

Mid-Program Candidate Feedback

Methods Block

Course(s): ED 410/510, ED 465/565, ED 447/547, EDF 461/561, SPED 415/515

Spring, 2019

f = frequency of the responses

List those things that you perceive as strengths or aspects of your degree program that are most valuable to you.	<i>f</i>
<p>Classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very organized. • The lesson plan workshops were very helpful. • The lesson planning workshops were <u>amazing!</u> (3 was perfect #) • I really appreciated the lesson planning workshops. As this semester began, lesson plans seemed very difficult and complicated to me. In fact, I felt like I did not understand them at all until we had the workshops. • I found it very beneficial that we did the lesson plan workshops. • I liked how we started using LiveText. • I really enjoyed the lesson plan workshops. These helped me clear a lot of fuzzy areas I had. I felt very confident when lab began. • Organization. • I liked the way that the LiveText submissions were structured. • Lesson planning workshops were very helpful. • Rigorous preparation for important tests/interviews. • I felt well prepared after the lesson planning workshop. • I really enjoyed the lesson plan workshop! • I also enjoyed having Friday's off. • The three lesson planning workshops were very beneficial and an aspect of Methods Block I found valuable. • The portfolio assignment while stressful is helpful and gives students a chance to practice before internship. • I loved the blocked off time (classes then placements). It made it feel so real. • Lesson planning workshop. • I liked how the lab hours were built into the class. • The lesson planning workshops were helpful. • Having Friday's off was useful to complete assignments. • Lesson planning workshop. • Tutoring. • Lesson plan training. • I enjoyed the lesson plan workshop and that our schedule allowed us to have Fridays as a work day. • Very prepared with technology teaching. • Classroom management in stressful situations. • Tutoring – very informative. • Lesson planning workshop was very helpful. • Lesson planning workshops. • Technology class. 	19
<p>Observations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Love the assigned time in lab – that we get so much time! 	15

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methods Block was great because I was able to see what an actual day/week working in a real school was like. I also got so close to the kids in my class. • Loved spending 5 weeks in the schools. • I found lab placement to be incredibly valuable. I enjoyed spending so much time in an actual classroom and having the opportunity to gain so much teaching experience. • I think the amount of time and hours in the schools are very beneficial for Methods block students. It gives you a decent amount of time to learn from real life experiences and build relationships. • I really like that there are weeks specifically for observation/lab. That way we don't have to worry about scheduling around class. • Getting more classroom experience and being able to take control for the first time in the classroom. • The classroom experience in Methods Block was most valuable to me. • I loved the opportunity to be in the schools and to tutor for several weeks and teach lessons. That is great practice for our internship semester. • Time spent in the elementary classroom. • Lab observations. • Doing observations consecutive days instead of spread out. • Working with students and teaching real lessons in the classroom. • 5 week internship – I learned SO much. • Lots of lab placement time. 	
<p>Professors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I felt very supported by all my professors. • Professors were great! • Teachers that care about your success. • Constant feedback/communication. • The professors care – they help you manage any stress as needed. 	4
<p>Peers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small, close-knit classes. 	1
<p>List those things that you perceive as growth areas or specific ways in which your degree program could be improved.</p>	<i>f</i>
<p>Classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List assignments on canvas as the same across all classes – the ones that apply to all. • At times, I felt a bit overloaded with assignments. • I wish there had been more uniformity with the requirements of lesson plans. The lesson plans we worked on and submitted in ED 410 prior to lab placement were rather different from the ones I turned in during placement. The ones I made in ED 410 were a lot simpler and lacked many of the components that were required for my placement lesson plans, but were still deemed good with no edits needed. I also really liked the lesson plan workshops and it might even be beneficial to try and schedule more, if possible, or at least give students more opportunities to practice writing lesson plans and receive meaningful feedback prior to placement. • I feel as if the assignments for tutoring were a bit too much. Maybe tone it back a little. • I did not enjoy or like driving from Chelsea back to Montevallo on Tuesdays for tutoring. If tutoring has to take place, then I think placements for lab should be closer. Not only was the drive a lot, but the work load for tutoring was very stressful on top of lab placement. 	20

