

EDUC 346: Elementary Curriculum: Social Studies

Field Experience Handbook

Fall 2024

1. School, Family & Learner Investigations (flexible scheduling between 9/9 – 9/30)

Teacher Candidates will investigate the school, families, and learners they will be working with this semester. Once the “investigations” are completed the candidates will summarize what they learned and compare to their own cultural background and experiences.

Investigations include:

- **Research** the school and community using the school website and <https://reportcard.doe.k12.de.us/> (Links to an external site.)
- **Interview clinical educator: Partners** will pose formal questions to help facilitate a discussion about students’ background content knowledge and personal attributes that could impact future lessons.

2. Social Studies in the Learning Environment Lesson (week of 9/23)

Partners will choose an appropriate read aloud picture book that highlights cultural and/or community themes in order to learn about the backgrounds, identities, and unique characteristics of the class. This will also allow time to share about themselves and build a positive learning environment through the lens of social studies. The lesson plan will include an activity where the students will share their connections to the text and highlight special characteristics about themselves. (est. time 30-40 minutes)

The content of the lesson will be based on preparing students for civic life. We want students to be respectful, civil, and free from prejudice which begins with appreciating differences among us.

3. Elementary Social Studies C3 Framework Lesson (week of 11/18-22) *

Partners will consider the context for learning of the classroom to design a lesson plan based on a topic provided by the clinical educator that will be taught towards the end of the field experience. They will be provided a template based on the National Council for the Social Studies’ C3 Framework that focuses on inquiry, disciplinary concepts, evaluating sources, and communicating conclusions. The plan will be connected to the Common Core ELA standards and utilize a coteaching strategy. The lesson should span *at least* 45 minutes (could be divided between days).

**Please note: Lesson plans must be submitted and approved by the 346 instructor and the clinical educator prior to teaching them in the classroom. As UD candidates receive feedback, they will need to revise and resubmit as needed.*

4. Teaching and Learning Analysis (after teaching C3 lesson)

After collecting student work from the C3 Framework lesson, **partners** will examine performance data to understand learners’ progress and make a claim about their learning. In addition, candidates will analyze teaching effectiveness and identify possible next steps for instruction.

5. Observations of Social Studies lessons (as available)

Teacher candidates should be observing and involved in any social studies lessons happening in the classroom if possible. If there is an opportunity for them to visit another teacher in the school to observe social studies that would be wonderful too.