

MATH 4090: Classroom Experience at West High School
241 North 300 West; 578-8500

Also see:

- *Standards for Professional and Ethical Conduct for Educators*
- Record of classroom visits
- School visitation reflection
- Paper guidelines

Mathematics teachers at West High School are making it possible for you to work with their pupils to observe, tutor, and teach in a classroom setting. Both morning and afternoon classes at West H.S. are available. These are 90-minute classes that meet on alternate RED/BLACK days.

The intention is that you meet with the same class throughout this experience. If scheduling conflicts arise, you may be allowed to attend identical classes with the same teacher on alternate days. You will be scheduled for either earlier or later in the semester, depending on availability of classes. Individual deadlines are assigned but as a rule, activities should be completed within a one-month period. You might consider observing consecutive courses, so you can see a development of a unit.

TIME COMMITMENT: 10-12 hours at West H.S. in classroom-related activities

Make arrangements with your assigned teacher beforehand for each classroom visit. Provide him/her with your phone number and/or email address.

Your first 1-2 visits have you quietly observing instruction and activities. Ask the teacher for permission to move about the room assisting individual students once they begin working on assignments at their seats.

For your next several visits the teacher may allow you to work with a small group of students to help them catch up on assigned material. You will either be assisting these students in the classroom or working with them in a nearby room, as directed by your teacher.

Your experience at West concludes with several opportunities to teach short lessons to the entire class on topics designated by the teacher. Ask for early notification of the teaching topics and suggestions for lesson material (depth of material, time allotted, use of manipulatives and technology, worksheets, etc) so that you can begin planning early. Keep me informed too so that we can discuss this with our methods class community as time permits.

Afterwards you will submit a typewritten report describing how this experience has influenced you and what you've learned from it. Instructions are given in a separate file.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- You are encouraged to use alternate means of transportation (bike, bus, trax, walk), but if you must drive you can park in the faculty parking lot on the north side of campus. Be sure to place your red parking permit inside your windshield.
- Before going to your classroom, you need to sign in at the main office on the first floor (rule in every school). Wear the visitor's badge they give you while in the building. If you have the opportunity, it's always good to introduce yourself to the principal and explain why you're there.
- Be sure to arrive at the classroom least five minutes before the class begins so as not to be a distraction to the class. Then, plan to remain for the entire class unless you have discussed this with your teacher ahead of time.
- To miss a scheduled classroom visit is a serious embarrassment. Consider your other obligations carefully before planning your visits to West.
- Read carefully the Standards for Professional and Ethical Conduct for Educators (attached) before beginning this experience. Practice good judgment in dealing with pupils and educators.
- If you would like to earn Service Learning Credit for this class, see me.