

*The Warren Wilson College Teacher Candidate  
is a reflective innovator serving in communities with  
heart, head, and hands*

**Policies for Internships and Independent Studies  
in the Education Department**

**Independent study in conjunction with Warren Wilson WorldWide travel opportunities.** The Teacher Education Program Policy for working with students who need an independent study arrangement in order to complete courses REQUIRED for the EDU major or licensing program is as follows:

This option is available ONLY to students who take part in a Warren Wilson WorldWide program and who as a result plan to return to campus after being gone for a term, or who leave semester courses at the midpoint. In either case, all arrangements for this special independent study option must be completed and approved in the semester before the travel occurs.

The Teacher Education Program supports student adventures with Warren Wilson WorldWide and wants to make global learning opportunities possible for our students. Three classes in the professional course sequence may be taken with this special option:

EDU 215 Classroom Observations K-12

EDU 209 Children's & Adolescents' Literature

EDU 302 Education Policy and Classroom Practice

A student may request another EDU course to have this independent study completion arrangement, but it is less likely to be approved.

There are no credit hour additions or subtractions. Students must contract in detail with the instructor for completion for the course work. The contract should follow the Registrar's Office form for an incomplete and will require a clear timetable for completion.

A student interested in this option should first consult with, and gain initial permission from, the instructor in the course. Students then must create the contract for the course work and submit the proposal, with any supporting materials, to the Chair of the Education Department. The Education Department will discuss the proposal and respond to it in writing. Faculty can choose not to allow this arrangement (such decisions can be appealed in writing to the Teacher Education Committee). It MAY be possible that the independent study component of the course could be completed with another faculty member, but this is at the discretion of the Education Department.

## **Internships in the Teacher Education Program**

An Education Department internship is a term-or semester-long extended assignment in an educational setting, typically not a K-12 public school. Internships are usually created for students who are unable to meet state licensure requirements or who are unable to complete student teaching but still have adequate time to fulfill an alternative assignment, and thus be eligible for graduation. Internships *may* be planned and proposed by the student, and approved by the Education Department, in the semester before the Education Internship begins. Because the focus of the Teacher Education Program is on state licensure for public school teaching, the faculty prioritize their time for the support of student teachers. Students who are interested in an education major generally but perhaps without the commitment to a full student teaching semester should explore Integrative Studies or other majors. The Education faculty welcomes *all students* into courses: it is only in the final semester that we emphasize student teaching over internship placements.

*Internships are approved by the Teacher Education Committee. Upon approval, each intern will receive the Education Department Internship Handbook.*

Students may work with a non-profit organization, in a school's special services office, or in an education-related government agency. The Education Internship can not replace student teaching in the requirements for North Carolina Licensure. Students must find an appropriate supervisor at the site and recruit this individual to communicate with the College supervisor for on-going progress and evaluative purposes. Students are required to use e-mail for extended regular contacts with the College (Education Department) supervisor of the Internship. *Students are required to teach about or present their internship experiences upon their return to campus to The Teacher Education Committee, possibly as part of the 4 Envelopes presentation before graduation.*