



Year 1

Bachelor of Education
2026-2027

Practicum Protocols

Elementary Professional Seminar and Practicum – EDUC 5490

Secondary Professional Seminar and Practicum – EDUC 5390

Mount Saint Vincent University
Faculty of Education
166 Bedford Highway
Seton 449

Phone: (902) 457-6477

Email: BEdPracticum@msvu.ca

Table of Contents

2	Welcome
2	Contacts
3	Program and Practicum Overview
3	Required Courses in Year 1
4	Preservice Teacher Expectations
4/5	Preservice Teacher Professional Conduct and Competencies
6	Preservice Teacher Responsibilities
6/7	Important Notes for Preservice Teacher
8	School Administrator Responsibilities
9	Associate Teacher Responsibilities
10	University Advisor Responsibilities
11	Organization of the Practicum Experience
12	Practicum and Assessment Timelines
12	Deadlines for Submission of Assessments
13	Additional Support Process
14	Feedback
14	Resources

Appendix A – Assessment Forms

Appendix B – Practicum Checklist & Sample Lesson Plans

Welcome

The practicum component of the course conducted in the schools is fundamental to the preparation of preservice teachers beginning in the education profession. We look forward to this collaboration and hope that you find this professional experience rewarding.

Mount Saint Vincent University offers comprehensive Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) programs at the elementary and secondary levels. These programs emphasize reflective practice, critical pedagogy, and diverse teaching methods as well as preparing preservice teachers to recognize and value all individuals. Central to our programs are a range of curriculum courses, a focus on understanding the diversity of learner needs, and a variety of field experiences. Preservice teachers work closely with their peers as they consider current teaching practices and issues in education.

Working in the schools complements the preservice teachers' on-campus studies by providing the opportunity to learn about educational processes and about themselves as beginning education professionals. The B.Ed. program underscores the essential connection between research, theory, and practice in education, and promotes the understanding of teaching and education as a reflective practice.

These Practicum Protocols and all assessment forms are available online under the Bachelor of Education practicum documents section:

<https://www.msvu.ca/academics/faculty-of-education/bachelor-of-education-elementary-secondary/practicum/practicum-documents/>

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your role in this joint venture, please contact the B.Ed. practicum coordinator.

Contacts

Practicum Coordinator

Douglas.Fitzpatrick@msvu.ca

Practicum Coordinator, BEdPracticum@msvu.ca

Phone: 902-457-6477

Program and Practicum Overview

The B.Ed. program is a 60-credit hour integrated program consisting of professional studies and school-based practicum components supported by studies in the diverse and current areas of educational theory and practice. Satisfactory completion of course work is a prerequisite to practicum experiences throughout the two-year program.

Year 1 preservice teachers participate in 7 weeks of teaching practice which is comprised of a 1-week November block in Term 1 and a 1-week February block and 5-week April/May block in Term 2. Expectations related to classroom teaching responsibilities should be gradual and made in consultation with the preservice teacher and the university advisor.

The Nova Scotia teaching Standards (2018) provides indicators for Attributes, Knowledge, and Skills that aim to support excellence in teaching. This document describes indicators for reviewing and guiding teachers' professional growth during their careers. The Mount's B.Ed. practicum expectations and assessments are designed to align with the Standard indicators in so far as they support the beginning professional. In particular, the assessments focus on many of the knowledge and skills indicators to prepare preservice teachers to be competent, capable beginning educators.

If course work is incomplete or deemed unsatisfactory, the preservice teacher could, depending upon the circumstances, experience a delay in starting or continuing a practicum placement or fail to advance to a subsequent placement. A preservice teacher who receives a final grade of "F" in any practicum course will not be permitted to continue in the program. The B.Ed. Practicum Coordinator will inform the educational partners as soon as possible when there is a change to be made to a pre-arranged practicum placement as a result of a prerequisite not being met.

Practicum Dates 2026-27:

Nov 9-13 2026 Feb 8-12 2027 April 12-May 14 2027

Required Courses in Year 1

Elementary Program EDUC Courses	Secondary Program EDUC Courses
5002 Visual Arts in the Classroom 5201 Inclusive Practices in Elementary Classrooms Part I 5204 Interdisciplinary Foundations of Education 5450 Introduction to Elementary Education Assessment 5206 Indigenous Knowledge and Elementary Curriculum 5441 Curriculum and Instruction: Language Arts I 5461 Curriculum and Instruction: Mathematics I 5471 Curriculum and Instruction: Science 5481 Curriculum and Instruction: Social Studies 5490 Professional Seminar and Practicum	5205 Interdisciplinary Foundations of Education 5208 Inclusive Practises in Secondary Classrooms Part I 5327 Social and Cultural Contexts in Teaching and Learning 5209 Inclusive Practices in Secondary Classrooms Part II 5218 Introduction to Secondary Assessment Curriculum and Instruction courses in 1 st and 2 nd teachables 5390 Professional Seminar and Practicum

Preservice Teacher Expectations

Professional Conduct and Competencies:

1. Ensure the associate teacher and the university advisor have copies of all required practicum documents; communicate promptly, as necessary, to obtain additional copies from the B.Ed. Practicum Coordinator.
2. Attend all days of the practicum at the assigned location, with accountability for any absence.
3. Undertake thorough and effective planning and preparation for all practicum and classroom assignments; maintain appropriate documentation relating to lesson/unit plans, reflections, and evaluations.
4. Use lesson planning techniques and methodologies learned in courses or the lesson plan format proposed by the associate teacher/university advisor. Associate teachers and university advisors expect to see appropriate knowledge and skills in this area (see appendix for examples).
5. Employ appropriate classroom and behaviour management techniques.
6. Utilize appropriate teaching approaches, educational technologies, and presentation skills and demonstrate the ability to establish a positive learning environment.
7. Maintain written observations and make use of these to improve upon teaching practices.
8. Complete two (2) reflections in addition to the mid-self reflection. Format, content, and timeline for the reflections will be decided on with the University Advisor.
9. Meet teaching and other expectations as outlined in these protocols. It is recognized that each practice teaching context is unique. It is recommended that the amount of whole class teaching undertaken by the preservice teacher should be mutually agreed upon by the associate teacher, the university advisor, and the preservice teacher.
10. Establish and maintain professional, collegial working relationships with all teachers, school administrators, university faculty, university advisor, and other educational/school personnel.
11. Demonstrate and model adaptability in dealing with the diverse social and learning needs of each student.
12. Adhere to the established regional centre, conseil scolaire, or school procedures while consulting with school staff/administration about difficulties or matters of contention.
13. Show evidence of self-reflection, self-monitoring, growth, and learning from program and practicum experiences by responding to constructive feedback from all educators in a respectful and positive manner.
14. Abide by the Professional Code of Ethics of the Nova Scotia teachers Union.
15. Abide by the Professional Code of Conduct from the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Professional Conduct and Competencies Continued:

