



Faculty of Education  
University of Alberta

# Introductory Professional Term (5 Weeks) Field Experiences Final Evaluation 2011-2012

**Student Teacher: Carla Mysko**

**Dates of Field**

**Experience: Nov. 21 – Dec. 23/2011**

**ID Number: 1300275**

**School Name & Address:**

**F.R. Haythorne Junior High School  
300 Colwill Blvd.  
Sherwood Park, Alberta T8A 5R7**

**Course:** [ ] EDFX 325 – Elementary  
(Check one) [X] EDFX 350 – Secondary

**School Telephone: (780) 467-3800**

**University**

**Facilitator: Theodora Moline**

**School District: Elk Island Public**

**Subject(s) and/or**

**Grade level(s): Drama 7,8,9 DPA 7,8**

**Mentor Teacher: Monty Drozda**

For this field experience, it is recommended that the Student Teacher receive a grade of:

Credit [X]                      No Credit [ ]

December 20, 2011  
Date

[Signature]  
Signature of Mentor Teacher

Signatures indicate that the University Facilitator and Student Teacher have received and read the evaluation report.

[Signature]  
Signature of Student Teacher

[Signature]  
Signature of University Facilitator

**Distribution:**  
Students should retain the original signed Final Evaluation form for their own record. Please note that potential employers may ask for copy of this Final Evaluation.

*A copy of this form will be returned by the University Facilitator to the office of Undergraduate Student Services, where it will be retained for a period of three years; no other copies will be retained by mentor teachers, university facilitators or employees of the University of Alberta without permission of the student teacher.*

Mentor Teacher(s) – please initial each page of evaluation ND

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**Description of the school and context of teaching:** F.R. Haythorne is the largest junior high school in our district. Home to roughly 650 students in grades 7-9 Haythorne is a modern facility with a great deal of unique programs. Located in Sherwood Park, Alberta, our school benefits from it's community and a great and supportive staff.

The purpose of this Field Experience Final Evaluation document is to provide evidence and communicate information regarding Student Teacher performance based on the Knowledge, Skills and Attributes (KSAs) for Interim Certification.

**Comments reflect strengths and areas for growth in each category.**

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### **Preparation, Planning and Organization**

Mrs. Mysko was always prepared and planned for each lesson she taught. She takes great pride in the thought and execution she invests into each lesson. She is very well versed in the curriculum and was always aware of learner expectations and outcomes needing to be the forefront of each one of her lessons. She takes her planning very seriously and puts forth a great deal of effort to make sure she is meeting all of her students needs. I was always impressed by the detail she focused on when delivering her lessons. She made adjustments when she needed to and always looked at each lesson as being a building block to the next one. Over the course of her stay she was able to plan, build, and implement a new Theatre History unit for Grade 7. It was a tough unit to engage students with, but she rose to the challenge and created engaging lessons that held the interest of her students. She took pride in her creations and it showed when she was able to deliver the lesson.

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### **Teaching Skills and Strategies**

Mrs. Mysko employed several different teaching strategies during her short time at our school. She worked on several verbal ways to communicate her intentions to the students focusing on providing positive feedback and praise rather than focusing on what students had difficulty with. This was a practice I try to model myself in my classroom and Mrs. Mysko was able to continue from where I left off, always being positive and encouraging wherever she was able to.

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### **Communication**

Communication was something that we worked on together very early in the experience. Mrs. Mysko and I looked at ways we could firstly be able to gain the attention of the class and utilize "wait time" before she was able to give instruction. She experimented with several techniques until she found one that suited her personal teaching style. The "wait time" took practice and patience to achieve, but she was persistent throughout her classes and the experience helped her focus on demanding that students were attentive first before any communication could begin. Secondly, we focused on the delivery of her instructions. Like most new teachers, she began the process by trying to deliver too many instructions at one time, or assuming that instructions were obvious to Junior High students. This was a point of growth that Mrs. Mysko excelled at! She was able to take a few suggestions and notes from me and made incredible strides in her delivery in a short period of time! Once her communication improved so did her confidence and her overall lessons.

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### **Management and Classroom Climate**

The ability to manage a classroom is never easy for a new teacher. We spoke about the need not to start from scratch during this practicum but rather to continue with the classroom management routines and techniques I had already established in my classroom. Mrs. Mysko was very open to this and was able to maintain the climate of each class quite effectively and had no trouble adopting my classroom philosophy and making it her own. She noted what worked and what she needed to adapt in order to fit her teaching style. One example of this is she shared with me a concern that her voice was not as strong as mine to be heard above the drama working environment. We discussed possible ways of overcoming this and she did it though "clapping" with the students. They were able to adapt to her needs effortlessly and she commended them for it!

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### **Understanding Students' Needs**

Mrs. Mysko was always concerned about meeting the needs of all of the students in each one of her classes! She and I often discussed the challenge of inclusion in my classroom. I have several students who come from modified or special needs classrooms and have to take drama with a regular streamed class. These students are sometimes not able to grasp the concept of the assignment or simply unable to achieve the task due to the fact that they are unable to read the script. Mrs. Mysko was always interested in trying to meet the needs of these students any way she could. This was an admirable trait that I noticed in all the classes she taught. As well, she was given the task of directing 6 Grade 8 performances and 2 Grade 9 performances. Her notes were accurate for the the actors and she was able to motivate them and keep them focused for performance. The shows were very well received.

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### **Professional Qualities and Attributes**

Being a mature student Mrs. Mysko also has had the fortunate experience to have worked as part of the office staff in a school. This experience has given her the ability to fit into a staff effortlessly! She is very aware of protocol and professional behavior in a school setting because she has had to model it for several years prior to this experience. She looks and behaves like a seasoned teacher because of her past experience in the school she was with. She carries herself as a professional in the classroom and staff room. This was also evident as she attended parent teacher interviews and was professional and positive as she spoke to parents. I received several positive, professional, comments about her demeanor in these meeting from the parents I spoke with. They are happy with the instruction that was continually given to their child throughout the practicum.

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### **Reflection and Self-Evaluation**

When I was able to look at the reflections Mrs. Mysko wrote about I was impressed by her attention to detail and her willingness to self-critique. She is very aware that she is a life-long learner. She had obvious strengths coming into this course but never let that impair her ability to learn and accept any type of note about her lesson or her personal teaching style. She is a confident teacher who is always willing to listen to advice offered by an administrator, colleague, or student.

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### **Other Comments**

I am very impressed with the experience Mrs. Mysko has had during her time at our school and in my classroom. She is a teacher who has demonstrated incredible growth in a short period of time. She willingness to continue to grow and learn is a trait that will be welcomed in any school that is fortunate enough to have her. I wish her all the best and will continue to be a proud supporter of her as she enters the workforce.