

**Field Experience for Parallel Pathway Candidates**  
**SC705X: Introduction to Elementary/Middle School Counseling**

In order to successfully complete the field experience component for the Parallel Pathway program, candidates are required to enroll in SC706PA: Field Experience (1 hr.) concurrently during the semester they are enrolled in any of the following counseling courses: SC700X: Intro. To Secondary School Counseling, **SC705X: Intro. To Elem/Middle School Counseling**, SC710: Multicultural Counseling, SC715: Parenting & Parent Consultation, CE820X: Career Counseling, and/or SC860X: Leadership & Advocacy. The field experience component must be conducted within a public school setting (PreK-12) and scheduled through the Field Placement Office within the first three weeks of the semester. Candidates must follow the Field Experience Guidelines and may participate in any of the sample activities unique to the specific course and setting (see below). Each field experience should total a minimum of 16 hours within the school environment, and these hours must be verified by a school counselor or administrator on the form provided.

Following the field experience, candidates are required to complete a 2-3 page reflective paper addressing the following topics: goal/purpose of the activity (or activities), description of the activity (or activities), result or outcome of the activity (or activities), personal learning gained from observing/participating in the activity (or activities). This paper should be completed and emailed to the advisor or instructor on or before the following dates: for spring semester-May 1<sup>st</sup> and for fall semester-December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Sample Activities for SC705X:**  
**Introduction to Elementary/Middle School Counseling**

The candidate may:

- observe/interview a counselor in an elementary/middle school.
- attend a school event in an elementary/middle school.
- talk with an administrator about the biggest challenges facing elementary/middle educators and how they view the role of school counselors.
- observe/participate in a classroom guidance activity presented by a school counselor.
- observe/participate in a classroom meeting to become more aware of the issues facing elementary/middle school students.
- observe/participate in a small group counseling experience that includes students at the elementary/middle school level.
- observe/participate in a team meeting of teachers within an elementary/middle level.
- attend a staff meeting in an elementary/middle school setting.
- attend an in-service at the elementary/middle school level.

Additional activities may be included with the primary purpose being that the candidate become exposed to the role of the elementary/middle school counselor, the school counseling program, and the culture of the school setting.