The following are considered unacceptable and may lead to course withdrawal or dismissal from the program:

1. Failure to develop a positive working/learning relationship with the associate teacher.
2. Any incident relating to alcohol, cannabis, or illegal substance use leading to the preservice teacher's discredit while in a host school.
3. Acts of physical, verbal, or sexual harassment directed to any person.
4. Any sexual relationship with a student in a host school.
5. Any inappropriate communications or public behaviour bringing disrepute to the preservice teacher, members of the host school, Mount Saint Vincent University, or any other affiliated institution.
6. Failure to adhere to the Nova Scotia Teachers Union Code of Ethics.

In the event of unprofessional conduct of a pre-service teacher related to any of the six areas outlined above, a university advisor or the B.Ed. practicum coordinator must bring it to the immediate attention of the Director of Teacher Education. The Director of Teacher Education will examine the circumstances of the reported incident, file a notice of concern, and in some circumstances, call a meeting of the B.Ed. Professional Committee (Director of Teacher Education, B.Ed. Practicum Coordinator, two B.Ed. Faculty Members). The pre-service teacher can submit to the committee, in writing, their explanation and interpretation of the incident being reviewed.

The B.Ed. Professional Committee may recommend penalties to the Dean of Education, which may include delay or failure of the practicum and/or dismissal from the B.Ed. program.

Preservice Teacher Responsibilities

1. The Year 1 preservice teacher must write a “Letter of Introduction” in consultation with the EDUC 5390/5490 course instructor.
2. The Year 1 preservice teacher must complete the Year 1 Practicum Readiness form and submit it to their seminar instructor before the start of the November Practicum..
3. Monitor the individually assigned MSVU email account daily; respond promptly to any electronic and telephone communications from the associate teacher, university advisor, and/or MSVU personnel.
4. Participate and support the associate teacher in their duties, including yard duty, hall monitoring, and staff meetings. Assist with lunch duty, and when possible, after-school clubs, sporting, and social events.
5. Seek counsel first with the associate teacher and the university advisor if any difficulties arise. If further direction is required, please contact the B.Ed. Practicum Coordinator.
6. Review and discuss Year 1 Initial assessment, Mid Self-Reflection, and Final assessment with the associate teacher/university advisor.
7. Ensure full attendance at the host school and account for any absence. **If absent from school for any reason, it is an expectation that the preservice teacher informs in advance the associate teacher and the university advisor. A sub plan for the day may be required by the associate teacher. Missed days will be made up at the discretion of the Associate Teacher, University Advisor and the Practicum Coordinator if it is felt that more time is required to write a final report.**
8. Respect the guidelines for being at the school prior to the start and end of the school day for planning and assisting the associate teacher.
9. Adhere to the Nova Scotia Department of Education, school, and regional centre/conseil scolaire rules and protocols. These include policies related to school discipline, confidentiality, social media, dress code, and other policies regarding safety, storm days, and allergies, including the use of scented products.
10. In consultation with the associate teacher, attend all in-service sessions scheduled during the practicum period except when admission is not open to preservice teachers. If attendance is not possible, remain at the school with the substitute teacher. Consult with the associate teacher and school administration as to whether support is needed in other areas of the school.
11. Plan and schedule consultation times with the university advisor.
12. Respond to constructive feedback from all educators in a reflective and positive manner as part of your growth.
13. Ensure that assessments are submitted to the B.Ed. Practicum Coordinator or the Mount’s Faculty of Education Office by the deadlines indicated later in this document. Adherence to this schedule ensures practicum files and grades are complete. In most cases, grades will not be submitted until all assessments have been received.
14. Collect and maintain personal copies of all evaluation reports (from both associate teacher and university advisor) for future use in scholarship or teaching applications.

Important Information

1. **Transportation:** preservice teachers are responsible for transportation to and from their assigned school and for making any personal and family arrangements to permit the fulfillment of all practicum expectations, including those related to morning arrivals at school and leaving times in the afternoon.

2. **Confidentiality:** preservice teachers will have access to personal information about the students in the classroom, for example their learning abilities, behaviours, and home life. Often this confidential information is shared by the school to understand the child's context and to plan/act/respond accordingly. It is extremely important to observe confidentiality rules at all times (Consult the NSTU Code of Ethics). Similarly, aspects of preservice teacher and associate teacher relationships must be kept strictly confidential.
3. **Substitute Teaching while a Preservice Teacher:** substitute teaching implies that the associate teacher is away from the school. In Nova Scotia and in many other Canadian teaching jurisdictions, all substitute teachers in the public school system must have a valid teacher's license. Preservice teachers may not act as substitute teachers in any classroom (including their own placement) within their practicum schools. They will have full MSVU support in declining such offers.
4. **Unsatisfactory Performance/Progress:** if, at any time throughout the practicum, performance/progress as a preservice teacher is not meeting expectations, the Additional Support process must be followed.
5. **Behaviour:** if, at any time throughout the practicum, a preservice teacher's behaviour is unprofessional, inappropriate, potentially harmful or offensive to individuals within the setting, or disruptive to the functioning of the setting, the preservice teacher may be suspended. Consultation with the university advisor, associate teacher, and school administration must be sought. Final decisions on permitting re-entry are made on a case-by-case basis and follow consultations between the assigned course instructor, the Director of Teacher Education, and the appropriate educational partner personnel.
6. **Extensions of Practice:** if required, extensions are offered when students are unable to complete the practicum as a result of illness or for other exceptional reasons. Extensions and continuance within the same practicum setting are always subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. When a new placement becomes necessary, the extension period will necessitate additional time for the preservice teacher to adjust to the new setting and establish relationships within the school before progressing toward achieving practicum expectations. The preservice teacher must be open to the extended practicum experience when it can be arranged and may be asked to complete particular requirements or to demonstrate specific competencies before another placement is finalized.
7. **Assessment of the Practicum Experience:** preservice teachers are assessed using the following rating scale: Developing as Expected (DAE) and Needs Further Development (NFD). The associate teacher's and the university advisor's final recommendations inform the awarding of the final grade.

