

Course Designator and Title

:  
Spring 2026 – EDCO 685

Instructor	
Office	
Office Telephone	
Office Hours	
Cell Phone	
Email	

**Credit Hours:** 1

**This course requires participation in a pre- and post-semester orientation that follows the school district calendar. Contact the course instructor for specific requirements.**

**Course Description:** Field-based internship in which teacher candidates investigate the learning-teaching context of the internship classroom and individual learner characteristics. The primary focus of the course is on applying core content and classroom experiences from previous semesters to the learners in the internship classroom in order to design significant, challenging, and appropriate unit goals, instruction, and assessments.

**Prerequisites:** Admission to Teacher Education Program; FERPA Training

#### **The Education Core**

The Winthrop Teacher Education Program is a developmental and clinically-based program that provides teacher candidates with opportunities to construct knowledge and develop skills through course work that is integrally linked to practical experiences in schools. Candidates learn by doing under the tutelage of expert mentor teachers and supportive university instructors and supervisors. The core courses require candidates to learn about and work with learners with diverse backgrounds and needs, including but not limited to, learners with special needs, English language learners, learners identified as gifted, and learners living in poverty. Pedagogical focus is on assessment, classroom management and the learning environment, technology, and professional learning and ethical practice. Together with content area courses, the array of experiences in schools and well-sequenced, coordinated content in the education core provides candidates in all teacher education fields the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed for success as a teacher in 21<sup>st</sup> century schools.

#### **Description of Clinical Component of this Core Course**

Number of hours in school setting:      Program Area:      Approx. number of hours:

Field-performance expectations: Teacher candidates analyze the climate and culture of the internship classroom for implications on teaching and learning.

Supervision of field performance: Mentor teacher and university supervisor

**Description of Course in Relation to Education Core**

Candidates in most secondary and K-12 utilize skills developed throughout the Education Core to gather information through observation, document analysis, and work with learners. Information is used to understand the contextual factors of the internship classroom and construct short and long-range planning strategies learned in previous courses.

**Course Goals, Learning Outcomes, and Assessments**

<i>Unit Standards/Elements</i>	<i>Student Learning Outcome</i>	<i>Key Assessment</i>
<b>CG1. Demonstrate knowledge and skill in observation, data collection, and analysis of the internship culture and climate to support plan instruction.</b>		
US5. Instruction and Learner Engagement E1. The teacher candidate utilizes knowledge of pedagogical content and developmental science domains to plan and implement learner-centered lessons aligned with curriculum goals and standards.	SLO1.2 Establishes appropriate standards based long-range learning and developmental goals.	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO1.3 Identifies and sequences instructional units that will lead to the meeting of learning and developmental long-range goals	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO1.6 Creates standards-based lessons in accordance with the requirements of the discipline, including learning objectives that are measurable, rigorous, and align with the standards.	Internship I Evaluation
<b>CG2. Use data gathered about individual learner background and instructional needs to plan and implement effective teaching strategies.</b>		
US4. Assessment E1. The teacher candidate designs, selects, and implements valid, reliable, and appropriately differentiated assessments that are aligned with short and long term goals.	SLO1.7 Designs, selects, or modifies meaningful assessments that are aligned with lesson objectives.	Internship I Evaluation
US4. Assessment E2. The teacher candidate uses data from a variety of formative, diagnostic, and summative assessments to guide instruction, determine impact on learning, differentiate instruction, and accommodate diverse learners.	SLO1.5. Plans strategies for tracking student progress and communicating results that reflect student achievement.	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO2.4 Measures student mastery of learning by using assessment strategies with established performance criteria	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO1.8 Uses data from formative, diagnostic, and summative assessments to guide instructional planning.	Internship I Evaluation

