



FIELD EXPERIENCES OFFICE

Please note: The information in this letter applies to students in the **Education** track only.

Welcome to Martin Luther College!

The staff of the Field Experiences Office is looking forward to meeting you, getting to know you, and working with you. The purpose of this letter is to acquaint you with two of the experience courses in which you will be involved during your first year at MLC.

New at MLC: J-term

J-term (January) is a new experience beginning in 2023-24. J-term runs from January 3 – January 19, and offers time and scheduling for students to complete field experiences outside of the traditional academic semester. Education majors complete required Clinical Experiences in local schools during the J-term of the second, third, and/or fourth year of their program. Students may also complete Early Field Experience II (EFE I) during J-term.

EDU3405 Individual Field Experience (IFE) Hours

Individual Field Experience Hours are service learning opportunities found outside your other courses. The hours should be related to the work of the public ministry. To complete the course, you are required to record a minimum of 70 hours of experiences. The activities should include work in three categories: A. Congregational Service, B. Teaching and Instructional Activities, and C. Youth Service. For a complete description of IFE categories and requirements, visit mlc-wels.edu/field-experiences/ife/.

The 70 hours of experiences must be completed by the time you apply for student teaching, which usually occurs in the spring semester of your third year. All experiences must have been gained after you graduated from high school. As a result, activities you completed last summer are acceptable and may be reported for IFE hours.

EDU1401 Early Field Experience I (EFE I) January 15 - January 19

All first-year and transfer students in the Education track and Staff Ministry track will participate in EFE I from Monday, January 15, through Friday, January 19, 2024. The activities of EFE I are designed to introduce you to a variety of aspects of the teaching ministry. The activities listed below are a sampling of what you will do during the five days of EFE I.

1. Participate in small group sessions with teachers who describe the various roles of the Christian teacher.
2. Discuss selected educational articles and videos.
3. Participate in teaching brief lessons to your peers.
4. Participate in sessions on communication and interpersonal skills.
5. Develop learning activities for children.
6. Guide children from an area Lutheran elementary school in a learning activity.
7. Enjoy a variety of practical, educational activities.

The second semester begins after the conclusion of EFE I on Monday, January 22, 2024.

God's blessings. We'll see you in January!

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about information in this letter or field experiences in general, please send an email to fieldexperiences@mlc-wels.edu or call the Field Experiences Office at 507-354-8221 ext. 282.