A Developing as Expected score is awarded when the preservice teacher's performance **is meeting** an expected and appropriate level of competency.

A Needs Further Development score is awarded when the preservice teacher's performance **is not meeting** an expected and appropriate level of competency.

8. **Communication with associate teachers:** reflection is essential to learning. Offering the associate teacher, a Letter of Introduction provides the first opportunity to engage in a professional discussion among the preservice teacher, the associate teacher, and the university advisor. For the practicum component of the course EDUC 5490 or EDUC 5390, the preservice teacher prepares a Letter of introduction for the associate teacher and the university advisor. This letter follows the format described in the EDUC 5490/5390 in-class seminar component of this course.

School Administrator Responsibilities

As the school administrator, you are asked to:

1. Select appropriate model teachers to act as associate teachers.
2. Encourage all selected associate teachers to become familiar with the MSVU “Practicum Protocols” book.
3. Act as a liaison between your school and the MSVU university advisor and/or B.Ed. Practicum Coordinator.
4. Welcome all pre-service teachers as part of staff, introducing them to the school community, and including them in all staff meetings, PD and school/community events.
5. Facilitate opportunities for all pre-service teachers to observe other staff/areas in the school.
6. Facilitate opportunities for all pre-service teachers to become part of extracurricular activities.
7. Support pre-service teachers in locating required resources for preparing lessons/units (photocopier, educational technology, hard copy resources etc.).
8. Help to accommodate individual needs that a pre-service teacher may share, as outlined by the policy on “Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities” at <https://www.msvu.ca/site/media/msvu/Academic%20Accommodations%20for%20Students%20with%20Disabilities%202017.pdf>.
9. Mediate any difficult situations that may arise and communicate with the university advisor and B.Ed. Practicum Coordinator when necessary.
10. Act as liaison to both the regional centre and parents for information regarding the MSVU B.Ed. Program.

Associate Teacher Responsibilities

Collaborating with associate teachers is essential to the professional development of the preservice teachers. The academic studies at the university are designed to prepare and support preservice teachers in their beginning practice. The in-school practicum component for the Year 1 preservice teachers forms part of the on-campus year-long professional seminar course. This course provides an opportunity for the students to examine teaching practices, professional expectations, and educational theories to support their practicum experience.

As the associate teacher, you are asked to mentor the pre service teacher in the following ways:

1. Assist the preservice teacher in understanding and becoming a secure and comfortable participant in the school and teaching community, providing a suitable work/storage area within the classroom for the preservice teacher.
2. Provide opportunities for the preservice teacher to observe your teaching practice throughout the practicum.
3. Expect the preservice teacher to assist in teacher duties outside the classroom. This may include yard duty, hall monitoring, staff meetings, lunch duty, and when possible, after-school clubs, sporting, and social events.
4. Plan with the preservice teacher and offer guidance and direction for professional growth in their practice. Outline the long-range goals and organization of courses; review with the preservice teacher the curriculum outcomes, guides, and resources.
5. Confer with the preservice teacher about preferred/appropriate lesson plan format; review and discuss lesson plans with the preservice teacher before delivery of the lessons.
6. Encourage the preservice teacher to discuss and explore ideas and strategies learned in their courses at the university.
7. Provide opportunities for the preservice teacher to team teach with you throughout the practicum.
8. Provide opportunities for the preservice teacher to use educational technologies including PowerSchool and Tienet.
9. A year 1 student is not expected to take on a full teaching load. Teaching exposure should be gradual and may involve them taking responsibility for 2 or perhaps 3 sections,
10. Provide opportunities for the preservice teacher to be involved in the student program planning process when and where possible.
11. Contact the university advisor for support, advice, or early intervention should any concern be raised regarding the preservice teacher. Participate in the Additional Support Process if the process is required.
12. Discuss all assessments with the preservice teacher and provide oral and written feedback to the preservice teacher.
13. Notify the University Advisor of preservice teacher absences.
14. If you need to be absent for 3 or more consecutive days, please notify the university advisor. Preservice teachers cannot substitute during their practicum.
15. Coordinate the completion and submission of the initial report with the University Advisor.
16. Complete and submit the AT copy of the final report.
17. All relevant forms and documents for the practicum can be found at

<https://www.msvu.ca/academics/faculty-of-education/bachelor-of-education-elementary-secondary/practicum/practicum-documents/>

University Advisor Responsibilities

As part of the program's support in the field experiences, university advisors are assigned to individual preservice teachers. The opportunity for preservice teachers to be able to discuss, explore, prepare, and reflect on their teaching practice with the university advisor adds significantly to their professional growth. As the university advisor, you are asked to mentor the pre service teacher in the following ways:

1. Be familiar with the contents of these Protocols.
2. Contact the associate teacher and the principal within the first few days of the practicum to learn of the school rules for scheduling meetings with the associate teacher and for visiting the preservice teacher.
3. Provide your contact information to the associate teacher and the preservice teacher.
4. Represent Mount Saint Vincent University's B.Ed. program, act as a liaison, and provide support for the preservice teacher through observing and assessing student teaching practice.
5. Perform liaison duties with the school administration as necessary; for example, inform the B.Ed. practicum coordinator about medium to long-term associate teacher absences or changes to associate teacher assignments.
6. Consult with the associate teacher **often** for updates regarding the preservice teacher's teaching practices.
7. Discuss your expectations with the preservice teacher (e.g., reflections, lesson plans, and scheduled meetings).
8. For the **Year 1** preservice teacher, this is the first practice teaching experience. Therefore, expectations regarding teaching responsibilities should be **gradual** and made in consultation with the preservice teacher and the associate teacher.
9. Visit the teacher once during the November block. Visit the pre service teacher once during the February block. Visit the preservice teacher a minimum of three (3) times during the practicum block in April to May, accepting that in some circumstances, more than 3 visits may be required.
10. After each visit, provide the preservice teacher with written feedback and expectations preferably via MSVU email.
11. Coordinate the completion and submission of the initial report with the Associate Teacher.
12. Submit the Year 1 Mid Self-Reflection to the university for each student.
13. Complete and submit the UA copy of the final report.
14. Ensure the preservice teacher is getting appropriate practice teaching experience and advocate for such when necessary.
15. Review the meaning of the assessment/evaluation processes and forms with the preservice teacher and the associate Teacher.
16. Notify the B.Ed. practicum coordinator of any concerns to ensure adequate supports are implemented.
17. Notify the Bed Practicum coordinator of any absences of the preservice teacher.
18. If any perceived or actual impediments to a successful practicum are identified, such as professional, interpersonal, or practical matters that are relevant to the classroom and to the mentoring relationship, assist and support the preservice teacher and the associate teacher. Notify the Bed Practicum Coordinator if difficulties persist.
19. Follow and complete the Additional Support process (when necessary) with the associate teacher.
20. Confirm with the associate teacher the procedures and timelines for submitting the assessments to the university.

