

CAEP Group Interview Information ~ General Introduction ~

Purpose of Interview Sessions:

The Teacher Education Program has provided evidence that we are meeting all standards; however, when teams come to Winthrop they want to verify what we said was true. We contend Winthrop's program is special and as such there are things that they are not completely understanding (as they are atypical) or question whether it is possible. You are being asked to verify or clarify points related to your role. Giving examples from your experience in courses and the field will help to provide the context and verification of the claims we have made.

Tips for participation:

- Treat this like an interview, even when asked your weaknesses you typically try to present in a positive light. This is not to say we are perfect nor is it to say raising points for further exploration is bad, just please consider how widespread the issue might be and whether you might soften the presentation.
- Don't be nervous. You were selected to participate because you have examples to add that verify the story we have already told.
- The reviewers do not expect any one group or person to know everything. You will be in groups and unless someone is dominating a conversation individuals will likely not be called upon unless they volunteer.
- Provide opportunities for all to speak. Two or three brief examples for a question are sufficient, so if you are not able to add something new to a question then just wait. Also if you sense you have answered several questions in a row, sit a couple out.

Various Standards

Our curriculum and assessments are aligned to a number of standards, if you are able to talk about experiences in terms of the standards please do so. The four big sets follow, but others include technology standards (ISTE), content specific standards (for teacher preparation such as NCTM, NCTE, NASD), and SC College and Career Standards (P12 learners).

CAEP Standards: these are typically broader and applicable to all content areas and student populations. The CAEP standards are the focus of the following pages.

InTASC (Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium) Standards: These standards were written to provide a model for knowledge and skills all teachers should develop to ensure positive impact on P12 learners. There are ten standards placed in one of four themes. Although coursework and assessments are aligned with this standards, we do not necessarily talk about our work in these terms. If you can refer to the themes a couple of times that will help.

(https://ccsso.org/sites/default/files/2017-12/2013_INTASC_Learning_Progressions_for_Teachers.pdf or <https://ccsso.org/resource-library/intasc-model-core-teaching-standards>)

The Learner and Learning: 1. Learners Development; 2. Learning Differences; and 3. Learning Environments

Content: 4. Content Knowledge and 5. Application of Content

Instructional Practice: 6. Assessment; 7. Planning for Instruction; and 8. Instructional Strategies

Professional Responsibility: 9. Professional Learning and Ethical Practice and 10. Leadership & Collaboration

SCTS 4.0 Rubric: This is the state teacher assessment system. Although Winthrop has maintained a locally developed rubric for the Internship experience, we have aligned all assessments with the expectations in the SCTS 4.0 Rubric. The primary reasons were: a) the alignment of all field assessment rubrics back from the Internship II rubric which was built around the skills a candidate needed at graduation and b) the SCTS 4.0 rubric has many skills within each rubric item and our rubric tries to break these appropriately to provide more actionable feedback to candidates.

Instruction: Standards & Objective; Motivating Students; Presenting Instructional Content; Lesson Structure and Pacing Activities and Materials; Questioning; Academic Feedback; Grouping Students; Teacher Content Knowledge; Teacher Knowledge of Students; Thinking; Problem Solving

Planning: Instructional Plans; Student Work; Assessment

Environment: Expectations; Managing Student Behavior; Environment; Respectful Culture

Professionalism: Growing and Developing Professionally; Reflecting of Teaching; Community Involvement; School Responsibilities

Unit Standards: These are the locally defined guidelines for our work across all programs. They are aligned with the previous sets and many times are the basis of our discussions. These were established with our stakeholders as we were reconsidering the teacher education program. This process and these standards ultimately led to the structure we have today (especially for Education Core Coursework). <https://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/coe/UnitStandardsOct2016.pdf>

Diverse Needs of Learners

Learning Environments

Technology

Assessment

Instruction and Learner Engagement

Literacy

Professional Learning and Ethical Practice

In addition to these standards the Teacher Education Program has defined four Dispositional Areas that help guide our examination of candidate readiness. These dispositions are attitudes, values, and beliefs that are demonstrated through verbal and non-verbal behaviors as professionals interact with students, clients, colleagues, families, and communities. Graduates of the College of Education are expected to uphold the highest standards of the profession as they relate to other professionals and the constituents they serve. Although example subskills are provided for each category

(<https://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/coe/2014DispositionsPDSAAssessmentRev.pdf>) the four primary categories are *Commitment, Integrity, Communication, and Fairness*. Candidates complete self-reflections; faculty evaluations are conducted in key courses; and field expectations are tied to these categories.