US4. Assessment E3. The teacher candidate effectively and ethically communicates assessment information to learners, parents, guardians, colleagues, and administrators.	SLO2.5 Provides specific and timely instructional feedback to students pertaining to stated outcomes.	Internship I Evaluation
US1. Diverse Needs of Learners E3. The teacher candidate plans and implements differentiated learning experiences that address diverse learner needs.	SLO1.9 Plans differentiated instruction to address diverse learning needs.	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO 2.2 Differentiates instruction to meet the needs of diverse learners.	Internship I Evaluation
US5. Instruction and Learner Engagement E4. The teacher candidate plans and implements instruction that allows learners to reflect on prior content knowledge, link new concepts to familiar concepts and experiences, and use academic language to express content understanding.	SLO2.1 Effectively communicates appropriately challenging expectations to learners.	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO2.3 Demonstrates thorough command of the content taught and appropriately addresses learner questions and misunderstandings related to the content	Internship I Evaluation
US5. Instruction and Learner Engagement E1. The teacher candidate utilizes knowledge of pedagogical content and developmental science domains to plan and implement learner-centered lessons aligned with curriculum goals and standards.	SLO2.7 Implements strategies that address the needs of learners from diverse cultural and/or linguistic backgrounds.	Internship I Evaluation
<b>CG3. Maintain a positive classroom and school climate.</b>		
US2. Learning Environment E1. The teacher candidate identifies factors that promote a positive, safe, and caring environment.	SLO1.4 Develops a plan for proactive classroom management that promotes positive behaviors and maximizes instructional time.	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO3.1 Maintains a physically safe educational environment that is conducive to learning.	Internship I Evaluation
US2. Learning Environment E2. The teacher candidate develops and implements a proactive classroom management plan that promotes positive behaviors,	SLO3.2 Maintains a caring, fair, and inclusive educational environment.	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO1.4 Develops a plan for proactive classroom management that promotes positive behaviors and maximizes instructional time.	Internship I Evaluation

active engagement, and respect for individual differences.	SLO3.4 Manages instructional routines and transitions between activities or classes in an efficient and orderly manner.	Internship I Evaluation
US2. Learning Environment E3. The teacher candidate promotes positive social interaction and a sense of community in the learning environment.	SLO2.6 Uses appropriate voice tone and pacing to manage instruction/environment effectively	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO3.3 Creates environments that promote positive social interaction and collaboration in the learning environment.	Internship I Evaluation
<b>CG4. Engage as a member of a professional learning community.</b>		
US5. Instruction and Learner Engagement E4. The teacher candidate plans and implements models of collaboration (with colleagues, parents and/or guardians) and co-teaching to support learning.	SLO4.1 Effectively co-teaches with the mentor teacher.	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO4.2 Establishes professional relationships with school personnel and students.	Internship I Evaluation
US7. Professional Learning and Ethical Practice E1. The teacher candidate engages in professional learning opportunities and draws upon current education research and policy to reflect upon and improve practice.	SLO4.7 Is receptive to constructive criticism from mentor teacher, university supervisor, and administrators and incorporates feedback.	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO4.8 Uses self-reflection to evaluate and improve professional practice.	Internship I Evaluation
<b>CG5. Fulfill the responsibilities of the profession.</b>		
US7. Professional Learning and Ethical Practice E2. The teacher candidate meets expectations of the profession including codes of ethics, professional standards of practice, and relevant law and policy, and carries out practice in ways that uphold the rights and responsibilities of teachers and learners.	SLO4.3 Demonstrates effective verbal communication that is appropriate for the intended audiences and uses standard English	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO4.4 Demonstrates effective external written communication that is appropriate for the intended audience and uses standard English.	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO4.5 Adheres to the university and school/district rules, <i>Standards of Conduct for South Carolina Educators</i> , and FERPA requirements and acts appropriately when faced with legal issues with children.	Internship I Evaluation
	SLO4.6 Demonstrates professional responsibility (e.g. preparedness, responsibility, initiative, time management).	Internship I Evaluation

In addition to the college and program specific outcomes above, the following links between ULCs and Unit Standards are also evident in the course design.