Organization of the practicum experience

The 1-week blocks in November and February serve as an initiation to the teaching profession and offer the introduction to many relevant teaching concepts and processes in the classroom.

The 5-week block in April/May offers an opportunity for the preservice teacher to plan, develop, and teach lessons to students in the classroom. This extended practicum experience allows preservice teachers to develop their own professional identity as they practice teaching under the direction and support from their associate teacher and university advisor. Understanding that every student develops at a different pace, we ask you to consider the following general guidelines for the 5-week block in Term 2 when agreeing to a teaching schedule in consultation with the preservice teacher and the university advisor:

Week 1 – Observation /Initial Practice

While some preservice teachers may begin teaching lessons or team teach early on, the initial return days are generally an opportunity for the preservice teacher to continue observing and assisting the associate teacher and to practice classroom routines, help individual students, and work with small groups.

Week 2 – Early practice

By the second week, the preservice teacher should know the routines and be familiar with how the class is organised, cared for, and managed. The preservice teacher should be planning, developing, and teaching for part of the day. It is reasonable for the preservice teacher to teach a few whole class lessons on Monday and progress to teaching a whole morning or afternoon by Friday. **(Initial Assessment due April 30th)**

Week 3 – Continued Practice

By week three, the preservice teacher should be planning, developing, and teaching whole class lessons over a few half days. It is at this point we ask preservice teachers to discuss the mid self-reflection with the associate teacher and the university advisor. The university advisor will sign and submit to the practicum coordinator. **(Mid Self-Reflection due May 4th)**

Week 4 – Continued Practice

By the end of this week, the preservice teacher should be engaged in all teaching and administrative tasks at least for a full day.

Week 5 – Continued Practice

As much as possible, this should be a week of planning, developing, and teaching lessons for several full days. The associate teacher and the university advisor submit the final assessment.

(Final Assessments due May 14th)

IMPORTANT NOTE: *Grades for the Seminar and Practicum courses are not submitted until all assessments have been received. Please save a copy of your original assessment should there be a request to resubmit the document.*

Practicum and Assessment Timelines

The Year 1 practicum is part of the full year Professional Seminar courses EDUC 5490 (Elementary) and EDUC 5390 (Secondary).

Term 1 – 2026

- 4-day block: Nov 9th-13th

Term 2 – 2027

- 1-week block: Feb 8th to 12th
- 5-week block, April 12th-May 14th
- Practicum Debrief: May 14th (MSVU) preservice teachers are on campus for this day.

Deadlines for submission of assessments

Assessment forms are also available online on our website under the Bachelor of Education Practicum Documents section:

<https://www.msvu.ca/academics/faculty-of-education/bachelor-of-education-elementary-secondary/practicum/practicum-documents>

Preservice Teacher

- Preservice Teacher Practicum Readiness (*completed as part of Seminar course,*)
- Year 1 Preservice Teacher Mid Self-Reflection: May 4st 2027 (*reviewed and submitted by UA*)

Associate Teacher

- Year 1 Initial Assessment: April 30th 2027 (*in **collaboration** with University Advisor*) If it is logistically difficult to collaboratively complete the form, then separate forms can be submitted.
- Year 1 Final Assessment: May 14th 2027 (***separate*** from University Advisor)

University Advisor

- Year 1 Initial Assessment: April 30th 2026 (*in **collaboration** with Associate Teacher*) If it is logistically difficult to collaboratively complete the form then separate forms can be submitted. UA just fills in comment boxes.
- Year 1 Preservice Teacher Mid Self-Reflection: May 4th 2027 (completed by PST, reviewed and submitted by UA)
- Year 1 Final Assessment: May 14th 2027 (***separate*** from Associate Teacher)

Submit via Email: BEdPracticum@msvu.ca

Additional Support Process

The *Additional Support Process (ASP)* formally addresses concerns **that have previously been brought to the preservice teacher's attention through early conversation, written exchanges, or any other documented method**. It is intended to identify concerns regarding practicum performance and progress and to facilitate as well as to document the development and satisfactory completion of agreed upon goals for improvement. It is imperative that the process be initiated in a time frame that will allow the preservice teacher to address the challenges as soon as possible in their teaching practice.

By the time the ASP has been initiated and communicated to the university, the following will have occurred:

- The university advisor and/or the associate teacher will have identified important concerns in preparedness, progress and/or performance of the preservice teacher that merit notifying the B.Ed. practicum coordinator.
- The university advisor and/or the associate teacher will have had one or more written documents (electronic exchanges and/or ASP form) detailing the challenges and will have previously advised the preservice teacher of the need for improvement(s).
- The preservice teacher's recent work demonstrates that challenges have not been adequately addressed.

The steps in the Additional Support Process are:

1. The university advisor and the associate teacher complete the ASP form and meet to discuss with the preservice teacher. A copy of the ASP form, dated and signed by all three parties, is forwarded to the B.Ed. practicum coordinator. Include copies of previous reports (if applicable) identifying any documented concerns.
2. A plan for improvement with specific goals is developed and a date is identified by which improvements must be evident. The preservice teacher is made aware that the concerns could prevent a passing grade in the course under consideration.
3. The associate teacher, university advisor, and the preservice teacher will have a second review of the goals for improvement on the date established in the ASP. If the preservice teacher has satisfactorily met the conditions outlined on the ASP form, the practicum proceeds and the ASP does not become part of the preservice teacher's final evaluation.
4. If the preservice teacher does not meet the goals for improvement, or if other concerns arise, the university advisor contacts the B.Ed. practicum coordinator for further action. A recommendation on next steps is made and communicated to the preservice teacher, the associate teacher, and the university advisor.