Themes:

After examining the feedback we have already received, there are two areas that seem most problematic for us. As you are in sessions please consider ways that you might provide examples and support for what we do.

1. **Diversity of Placements.** Traditionally programs track an individual student and make the case that the individual student has had opportunities to work with diverse students. Although we are able to track (and will share examples on site) by individual students, our approach to this requirement is to define experiences. Specific courses have themes so that we have systematically ensured that in early clinical all candidates explore poverty, English Learners, and students with exceptionalities. In the Developmental Sciences course candidates are in a school with high concentrations of individuals that are considered low-SES working primarily with a single learner or engage at the Boys and Girls club in tutoring. In the Intro to English Learners Course the candidate is placed in a school with sufficient EL populations so that the candidate is assigned a single EL, but designs co-taught lesson with his/her needs in mind. Likewise in a course provided as an Intro to Students with Exceptionalities, each candidate plans a co-taught lesson where the needs of a student with exceptionalities is considered. After admission to the Teacher Education Program, programs consider diversity of disciplinary areas, grade levels, and other characteristics to ensure candidates are prepared through a variety of school placements. We refer to these later experiences as Field Experience, Internship I, and Internship II. These experiences are content specific. Coupled with these are a semester in which the candidates are focusing on technology integration and another on Positive Behavior Supports.
2. **Technology.** There were a number of questions related to how we prepare candidates for the various uses of technology. This concern was triggered by the fact that although our completer and employer surveys are overwhelmingly positive, technology was identified as an area where more exposure would be helpful. Please consider technology use for: instruction, student engagement, communication with parts, assessment, and general management. Consider examples where you have opportunities to use technology in the field and in courses. Be prepared to give impressions of how well prepared you feel.

Thoughts/experiences you would like to share based upon information above:

CAEP Group Interview Information
~ Standard 1: Candidate Knowledge, Skills, and Professional Dispositions ~

- 1.1 – *Understanding of InTASC standards* (the learner and learning; content; instructional practice; and professional responsibility)
- 1.2 – *Use research and evidence* (understand teaching profession; measure student progress; explore individual professional growth)
- 1.3 – *Content Expertise* (program recognition; appropriate content knowledge)
- 1.4 – *Content Expertise with eye on equity* (knowledge of appropriate p12 standards; commitment to rigorous expectations for each and every student)
- 1.5 – *Technology* (model and apply technology standards; design, implement and assess learning; use technology to improve learning and enrich practice)

Highlights from Self-Study	Questions from CAEP Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All assessments aligned with InTASC, SCTS 4.0, CAEP, and content standards, as appropriate • Strong documentation of use of evidence and research (<i>would be good to have examples</i>) • Lesson planning and requirements for use of appropriate standards • Use of data from courses and field to consider change in candidate experiences or course content • Multiple opportunities to use technology noted as a strength (<i>However, technology overall was a concern.</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of the programs have the appropriate national or state recognition • Consider your impression of content as well as pedagogy preparation • Take any opportunities to talk about how you have used technology in a variety • Consider the themes in the Unit Standards and InTASC standards, what are some example experiences you have had? • Might be asked about your knowledge of SCTS 4.0 expectations. • Do you have examples of support you have received (preparing for Praxis, edTPA, coursework, etc.)

Thoughts/experiences you would like to share based upon information above:

CAEP Group Interview Information
~ Standard 2: Clinical Partnerships and Practice ~

- 2.1 – *Partnerships for Clinical Preparation* (co-construct partnerships; focus on continuous improvement)
- 2.2 – *Clinical Educators* (co-select/prepare/evaluate school and university-based educators who positively impact candidate development)
- 2.3 – *Clinical Experiences* (collaboratively design experiences for candidates to impact diverse student learners; multiple assessments throughout program)

