



## N O W Y O U K N O W

### Undergraduate Studies Program

Issue #7 September 2007

#### Ghadah's Corner: The Student -Teaching Experience

By Ghadah Hasan

It's finally here. After many courses, projects and studying, the last step before graduation has arrived. It's time for student teaching! I had senior seminar last week for the first time. I didn't really know what to expect. Senior seminar is supposed to go hand-in hand with student teaching. It helps you prepare your portfolio as well as assist in your student-teaching experience. Mr. Herschfeld, my senior seminar professor seems like a great guy. He answered some of my questions about student teaching, but still...I felt like I was really naïve to the whole thing...and honestly...I still do. We also had senior orientation last week. I met my supervisor as well as other student teachers at the same school in which I was placed. There were two other girls student teaching at Moffet Elementary School.

Although there has been a lot of preparation for student teaching, for some reason I still really don't know what to expect when I go to my first day on Tuesday. I'm hoping my co-op teacher will help me through the process of transitioning and getting to know the children as well as start my lesson planning. Looking on the bright side, Tuesday will start professional development meetings for the rest of the week and I'm kind of happy to be a part of that. This will definitely help me meet everyone as well as get a glimpse of what it's like for teachers transitioning into a new school year. Although I have feelings of anxiety and being nervous, I feel pretty confident that this experience will impact my life in a great way. This will be the first time I am part of a classroom that I can actually call "my class." Saying those words gives me a feeling of contentment and satisfaction that precisely reminds me of why I decided to be a teacher. I can't wait!



We know you are all excited about the beginning of a new academic year. We're glad to see the faces of the new and returning students. This edition of *Now You Know* is packed with tons of great information to keep you in the know at the start of a new semester. Be sure to check out ALL of the pages so you don't miss anything. Enjoy!

#### Praxis I Preparation: Procrastinate no more

Many of you have Praxis on the mind. For those of you who may have missed it, we decided to rerun the information on Praxis from our March 2007 edition of *Now You Know*.

If you have not completed Praxis I, here are some things to put on your Praxis I "to do list":

- Check out the ETS website, <http://www.ets.org/praxis/prxtest.html>

"Tests at a Glance" are documents that describe the tests. Each is 10 to 15 pages in length, describes the test and presents a few sample questions. You need Acrobat Reader to see them because the documents are in PDF files.

- Take a sample test on PLATO at home or in our Praxis Lab in the Student Resource Center in Ritter Annex 150. PLATO is ETS's practice test. The College of Education has contracted to allow our students to use it. If you need access to PLATO, come to our office and fill out a form so we can email you a username and password as well as instructions for logging onto PLATO.

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# NOW YOU KNOW

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### Which Praxis I do I take?

**In Pennsylvania, all individuals seeking teacher certification must pass three Praxis I tests (Pre-Professional Skills Tests):**

- PPST Reading Test Code 10710 or Computerized PPST Reading, Test code 5710, Pass Score: 172 (minimum - 171)
- PPST Writing Test Code 10720 or Computerized PPST Writing, Test code 5720, Pass Score: 173 (minimum - 170)
- PPST Mathematics Test Code 10730 or Computerized PPST Mathematics, Test code 5730, Pass Score: 173 (minimum - 171)

You can also pass with a composite score of 521 if individual scores are at or above the minimum.