Feedback

We appreciate the support and feedback you offer our preservice teachers. If you have concerns or questions about the program or about these Practicum Protocols, please tell us. This information adds to the development of the program and our supporting materials.

You may contact us with your comments and/or suggestions:

B.Ed. Practicum Coordinator: BEdPracticum@msvu.ca

Resources

Nova Scotia Teaching Standards

<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/psp/teaching-learning/teaching-standards>

Nova Scotia Provincial School Code of Conduct

<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/provincial-school-code-conduct-policy>

Nova Scotia Teachers Union Code of Ethics

<http://www.nstu.ca/the-nstu/about-us/about-nstu/code-of-ethics/>

APPENDIX A – ASSESSMENT FORMS

All forms are found on our website

<https://www.msvu.ca/academics/faculty-of-education/bachelor-of-education-elementary-secondary/practicum/practicum-documents/>



Preservice Teacher Practicum Readiness Form Year 1

Preservice Teacher Name:	
Practicum School:	
University Advisor Name:	
Associate Teacher Name:	
Grade Level/Courses:	

Checklist of Pre-Practicum Tasks	
a. I contacted my University Advisor and my Associate Teacher and agreed upon a communication plan.	☐
b. I reviewed my practicum school's policies, procedures, and Student Success Plan (if available).	☐
c. I am aware of the cultural and socio-economic make-up of my practicum school.	☐
d. I reviewed the relevant provincial curriculum documents.	☐
e. I understand the subject-area content being addressed during my practicum.	☐
f. I recognize the responsibilities and duties of the classroom teacher.	☐
g. I am aware of my responsibilities and conduct as per the Practicum Protocols and the NSTU Code of Conduct.	☐
h. I am familiar with the Year 1 Initial Assessment Form.	☐
i. I demonstrate a sufficient level of oral and written language of instruction.	☐
j. I have a strategy for self-reflection and for responding to feedback.	☐

Reviewed with EDUC 5390 or EDUC 5490 Instructor ☐

Date Submitted by the Preservice Teacher: _____

Signature: _____

Please complete and review with the instructor PRIOR to November 9th. Bring the form to your first meeting with the university advisor for review and keep a copy for your records.

Preservice Teacher Evaluation Form
Year 1
Initial Assessment

Preservice Teacher Name:	
Practicum School:	
University Advisor Name:	
Associate Teacher Name:	
Grade Level/Courses:	

Rating Scale

NFD	Needs Further Development
DAE	Developing as Expected

Assess the following learning indicators	NFD	DAE
a. Demonstrates initiative and enthusiasm	☐	☐
b. Maintains a friendly and professional manner	☐	☐
c. Demonstrates dependability and punctuality	☐	☐
d. Demonstrates adaptability and a willingness to explore new ideas/strategies	☐	☐
e. Responds to feedback and situations with maturity	☐	☐
f. Responds promptly and respectfully to all communication regarding the practicum	☐	☐
AT Comments		

UA Comments		
Assess the following skills and knowledge indicators	NFD	DAE
a. Is aware of the curriculum documents necessary for upcoming lessons/units	☐	☐
b. Has knowledge of the content area they will be covering in upcoming lessons/units	☐	☐
c. Develops positive, supportive, and respectful relationships with students	☐	☐
d. Assists in managing classroom routines	☐	☐
e. Models collegiality, integrity, fairness, and accountability	☐	☐
f. Models professionalism through punctuality, conduct, and communication	☐	☐
AT Comments		
UA Comments		

Overall Recommendation

Performance MEETS Expectations (DAE in 8+ indicators)	☐
*Performance Does NOT Meet Expectations (DAE in 0-7 indicators)	☐

****If the overall recommendation is that the pre-service teacher's performance does NOT meet expectations, the Additional Support Process needs to be implemented immediately.***

We have reviewed this assessment with the preservice teacher ☐

Date Submitted: _____

Associate Teacher Signature: _____

University Advisor Signature: _____

Please return **no later than April 30th** to Mount Saint Vincent University, Faculty of Education, SAC 449, 166 Bedford Highway, Halifax, NS, B3M 2J6 or email BEdPracticum@msvu.ca.

Reports sent electronically, via email attachment, are standardly considered, for our purposes, to be an acceptable alternate to one with a handwritten signature.



Preservice Teacher Mid Self-Reflection Year 1

Preservice Teacher Name:	
Practicum School:	
University Advisor Name:	
Associate Teacher Name:	
Grade Level/Courses:	

For each of the four areas, please reflect on two things you have learned, two things you need to continue to work on before assuming more responsibility, and two things you would like to experience before the end of the practicum.

Please use the "Year 1 Final Assessment" as a reference.

Relationships

Classroom Routines and Procedures**Planning, Instruction and Assessment**

Professionalism

I have reviewed this self-reflection with my University Advisor and my Associate Teacher.

Date: _____ **Signature:** _____

Submitted by the University Advisor:

Date: _____ **Signature:** _____

Please return no later than **May 4th** to Mount Saint Vincent University, Faculty of Education, SAC 449, 166 Bedford Highway, Halifax, NS, B3M 2J6 or email BEdPracticum@msvu.ca.

Reports sent electronically, via email attachment, are standardly considered, for our purposes, to be an acceptable alternate to one with a handwritten signature.

