diverse educational settings and concepts
- to fulfill a requirement for teacher certification

Before your junior year practicum (Education BC2055y), the most direct way to arrange a field placement is to examine the opportunities at:

Barnard College Office for Career Development  
11 Milbank Hall, (212) 854-2033  
Web site: <http://www.barnard.edu/ocd>

Community Impact, Columbia University  
204 Earl Hall, (212) 854-1492  
Web site: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/jobs>

There are many options for volunteering around the Barnard and Columbia community, and many of the programs support activities to enhance the learning of children and adolescents. Several established, long-term programs include:

America Reads	Asian Youth Program
Barnard/Columbia Mentor Program	Big Brother/Big Sister
Community Youth Program	Double Discovery Center
East Harlem Tutorial program	GED/Reality House
Mott Hall Tutoring	Liberty Tutoring
Peace Games	PS 165 Tutoring
Students Helping Students	Urban Adventures
PS 75 After School Program	Let's Get Ready
Mentoring USA	

There are many other possibilities. We would be glad to discuss your own ideas for fieldwork, especially those in which you have substantial responsibilities or can learn in depth about students and their backgrounds and schools.

**Note:** Your fieldwork experience should correspond to the age group in which you seek your certification. That is, if you plan to get certified in Childhood Education, then you should work with children within the ages of 6 to 13, or if you plan to get certified in Adolescence Education, then you should work with adolescents within the ages of 13 to 18.

For all teacher certification candidates:

Please note that some urban experience is required for all teacher certification candidates.

**A certified teacher should be present at the site of your work and be able to document your hours of participation.**

To fulfill the fieldwork requirement, you should take the following steps:

1. let the Education Program know where you are working.
2. plan at least forty hours of total time on site.
3. keep a journal or record of your significant experiences and reflections including questions about your own reactions about your work, educational concerns that arise for you, and insights about teaching and learning related to the age group in which you work.
4. at the end of the semester, write a reflective paper explaining your experience and what you learned from it, as well as the questions that remain with you.
5. fill out Sections I and II, and then have your supervisor fill in and sign Section III. Give this form, with reflective paper attached, to a faculty member in the Education Program to keep in your file.

If your course instructor does not supervise this fieldwork, and, if you want it to serve as your forty-hours fieldwork requirement for teacher certification, you should meet with an Education Program faculty member during the semester to discuss your experiences and learning.

For any field placement situation, please contact the Education Program immediately if any problems arise.

<p><b>Note:</b> Some placements may require that you present proof of a recent (within three years) negative TB test before you can be admitted to the school. Get a free TB test from the College Health Service.</p>
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of school or program \_\_\_\_\_

Program address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of principal or program director \_\_\_\_\_

Name of supervising teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Fieldwork experience done in conjunction with: \_\_\_\_\_  
(course number and name if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Reflective paper attached to this form**

\_\_\_\_\_ Submitted to: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of faculty member)

<b>Instructions:</b> Student completes Sections I and II; Supervisor completes Section III
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I. Description of responsibilities

Briefly describe the types of activities for which you were/will be responsible. Include the age or grade level of the students, type of program (e.g., public high school, private school, summer camp, etc.), and the nature of your work (i.e., tutoring in a specific subject, classroom assistant, art or nature counselor).

II. Length of pre-practicum field experience

Dates of field experience (month, day, year): from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Total hours on site \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of student \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

III. Supervision

Did the student satisfactorily fulfill the responsibilities described in Section I?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Signature of supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a certified teacher? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Director of the Education Program)