Highlights from Self-Study	Questions from CAEP Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback opportunities and structures that allow stakeholder participation in planning and decision making (<i>Students just need to know that we work with partners</i>) • Structures for evaluating teacher candidates in the field (<i>role of hosts; response to needed changes in early field rubric; team approach to internship; feedback through surveys and rubrics</i>) • Connection between courses and field expectations (<i>have some examples if possible</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we ensure 100% of students have diverse placements? <i>Diversity in our districts; specific experiences with low-SES, ELs, and students with exceptionalities in early clinical; diversity in grade levels and content courses—Talk about your personal experiences</i> • How do we prepare for and ensure candidates are capable of integration technology (in teaching, assessment, management, etc.)? <i>Definitely need examples here of how host and mentor teachers include candidates in use of technology across experiences. Impressions of your readiness. Try to give examples in courses beyond technology course.</i> • Examples of how we have used data to improve clinical experiences. <i>We included changes in Early Clinical Rubric to support developmental feedback; addition of the Supplemental Education Experiences (similar to Continuing Education Units) for candidates; trying full-semester versions of EDCO201 and 202; expanding EDCO 200/601 to include opportunities to explore community; changing EDCO 350 (behavior management course) to have level specific sections.</i> • Other topics that may be questioned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Role of co-teaching in the field experiences</i> ○ <i>Availability of online resources.</i> ○ <i>Processes for working with a teacher candidate who is struggling.</i>

Thoughts/experiences you would like to share based upon information above:

CAEP Group Interview Information
~ Standard 3: Candidate Quality, Recruitment, and Selectivity ~

- 3.1 – *Plan for Recruitment of Diverse Candidates who Meet Employment Needs* (focusing on area school needs)
- 3.2 – *Candidates Demonstrate Academic Achievement* (Admission to Teacher Education Program)
 - Undergraduate Candidates and MAT Accelerated Pathway must have: 2.75 GPA; at least C or better in early EDCO coursework; meet testing requirement (ACT, SAT, or Praxis Core) in reading, writing, and mathematics; reflect on dispositions
 - Graduate Candidates must have: 3.0 GPA; at least C or better in early EDCO coursework; reflect on dispositions
- 3.3 – *Additional Selectivity Factors* (monitor and assess non-academic or dispositional qualifications)
- 3.4 – *Selectivity During Preparation* (candidates must maintain admission GPA listed above in 3.2; successfully complete EDCO and program coursework with minimum stated grade; acceptable field evaluations; passing Praxis Subject Assessment before Internship II)
- 3.5 – *Selection At Completion—Content* (Praxis Subject Assessment; acceptable internship evaluation; edTPA for certification)
- 3.6 – *Selection At Completion—Professional Standards* (understands the expectations of the profession, including codes of ethics, professional standards of practice, and relevant laws and policies)

Highlights from Self-Study	Questions from CAEP Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The college has a recruitment plan to focus on increasing enrollment and retention. • We provided data on students by program, gender, and race. • Support of programs such as Ambassadors, Teacher Cadet, Teaching Fellows, Call-Me-MISTER, and WISE. We set goals associated with EL teachers, STEM, and SPED. <i>(If you have experience with any of our efforts please have an example prepared)</i> • Talked about retention efforts such as test prep and program-specific mentoring. • Have a process for monitoring dispositions that includes student self-reflection, faculty evaluation at key stages, use in Admission to Teacher Education process, and link to field evaluations. <i>(Students need to know dispositions, where was this discussed?)</i> • Specifically mentioned strength on Internship Evaluations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The original report looked at statewide shortage areas and our related efforts. This includes but is not limited to Special Education, STEM, Middle Level, and Physical Education. Further, we talked about the need areas identified for SC Teachers Loan. The reviewers asked what local needs were. In the response we talked about how the state needs were actually more severe than local needs and tried to make the case we see our mission as preparing for statewide needs. However, we were able to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the recently funded program to explore teacher residencies in targeted partner districts; ○ the current work to add additional Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) options (SPED, MLED, ELEM, and ECED); ○ BS in Educational Studies to support individuals with a two-year degree prepare for MAT; ○ NEXT LEVEL grant working on ESOL Certification and endorsements; ○ hire of new Pre-college Program Coordinator; ○ new recruitment and retention committee in college; ○ regular meetings with admissions; and ○ looking at add-on options for special education and other cohort programs. • The reviewers are confused about the MAT-Traditional vs MAT-Accelerated pathways. Bottom line is we have one MAT degree and two pathways. The traditional pathway was designed for career changers or individuals that seek certification later. While accelerated pathway allows undergraduate students in some areas to seek certification as a blended process across the undergraduate and MAT degrees. <p>Topics for Candidates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ambassador program</i> • <i>Why you came to Winthrop</i> • <i>Supports that you have received</i> • <i>Examples where you have explored laws, ethical decision making, professional standards/expectations</i>

