

Classroom Observation Instructions

As a teacher candidate, you will be observing classrooms before completing your field experience assignment.

What are your objectives for observations?

- To observe how to organize a classroom for learning
- To observe how to manage behavior in the classroom
- To observe what should be happening in a classroom
- To become familiar with terms strategies and techniques used according to state curriculum alignment of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills

Please read each descriptor for “Texas Perspective on the Shift in Teaching and Learning.” Notice which behaviors should increase and which should decrease in present-century classrooms. Utilize this information to help complete your assigned observation forms. What do you observe in the classroom?

Texas Perspective on the Shift in Teaching and Learning	
Decrease These Behaviors in our Classrooms	Increase These Behaviors in our Classrooms
Are the students working in by themselves?	Are students collaborating and communicating with one another?
Is the teacher directing the learning?	Are the students actively involved?
Are students sorted and select according to ability grouping?	Is it expected that all students will learn?
Student differences are masked or acted upon when problematic	Student differences are studied as a basis for planning
A relatively narrow sense of intelligence prevails	Focus on multiple forms of intelligences is evident
Whole-class instruction dominates	Many instructional arrangements are used
Tests for pieces of learning	Assess for continuous improvement
Learning bits of information	Learning is relevant and connected to life and other disciplines
Time-driven	Results driven
A single form of assessment	Multiple forms of assessment used
Assessment most common at end of learning	Assessment ongoing and diagnostic

**Source -- Texas Education Agency (TEA)

Please use the **Observation Forms** to complete each observation and email to your program specialist once complete. Be sure to keep a copy for your teaching portfolio for interviews.