*ULC2: Winthrop graduates are personally and socially responsible.*

- US1.E3
- US2.E3
- US4.E2
- US5.E4

## Course Requirements

### Required and Optional Texts:

- ***Developing Teachers as Educational Leaders: Responsibilities, Policies, and Practices for the Year-Long Internship*** is available on-line at <https://www.winthrop.edu/ceshs/rex/field-office-internship-and-field-experience.aspx>
- SL &L account
- **Reading List:** Not applicable to the field experience.
- ***Initial Teacher Preparation Unit Standards Framework:*** In initial teacher preparation at Winthrop University, teacher education candidates must demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions that enable them to address the needs of a diverse group of learners. Interns must provide evidence that their teaching results in learning for all students. To this end, interns will reflect on objectives of lessons, develop appropriate lesson plans to address learner needs and analyze their students' work samples to plan for future learning. In addition, interns demonstrate progressing skills in the areas of learning environment, technology, assessment, instruction and learner engagement, literacy, and professional learning and ethical practice. Further information about the Initial Teacher Preparation Unit Standards is available at the following web address: <https://www.winthrop.edu/ceshs/edco/conceptual-frameworks-and-dispositions.aspx>

**Assignments:** Please see the internship handbook, *Developing Teachers as Educational Leaders: Responsibilities, Policies, and Practices for the Year-Long Internship*, to find a description of the intern's responsibilities. Interns should follow all safety protocols and procedures of their host school/district, including the district's technology policies regarding acceptable use and security.

Teacher Candidates in the year-long internship should initially use their content area specific templates when lesson planning. The supervisor and mentor teacher will determine if and/or when a candidate is ready to be released to a modified version of planning that is required by the host school/district. Program area specific templates should always be used when planning for any announced observation (supervisor, mentor, and/or site-based observer).

Lesson plans should be submitted at least two school days prior to teaching (unless otherwise authorized by the mentor teacher and the university supervisor) so plans may be discussed and modified, if needed. If lesson plans are submitted late, the mentor teacher and/or university supervisor may decide not to allow the intern to teach, thus jeopardizing the success of the internship. Lesson plans should be available either in hardcopy or electronically for supervisor and mentor review at all times. If sharing electronically, the intern will share them through Google Drive, Dropbox, OneDrive, or any other options that work for your supervisor and mentor.

The university supervisor will complete, at least, two summative observations of lessons taught by the Internship I teacher candidate (one before midterm and one after midterm), the mentor teacher will complete four formative observations (two before midterm and two after midterm) and a site-based observer will complete two observations (one before midterm and one after midterm). Certain programs may have additional program-specific requirements.

Classroom observations are to be conducted in person if the intern is interning in a face-to-face classroom experience. If supervisors need additional observational data, they may view and evaluate video of lessons taught by the candidate. Midterm and final summative conferences are to be conducted in person. Pre-observation and post-observation conferences may be conducted in person

and/or virtually. Successful completion of Internship I requires achieving the acceptable level on all domains of the Internship I final evaluation.

- **Grading System:** Students are evaluated using Internship I Midterm and Final Evaluation Reports. Results are conveyed to students during mid-term and final evaluation conferences with the university supervisor and mentor teacher. Copies of the Internship Midterm and Final Evaluation Reports are located on the Office of Field and Clinical Experiences website: <https://www.winthrop.edu/ceshs/rex/field-office-internship-and-field-experience.aspx>. Students receive a grade of Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) for the Internship I experience.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy:** The field of Learning Design and Technology embraces the responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to help us improve human learning and performance. There are AI tools to create custom images and background music for multimedia projects. There are also AI tools that can create written responses to specific questions. As AI improves, it may help us do our jobs better and more efficiently. **For this course, it is required that you disclose the use of AI tools in the production of materials and any course assignments.** For this course, all written course requirements including but not limited to reflections and responses to feedback are to be written by you. The use of any AI tools in the production of written materials in this course or the use of any AI tools without prior disclosure and approval may be considered an issue of Academic Dishonesty.