### Which Praxis II do I take?

#### **Elementary/ Special Education certification:**

Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge - 30511

Education of Exceptional Children: Core - 20353

Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment-10011

#### **Elementary/ Early Childhood Certification:**

Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge - 30511

Early Childhood Education - 10020

Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment-10011

#### **Secondary/Social Studies:**

Social Studies: Content Knowledge- 10081

#### **Secondary/English:**

English Language, Literature, & Composition: Content Knowledge-10041

#### **Secondary/Mathematics:**

Mathematics: Content Knowledge-10061

### Which Praxis II do I take? Continued

#### **Secondary/General Science:**

General Science: Content Knowledge-10435

#### **Secondary/Biology:**

Biology: Content Knowledge- 20235

#### **Secondary/Chemistry:**

Chemistry: Content Knowledge- 20245

#### **Secondary/Earth & Space Science:**

Earth Science: Content Knowledge-20571

#### **Secondary/Physics:**

Physics: Content Knowledge-10265

#### **Business:**

Business Computer Info. Technology-10100

#### **Secondary/French K-12:**

Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge- 30511

French: Content Knowledge- 20173

#### **Secondary/German K-12:**

Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge- 30511

German: Content Knowledge-20181

#### **Secondary/Spanish K-12:**

Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge- 30511

Spanish: Content Knowledge- 10191

**French, German, and Spanish candidates have the option of taking either the PRAXIS or the ACTFL**

#### **Other Foreign Language:**

Candidates for all other Foreign Language areas should take the ACTFL test, which includes a written (when available) and oral exam that is graded on a proficiency scale rather than a point scale. Both the written and oral exams must be taken when available. The minimum proficiency to qualify is Intermediate High - Code 120. Candidates may contact the ACTFL Language Testing office at <http://www.actfl.org> or at 914-948-5100.



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A Long Way From Home – Bahia, Brazil

By Andi Terrero

From the day I became a Temple student, I knew that I wanted to study abroad. I don't think I really understood what studying abroad entailed but I knew that I wanted to satiate my curiosity for living abroad. While working in Philly last summer, I came across a flier that advertised a free opportunity to do an exchange in Brazil. Thinking that it was too good to be true, I went to the info meeting, eager to disprove the brochures that had been dispersed all around campus. Before I knew it, I soon had a trip itinerary, a departure date, a very eager host family and some very cold feet.

As I stepped off the plane, I could instantly hear the gibberish of Portuguese swirling around and the humidity bothering me in my long-sleeve shirt. I soon realized that I was not at all prepared for the situation. Even though I was scared, the best (and only) option I could think of was to keep trekking with my head held high. The first couple of months were difficult as I began to learn Baianese (the heavily-accented and guttural version of Portuguese unique to the state of Bahia). I tried new (and at times, strange!) foods, and perpetually got lost around the city while using public transportation, which I described to my host family as my "explorations." Toward the end of my time in Salvador, I became so confident in myself that I would go to the local tourist sites and interact with the American and European tourists while pretending to be a native Brazilian. Another exciting venture I undertook was teaching English in a vocational school for the disabled. It was a wonderful opportunity where I was able to get hands-on experience in a classroom, participate in a language exchange, and make some new friends.

Study abroad was a challenging experience in a good way. I realized that many people, including myself, are often afraid to initiate dramatic change in their lives for fear of inadequacy, insecurity or what they may discover about themselves. My time in Salvador, although difficult, was very humbling, and I strongly urge all students to consider spending a semester or even a couple of weeks abroad. I'm warning you though: study abroad is not for the weak of heart! So along with my encouragement, here are some tips for anyone interested or committed to a study abroad/exchange program.

What tips YOU should know about study abroad:

Research your options before settling on any specific program. And don't ever assume that you cannot afford the experience (consider programs that provide stipends or find sponsors).

Try to find a program that caters to your area of interest or research/make connections that will permit you to explore your interests while abroad.

Travel light! Because you will come back with more than you came with.

Be observant! Observe how the locals talk, what they do, what they eat, where they go, what they wear, etc. Not only will your experience be more culturally authentic, but you might just pick up some exotic new habits!

Don't be afraid to explore! Use your discretion and be safe, but find some roads less traveled...and travel!