**Preservice Teacher Evaluation Form
Year 1
Final Assessment**

Preservice Teacher Name:	
Practicum School:	
University Advisor Name:	
Associate Teacher Name:	
Grade Level/Courses:	

Rating Scale

NFD	Needs Further Development
DAE	Developing as Expected

Knowledge Indicators	NFD	DAE
Standard 1: Preservice teacher knows, responds to, and engages all students		
a. Is familiar with their students' developmental characteristics	☐	☐
b. Is aware of the role of diversity, equity, and inclusion in student learning	☐	☐
c. Is aware of the diverse learning needs of students	☐	☐
Standard 2: Preservice teacher knows the subjects they teach and how to teach them.		
a. Has knowledge of the Nova Scotia curriculum and related documents and policies	☐	☐
b. Has knowledge of the content area they teach	☐	☐
c. Is aware of how to use educational technologies as an integral part of teaching	☐	☐
d. Demonstrates a sufficient level of the oral and written language of instruction	☐	☐
Standard 3: Preservice teacher implements assessment strategies to guide teaching and learning.		
a. Is aware of multiple approaches to assessing student learning.	☐	☐
b. Is aware of when and how to use assessment to inform their practise.	☐	☐

Standard 4: Preservice teacher creates safe and positive learning environments.		
a. Is aware of establishing relationships with students as related to classroom management.	☐	☐
b. Is aware of classroom routines, procedures, and transitions as related to classroom management.	☐	☐
c. Understands the importance of involving students in classroom expectations as a strategy for classroom management.	☐	☐
d. Understands the importance of using a classroom code of conduct as a strategy for classroom management.	☐	☐
Standard 6: Preservice teacher models and promotes professionalism in teaching.		
a. Knows when and where to access the NSTU Code of Ethics.	☐	☐
b. Is aware of the importance of professional conduct in the personal use of social media	☐	☐
Comments:		

Skills Indicators	NFD	DAE
Standard 1: Preservice teacher knows, responds to, and engages all students.		
a. Creates learning experiences that engage all students	☐	☐
b. Creates attainable short and long-term learning goals	☐	☐
c. Seeks and responds to information about student diversity	☐	☐
d. Seeks and responds to information about individual student learning strengths	☐	☐
e. Seeks and responds to information about individual student learning challenges	☐	☐
Standard 2: Preservice teacher knows the subjects they teach and how to teach them.		
a. Creates detailed lesson/unit plans, utilizing a comprehensive template provided by MSVU and/or the associate teacher(s)	☐	☐
b. Creates detailed lesson/unit plans, that are clearly connected to curriculum outcomes	☐	☐
c. Uses a range of strategies, learning experiences, and resources	☐	☐
d. Uses a range of technologies and representations	☐	☐
e. Teaches problem-solving and encourages creativity	☐	☐
f. Ensures that learning experiences reflect accurate and current content	☐	☐
g. Encourages students to reflect on their prior knowledge	☐	☐
h. Encourages students to pose questions and analyze ideas	☐	☐
i. Adjusts instruction to meet students' changing learning needs	☐	☐
Standard 3: Preservice teacher implements assessment strategies to guide teaching and learning.		
a. Aligns student assessment with learning outcomes	☐	☐
b. Uses a combination of formative and summative assessment	☐	☐
c. Provides feedback to students that is prompt and specific	☐	☐
d. Assists in maintaining records that document progress in student learning	☐	☐
Standard 4: Preservice teacher creates safe and positive learning environments.		
a. Responds to and promotes student diversity	☐	☐
b. Develops positive, supportive, and respectful relationships with students	☐	☐
c. Teaches students how to engage in respectful interactions with one another	☐	☐
d. Teaches students how to behave in specific school settings	☐	☐
e. Assists in managing classroom routines	☐	☐
f. Implements appropriate behavioural consequences consistently	☐	☐

Standard 6: Preservice teacher models and promotes professionalism in teaching.		
a. Models collegiality, honesty, integrity, fairness, and accountability	☐	☐
b. Attends to and advocates for the welfare and dignity of students	☐	☐
c. Engages in collaborative and respectful professional relationships with students	☐	☐
d. Engages in collaborative and respectful professional relationships with colleagues	☐	☐
e. Models professionalism through punctuality	☐	☐
f. Models professionalism through conduct and communication	☐	☐
g. Responds to all communication regarding the practicum in a timely and respectful manner	☐	☐
h. Complies with confidentiality requirements associated with their work	☐	☐
i. Has shown evidence of being a reflective practitioner and life-long learner	☐	☐
Comments:		

Overall Recommendation

PASS: Receives “Developing as Expected” in 36+ indicators	☐
*PASS WITH RESERVATION: Receives “Developing as Expected” in 24-36 indicators	☐
FAIL: Receives “Developing as Expected” in 0-23 indicators	☐

If a “Pass with Reservation” is given, please indicate the main areas of concern and associated recommendations for development for the year 2 practicum.

I have reviewed this assessment with the Preservice Teacher ☐

Submitted by: University Advisor ☐ Associate Teacher ☐

Date Submitted: _____ Signature: _____

Please return **no later than May 14th** to Mount Saint Vincent University, Faculty of Education, SAC 449, 166 Bedford Highway, Halifax, NS, B3M 2J6 or email BEdPracticum@msvu.ca.

Reports sent electronically, via email attachment, are standardly considered, for our purposes, to be an acceptable alternate to one with a handwritten signature.

Additional Support Process Form

Preservice Teacher Name:	
Practicum School:	
University Advisor Name:	
Associate Teacher Name:	
Grade Level/Courses:	
Observation Dates:	

Part 1 - Outline of Additional Supports

Specific concerns: Please list concerns using language that allows for resolution to be measured

Description of the evidence needed for successfully resolving concerns

Date the Additional Support Process Form will be reviewed:

Part 2 - Review of Additional Supports

Description of specific concerns the preservice teacher successfully resolved

Description of specific concerns the preservice teacher failed to resolve

Part 3 - Results of the Additional Support Process

☐ Preservice teacher has shown satisfactory improvement within the allotted time. Additional Support **will not inform** the preservice teacher's final evaluation.

☐ Preservice teacher has not shown satisfactory improvement within the allotted time. Additional Support Form **will inform** the preservice teacher's final evaluation.

Please forward a copy of this document to the B.Ed. practicum coordinator, BEdPracticum@msvu.ca

Associate Teacher Signature: _____

Date: _____

University Advisor Signature: _____

Date: _____

Preservice Teacher Signature: _____

Date: _____

Reports sent electronically, via email attachment, are standardly considered, for our purposes, to be an acceptable alternate to one with a handwritten signature.

Notice of Professional Concern

Name of B.Ed. Student	
Program	

Describe the nature of the concern/behaviour/incident:

--

Signature: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX B

Practicum Checklist & Sample Lesson Plans

All forms found on our website:

<https://www.msvu.ca/academics/faculty-of-education/bachelor-of-education-elementary-secondary/practicum/practicum-documents/>

B.Ed. Practicum Checklist

The following is a Practical Checklist for Pre-Service Teachers enrolled in the BEd Program at MSVU. There are many skills and attributes a new teacher must possess throughout their time in classes at the university and time spent in practicum. The list is in no particular order but by the END of your second-year teaching placement, you should have acquired/experienced all of the following knowledge, skills, and practices. If you have not, think about how you might develop these missing skills and attributes as they will be critical to your success as a beginning teacher.