**Class Attendance Policy:** The attendance policy is described on page 23-24 of the handbook, *Teachers as Educational Leaders: Responsibilities, Policies, and Practices for the Year-Long Internship* (available on the Office of Field and Clinical Experiences website). We expect teacher candidates not to miss any days from the internship, however, it is understood that extenuating circumstances may arise that prohibit the teacher candidate from participating on scheduled days in the field (example: COVID, flu, etc.). In the event of an extenuating circumstance, the teacher candidate communicates with the supervisor, who will decide on a case-by-case basis how the intern will make up the time missed in the field.

**Accessibility Policy:** Winthrop University is dedicated to providing equal educational opportunities for all students. Interns with diagnosed disabilities who seek reasonable accommodations must notify the Office of Accessibility at 803/323.3290. Teacher candidates with disabilities should note that the internship may necessitate consideration of worksite accommodations that differ from those used in a typical university classroom setting. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation is a change in the work environment or in the way the job is usually done that enables a person with a disability to perform the job effectively. Interns with disabilities must meet the requirements of the internship experience and exhibit adequate performance. Thus, student interns with disabilities should understand their accommodation needs in relation to the expectations of their teaching internship. Teacher candidates with disabilities who are participating in internship should discuss potential needs and concerns with the Office of Accessibility.

**Final Exam Date and Time:** The final assessment is the Internship I Final Evaluation Report. The Final Evaluation Report, along with supporting documentation, is due in SLL by the course instructor on or before the date set by the Director of the Office of Field and Clinical Experiences. (5/07/2026)

**Student Code of Conduct:** As noted in the Student Conduct Code, "Responsibility for good conduct rests with students as adult individuals." The policy on student academic misconduct is outlined in the Student Conduct Code Academic Misconduct Policy in the Student Handbook online. <https://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/studentconduct/StudentConductCode.pdf>

**Syllabus Change Policy:** The syllabus reflects expectations for the course; however, the instructor may find it necessary to make changes in the syllabus after the course begins. In such cases, students will be notified accordingly.



**Tentative Course Calendar:** Provided by the individual university supervisor.

**Tentative Schedule and Important Dates for Internship I**

*Dates are subject to change.*

*University supervisors will set assignment due dates and time for evaluation conferences.*

<b>Spring, 2026</b>	<b>Internship I</b>
January – school district dependent	Report to assigned host school for Internship II experience – refer to host school calendar for start date for teachers
Monday, January 12	Winthrop University classes begin
<b>Wednesday, January 21 (subject to change – dependent upon Office of Career Development and Internships)</b>	<b>Required Education Career Fair – 10:00-12:30 in Richardson Ballroom (A and B) –</b> Interviews to follow in the afternoon – Specific information will be forthcoming.
Monday, February 9 – Wednesday, February 25	Midterm evaluation conferences to be held – supervisor to set date/time with intern and mentor
Thursday, February 26	Internship II midterm evaluation grades due on Wingspan by 5:00 pm <b>by university supervisor</b>
Monday, March 3	<b>Internship II Midterm Evaluation Report</b> scanned, uploaded, and rubric completed in SL&L <b>by university supervisor</b>
Monday, April 13 – Thursday, April 23	Final evaluation conferences to be held with intern and mentor
Friday, April 17	Last day of internship in the schools
Monday, April 20 - Friday, May 1	Days available in host schools for internship make-up
Wednesday, May 6	Graduate degree Internship I final evaluation grades due on Wingspan by 3:00 pm <b>by university supervisor</b>
Thursday, May 7	<b>Internship I Final Evaluation Report</b> scanned, uploaded, and rubric completed in SL&L <b>by supervisor</b>
Thursday, May 7	Undergraduate Internship I final evaluation grades due on Wingspan by 9:00 am <b>by university supervisor</b>