Thoughts/experiences you would like to share based upon information above:

CAEP Group Interview Information
~ Standard 4: Program Impact ~

- 4.1 – *Impact on P-12 Student Learning and Development* (partner districts are providing unidentifiable data on student growth such as MAP, EOC, and SLOs; individuals have shared SLO data; action research)
- 4.2 – *Indicators of Teaching Effectiveness* (Used ADEPT evaluations; case-study observations of some completers)
- 4.3 – *Satisfaction of Employers* (employer surveys and interviews)
- 4.4 – *Satisfaction of Completers* (completer surveys and interviews)

Highlights from Self-Study	Questions from CAEP Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple measures for impact on P12 learners. • Three data cycles for ADEPT (note SCTS 4.0 rubric results not available when we submitted, but completers should talk about whether they feel or felt prepared for this assessment) • We piloted instruments and have shared data with groups such as Program Advisory Council and district leaders). Our partners have made suggestions for various curricular tweaks/improvements as per our data sharing sessions. • We identified both strengths and areas in which we are looking to improve. These data were from multiple sources, which suggests the conclusions we made are reliable and accurate. • Over 96% of completers reported we equipped them to be effective in their professional roles. 	<p align="center">We do not expect questions for students in this standard.</p> <p>Note preparation in technology was an area for future examination and the CAEP Site Visit team seems concerned we are not doing what is needed. So if you have examples from your own experience, please speak up! After talking through the data with the Program Advisory Council, some of the issues may be that one can never know enough about technology, as it keeps changing. In addition, each school has different resources, so it takes time to adapt to the technologies available (or there may be very limited technology in a given school).</p> <p>Areas to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using technology to promote learning • Using technology for management of data and information • Using technology to communicate • Using technology to assess learning <p>FYI: The Teacher Preparation program is working on a Supplemental Education Experiences program that mirrors teacher expectations for Continuing Education Credits that will allow us some flexibility in providing professional development and experiences beyond coursework. Categories will include for now:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Critical Incidences (mental health, resilience, mandatory reporting, etc.) 2. Diverse Learners (right now this will be exploring IEP process per feedback but will grow) 3. Professional Practice (could include PD in schools)

Thoughts/experiences you would like to share based upon information above:

CAEP Group Interview Information
~ Standard 5: Provider Quality, Continuous Improvement, and Capacity ~

- 5.1 – *Quality and Strategic Evaluation – Multiple Measures* (Winthrop has a set of assessments that are common to all programs and this was the focus of data used)
- 5.2 – *Quality and Strategic Evaluation – Quality of Measures* (relevant, verifiable, representative, cumulative and actionable measures, and interpretations of data are valid and consistent)
- 5.3 – *Continuous Improvement – System* (compares to goals and relevant standards, tracks results over time, tests innovations, and uses results to improve program)
- 5.4 – *Continuous Improvement – Completer data* (used and shared)
- 5.5 – *Continuous Improvement – Involvement of stakeholders* (appropriate groups are involved in program evaluation, improvement, and identification of models of excellence)

Highlights from Self-Study	Questions from CAEP Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reviewers agreed that we provided a variety of measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Learner Support, Case Study, EDCO 191, Technology Integration, edTPA</i> ○ <i>Early Clinical Rubric, Field Experience, Internship I & II</i> ○ <i>Disposition, Testing Requirements (admission & certification), Enrollment/Retention</i> ○ <i>Completer/Employer Surveys, Interviews, SLOs, MAP scores, etc.</i> ○ <i>Core Curriculum, Partnership (including committees), Glossary of terms, Recruitment Plan</i> 	<p>We do not expect students will receive questions but here are a few things to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All assessments and courses are regularly reviewed by faculty and P12 partners • The programs use feedback to make changes as needed (<i>if you can sight something you are aware of please do</i>) • If you have ever engaged on a committee with faculty or gave feedback to your program feel free to mention

Thoughts/experiences you would like to share based upon information above:

Please contact Beth Costner (costnerb@winthrop.edu) or Lisa Johnson (Johnsonle@winthrop.edu) with any questions.