Relationships

- ☐ Relationship building and your professional responsibility to respond to and communicate with students, school staff, parents, Practicum Coordinator, Instructors, Associate Teacher, University Advisor and anyone else who is supporting you throughout this professional degree.
- ☐ Strategies to create a positive learning environment in your classroom
- ☐ Social Emotional Learning- Caring Schools Resources or other SEL resources.
- ☐ Mental health awareness and support in today's classrooms
- ☐ Dealing with parents- Appropriate and professional conduct and communication
- ☐ Parent-Teacher meetings- ALWAYS be prepared with proof- (good assessment practices)
- ☐ The importance of KNOWING YOUR LEARNERS- they are all very different
- ☐ Get involved in events at school
- ☐ Sit in the staffroom at lunchtime and mingle. Sometimes these casual discussions will give you great ideas without using your prep time. REMEMBER the NSTU Code of Ethics!

Policies, Procedures & Routines

- ☐ CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT: everything from setting up the physical space to actually working with children having difficulties adapting to school. These all really do set the tone and expectations for students. You should be building a repertoire of ideas, activities, tips for transitions (moving through hallway or from one activity to another) Watch others and learn. Remember: there is no recipe for classroom management. Every class will be different and you must find ways to manage your class that work best for all.
- ☐ Importance of policies and where to find them (school, Regional Centre, NS EECD).
- ☐ SPT – get involved with the School Planning Team and Teacher Planning Teams and know how and when to refer struggling students and understand YOUR role in Student Success Planning
- ☐ Understand the purpose of a Professional Learning Community (PLC). Take part in them with your AT.
- ☐ Awareness and knowledge of the NS Inclusion Policy and how it MUST inform your practice.

Planning, Instruction, and Assessment

- ☐ Knowledge of curriculum- how to find and use provincial curriculum guides. (BEFORE you enter your first practicum)
- ☐ Weekly/ Monthly/ Yearly Plans
- ☐ Scheduling and timetables according to the Time to Learn document
- ☐ Culturally Relevant/ Responsive teaching
- ☐ Universal Design for learning- design lessons for all- not create then adapt
- ☐ Differentiate instruction – every lesson!
- ☐ Three-part lessons in math- Constructivist Approach
- ☐ Workshop model in ELA- your mini lesson comes from students’ work and reading/running records- what these assessments tell you that the students’ still need to know
- ☐ Teaching Reading in the older grades focuses more on in depth comprehension compared to decoding, visualization, inferring etc. in the younger grades.
- ☐ Understanding the scaffolding in levelled books and how Reading Records inform lessons, activities and individual conferencing time
- ☐ See how topics to integrate into language arts and math come from content areas- science/social studies
- ☐ Integrating subjects so that you aren’t just doing themes
- ☐ LEARNING ZONES – centers/ stations. Should be used to review and strengthen what has been learned not just to introduce new ideas/topics. Many teachers try to introduce new ideas/ topics in them whereas they should be used to review and strengthen what has been learned
- ☐ Information and Communication Technology (ICT) block for upper elementary
- ☐ Developing documented adaptations and building an Individual Program Plan (IPP)
- ☐ How to incorporate adaptations/PPs into your lessons and assessments
- ☐ Spend time in OTHER classrooms/grades/Learning Center etc. Watch and learn!

Professionalism

- ☐ Professional dress and conduct in person, as well as online (as required by the NSTU Code of Ethics)

Technology

- ☐ TIENET- know your way around the documents
- ☐ PowerSchool-attendance, student records, report cards
- ☐ GradeBook

- ☐ Take care of yourself!



Preservice Teacher Practicum Readiness Form Year 1

Preservice Teacher Name:	
Practicum School:	
University Advisor Name:	
Associate Teacher Name:	
Grade Level/Courses:	

Checklist of Pre-Practicum Tasks	
k. I contacted my University Advisor and my Associate Teacher and agreed upon a communication plan.	☐
l. I reviewed my practicum school's policies, procedures, and Student Success Plan (if available).	☐
m. I am aware of the cultural and socio-economic make-up of my practicum school.	☐
n. I reviewed the relevant provincial curriculum documents.	☐
o. I understand the subject-area content being addressed during my practicum.	☐
p. I recognize the responsibilities and duties of the classroom teacher.	☐
q. I am aware of my responsibilities and conduct as per the Practicum Protocols and the NSTU Code of Conduct.	☐
r. I am familiar with the 14 Month Initial Assessment Form.	☐
s. I demonstrate a sufficient level of oral and written language of instruction.	☐
t. I have a strategy for self-reflection and for responding to feedback.	☐

Reviewed with EDUC 5390 or EDUC 5490 Instructor ☐

Date Submitted by the Preservice Teacher: _____

Signature: _____

Please complete and review with the instructor PRIOR to **November 6th**. Bring the form to your first meeting with the university advisor for review and keep a copy for your records.

General Lesson Plan Sample

Your Name:	Course:
Lesson Goals:	Why are you teaching this? Besides the I can statement what is the connection you are hoping students will make? This is where you demonstrate that you understand the outcomes you are targeting.
Outcomes Targeted:	List the outcomes the lesson targets.
I Can Statement:	At the end of this lesson, each student should be able to say, I can:
Key Vocabulary and Skills:	Think of your learners. Are there any works or skills that not everyone knows?
Material Needed:	List what you need. It's too late once the bell rings.
Your Learners:	Identify any students who may require special attention

Lesson:

I. Introduction (Teacher organized) Remember, start on time!

This is your opening presentation to your class. Your presentation should be saved in your Google Drive and a link placed here. This space is designed for a general overview of your lesson. Connect to prior knowledge. Use phrases like...yesterday we talked about or what do you know about?

TEACHER OWNS THE LEARNING HERE!

Time Allotted: Try to keep this between 10% and 20% of an average class.

II. Guided Learning (Teacher/student collaboration)

This is where the teacher guides the student through the activity. This is where you could have an Instructional Media that explains something. Students may be doing something individually or in small groups. The teaching verbs should be find, communicate, analyze.

Time Allotted: Try to keep this and the next section between 70% and 80% of the average class.