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutoring should be completed in ten weeks prior to lab placement. This would give students more time to practice completing lesson plans. It would also give students the opportunity to focus solely on their tutoring student. • Make expectations more clear, succinct, & less jargon-heavy on assignment descriptions and rubrics. • Coordination of lab placement assignment due dates. Each student had to compile a list of assignments from each professor then add the lab assignments. I had to triple check to make sure I did not miss anything. • Not every professor puts assignments into Canvas promptly and LiveText does not offer an alert function. • List things that are due on LiveText onto Canvas. I struggled to keep up with LiveText due dates. • I wish we were required to teach more lesson! • The addition of tutoring after lab days was not the best option and often caused more stress than necessary. • The content and instructional methods used in EDF 461 could use some freshening to keep students engaged throughout the class. • The assessment class should focus on more ways to creatively make an assessment rather than just test scores. • Even more focus on classroom management – it is so important. • I did not like that an entire semester of work was crammed into a month and a half. I'm not sure how to balance that work with time spent in the schools but the first part of the semester in class felt rushed. • I did not like coming back to campus for a week of class after lab. I understand time spent reflecting on our experiences, but I do not think any additional teaching or work should be done that week besides finishing up our LiveText portfolios. • Confusing language in LiveText (Example: minimum of 5 days after). • Lack of up front information about the block. • It was somewhat stressful trying to get back to campus for tutoring after lab placement. • Shared assignments between the classes could all be named the same thing on Canvas. • Tutoring was a big stress, though it did help me learn to write lesson plans. I would have rather had one more week in placement than coming back at the end. • Adding more lesson plan workshops. • Add workshop just explaining LiveText. • Maybe do tutoring at placement school instead of MES. • I felt like I did not learn enough from my teaching reading class to actually teach reading. It turned out fine though. I learned as I went! • Most of our time in the teaching of reading class was spent writing lesson plans and we were not writing them in full. I would have liked to spend more time with the book for the course. 	
<p>Professors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were times when I would ask a question to my professors and get 2-3 different answers (for ex., a question about edTPA lesson format). • I think all professors need to communicate. One week we would have nothing due, but the next have ten different assignments. • UM supervisors checking in more frequently. 	3
<p>Observations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maybe change lab time so spring break isn't in the middle. • We need more placement options. 	2

Changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I enjoyed the way the classes were set up. There's not much I'd change. 	1
Please rate your level of satisfaction with the overall quality of your program.	f
Very Satisfied	12
Satisfied	11
Neutral	1
Unsatisfied	0
Very Unsatisfied	0

Additional Comments:

I really enjoyed Methods Block, and I have learned so much, esp. about classroom management and assessment data analysis.

Pre-internship here we come! I think methods block has prepared us greatly to move on!

I enjoyed my classes and time this semester.

I love being in the TEP here at Montevallo. Looking forward to learning more in the future.

I feel much more confident about my choice of becoming a teacher. I thoroughly enjoyed my time in an upper grade (which I thought I was opposed to). Methods block has allowed me many hours of real-life experience that will benefit me in the future.

Please work to prevent:

- assignments due when the university is closed.
- the changing of class times
- the purchasing of extra credit
- unclear assignments with instructions that differ from Canvas to syllabus
- the changing of final exam times and new content being covered during dead days

I would rather have had one more week in placement than come back for classes.

Methods Block was more challenging than previous blocks. The work load was at times overwhelming and stressful, but it was a good preparer for the classroom.

Loved this block.

I loved the classes and the lesson planning workshops and the amount of support given to us. Even when things got stressful, I never felt like I would automatically fail because I know my teachers want me to succeed. Thank you!

Nothing was too hard, but it was a lot of work. However, I know it will prepare us for internships and beyond. I feel it will make us more qualified when we graduate.

Lesson plan training should be one day, taught by Ms. Gilmore. I feel like her LP training was the most effective. Learned everything I needed to know from her one class.

Tutoring was a great experience BUT I think it would be better suited for a different block.

I have loved Methods Block!

More tutoring to foundations block or the beginning of the semester. It was a lot to handle both lab and tutoring. It would also be a good way to get used to lesson planning.