III. Collaborative Learning (Student focused activity) Remember, a teacher on their feet is worth 2 in the seat!

What activities are the students doing in collaboration with their peers. What instructions will they be given? If you are using a handout, create a link here. This may be an extension of the activity started in the earlier section.

Make sure students know what is expected of them during this time. Move around the room and make sure all students are engaged.

Procedure: What will engagement look like. What will tell you groups are on task?

Time Allotted: Try to keep this and the previous section between 60 and 80% of the average class.

IV. Grand Finale – End of class sharing: Remember, end the class as close to the bell as you can.

Describe how you will bring the lesson to a close...summary, student presentation, exit card etc.
Even if you will be continuing the same activity tomorrow, you will need to bring the lesson to a close.

Time Allotted: Try to keep this section between 10 and 20% of the average class.

Differentiation

Describe how you have accommodated the different learners in the room? All students will benefit from a presentation and activity that is visual and tactile. Clear instructions are essential.

Assessment and Evaluation:

Describe how you will measure whether students have met the outcome.

Adaptations and IPPs:

How have you programmed for students on IPPs and Adaptations? Is your classroom a model of inclusion?

Self-assessment:

What went well in this lesson? Why?
What challenges did I face? Why?
Was could I have done differently?
What did I learn from this experience
that will help me in the future?

Sample Elementary Lesson Plan

Grade:

Subject:

Lesson Focus (Driving Question):

"I CAN" statements (Indicators):
Outcomes Targeted:
School Improvement Connection <i>Literacy:</i> <i>Math:</i> <i>Other:</i>

Part 1: 10 - 15 minutes' maximum* (Mini- Lesson) <i>Overview:</i>	
Connection to Prior Knowledge <i>Yesterday we talked about...</i> <i>What do you know about...</i>	
Explicit Teaching (I do) Teacher models/demonstrates. Uses explicit language. Prompts: <i>Watch as I...</i> <i>I want you to notice how ...</i> <i>This is how we use this strategy to help us....</i>	
Guided Practice (We do) How will students participate and practice what they have just learned? Prompts: <i>Turn and talk to your partner about...</i> <i>Go into your notebook and...</i> <i>Work with a partner and...</i>	

Independent (You do) OR Independent Work in groups (We do) Practice/Conference focus: <i>Name the skill/strategy from the explicit teaching.</i> <i>Students try it independently and/or in a group</i> Prompts <i>When working today, use this strategy when...</i> <i>When working today, remember...</i>	
Time to Share (We share) -a mini-lesson reinforcement? -a problem solving opportunity -an opportunity for descriptive feedback -an opportunity for assessment What will it look like? Whole class Partner Small group Prompts: <i>Something I noticed today...</i> <i>Today we learned...</i> <i>Student name will share his/her learning....</i> <i>Student name will share a connection to his/her learning...</i> <i>One thing I'd like you to talk with your partner about while you share...</i> <i>While you are sharing, I will be looking for...</i>	
Self-assessment: <i>What went well in this lesson? Why?</i> <i>What challenges did I face? Why?</i> <i>Was could I have done differently?</i> <i>What did I learn from this experience that will help me in the future?</i>	

General Lesson Plan Template

Strand/Topic:		Date:	Grade:	
Curriculum Expectations		Is there a Connection for Students? Connections to other Curricular Areas?		
List overall and specific expectations that you are addressing and assessing.		What do I know about my students' lives and how can I connect their lives to this topic? How does this connect to other curricular areas?		
Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (Teacher Actions)				
What actions do I take to ensure the lesson is attainable to all students? Identify some disadvantages students may have and suggestions on how to address this in class.				
		Questions to Ask	Accommodations/ Modifications (content/process/ product/ learning environment)	Materials
Part 1: Minds On	What prior knowledge do my students need in order to relate to and be successful with the content of the lesson? What strategies can I use to activate students' prior knowledge? <i>Looks Like...</i> ▪ brainstorming ▪ mind map ▪ mini-task ▪ discussion ▪ reviewing previous material ▪ Video of experiment	What key questions will you ask during the lesson? This may be used as a diagnostic to inform teaching	How will you alter the content, delivery or product of the lesson to serve the needs of all students?	<i>Tools</i> - manipulatives - tech - instructions for students - BLM scaffolding support (minimal, may be used for only a few students)

Part 2: Action	This section of the lesson describes how students will explore and investigate a new concept (constructivist approach). This is a time when students can communicate, discuss, support each other, construct new knowledge, develop concepts, and use higher order thinking skills. This is a time when teachers can interact with students, differentiate instruction to meet all student needs, identify and challenge student misconceptions and assess for learning. <i>Looks Like...</i> ▪ an investigation ▪ small groups of students working together ▪ students asked to summarize and generalize ▪ includes appropriate use of manipulatives ▪ includes appropriate use of technology ▪ teacher circulating to keep students moving forward... may include providing hints, asking students to hypothesize (ask 'What If?' questions), generalize, probing where misconceptions are occurring ▪ teacher uses 'thinking routines' to make thinking visible ▪ teacher can identify student work that will be highlighted in the Consolidate part of the lesson	What key questions will you ask during the lesson? This may be used as 'assessment as learning'.	How will you alter the content, delivery or product of the lesson to serve the needs of all students?	<i>Tools</i> - manipulatives - tech - instructions for students - BLM scaffolding support (minimal, may be used for only a few students)
------------------------------	---	---	--	---

Part 3: Consolidate/Debrief	This section of the lesson is a time to highlight the big idea(s), identify common errors, assess FOR learning for next steps, assess AS learning, and have the students reflect on learning (meta-cognition). Looks like ... ▪ teacher has students summarize and articulate their thinking to the group ▪ teacher identifies students' responses that contain the 'big ideas' ▪ may include completing a Word Wall entry (may use Verbal Visual model)	What key questions will you ask during the lesson?	How will you ensure all students get the opportunity to showcase their learning?	What tools will you use to consolidate? Kahoot! Or other games may be helpful
------------------------------------	---	---	---	--

Assessment Tools (diagnostic/formative/summative)

Based on Assessment FOR Learning and Assessment AS Learning. This could include rubrics, scoring guides, checklists, observation notes etc.

Self-Reflection (This is done after the lesson and helps the teacher to develop)

What went well?	What didn't go so well?	What do I need to change?