**Editor's Note: Don't forget to meet with your advisor to plan your courses and get approval to take them in advance of studying abroad.**

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### Last Day to Drop/Add a Class:

**Monday, September 10, 2007**

- The last day to add classes with instructor approval for Fall 2007, and to have it processed is Monday, September 10, 2007. You will need an instructor's signature on a registration card, even if the class is open. Bring your signed registration card to Ritter Annex, Room 150 by the deadline to have it processed.
- If the class is closed, you will also need a green card from the department that offers the course. Bring both the signed registration card and the green card to Ritter Annex, Room 150 by the deadline to have it processed.
- The last day to drop a class is Monday, September 10, 2007. You can use OWLNet to drop your course. After September 10, students who no longer wish to be in the class will need to have a withdrawal processed. See the link for the withdrawal policy: [http://www.temple.edu/bulletin/Academic\\_policies/policies\\_part5/policies\\_part5.shtm#withdrawal](http://www.temple.edu/bulletin/Academic_policies/policies_part5/policies_part5.shtm#withdrawal)

Are you graduating in January 2008?: Graduation

Application Deadline October 15, 2007

Don't forget to submit an application to graduate by October 15, 2007. Applications are available in the Student Resource Center, Ritter Annex 150.

Registration for Spring 2008 classes begins in mid

October

Even though we just started the Fall semester, registration for Spring 2008 will be here before you know it. If you need advising for Spring, plan ahead and schedule an advising appointment. Appointments can be scheduled by coming to our office in Ritter Annex 150 or calling (215) 204-8011. See the link below for the registration calendar for Spring 2008.

<http://www.temple.edu/registrar/calendarspring.html>

### 5-Part Workshop to Land a Teaching Position!

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Sept. 25: Resume Writing 101  
Oct. 2: Portfolio Development: Online vs. Standard  
Oct. 9: The Career Fair Job Search  
Oct. 16: Winning the Interview, Part I: One-on-One  
Oct. 23: Winning the Interview, Part II: Group Interviews  
4:30-6:00 p.m. | Graduate Student Lounge in the Student Resource Center |  
150 Ritter Annex

Mock Interview Sessions start the fourth week of October and the first week of November!

College of Education  
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY  
Student Affairs  
Career Development Services

2nd Floor, Mitten Hall | [www.temple.edu/careerdev](http://www.temple.edu/careerdev) | 215-204-7981

I've been accepted into candidacy, what's next?

Be on the lookout for a Candidacy Convocation in October to find out what's next on your educational and professional journey, now that you have been accepted into candidacy.

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**Undergraduate Studies Program**

**Become a Student Ambassador for the  
College of Education**

**Student Ambassadors represent the College of Education in various activities as well as have the opportunity to be a “buddy” to incoming freshmen.**

**Open Houses:**

Student ambassadors conduct 2- or 3-minute presentations focused on their experience at Temple. What makes Temple unique? For example: student clubs, resources, diversity, friends, workshops, festivals, spring fling and internship. Open houses are often held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays in October and November at Kiva Auditorium. College presentations are usually from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

**Admitted Student Receptions:**

Student ambassadors conduct 2- or 3- minute presentations focused on their intellectual development and experience in educational courses such as methods, assessment, field experience, practicum, work-study, student teaching and social growth in extra curricular activities. These activities are often held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays in March and April at Kiva Auditorium. College presentations are usually from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

**Buddy System:**

Potential students shadow a student ambassador for a few hours on a school day. This includes visiting a class and enjoying a free lunch with a student ambassador at Johnson Hardwick. Campus tours are optional.

**College Convocation:**

Student ambassadors welcome and engage in informative conversation with incoming freshmen and parents. This is an annual event held on the final Sunday in August.

**College of Education Student Ambassador Continued**

**Campus Visitation Day:**

Student ambassadors represent the College of Education by conducting a short presentation. In addition, the student ambassador serves as a campus tour guide to middle school and high school students from the Philadelphia area in an effort to change the educational climate for under- represented students.



**Requirements:**

- College of Education student
- At least 3.0 GPA at Temple
- In good standing with Temple University

**If you are interested in this great opportunity please contact:**

**Jeannette Perez**

**Ritter Annex, Room 150**

**Jeannette.Perez@temple.edu**

Participation in the program is a great way for students to build their resume and network with other people. Upon graduation, each ambassador will be honored with the College of Education Student Ambassador Award.

**Diamond Peer Teachers Program**

**Spring 2008 Application Deadline: October 12, 2007**

The Diamond Peer Teachers Program provides upper-level undergraduates at Temple the opportunity to experience the challenges and rewards of college-level teaching, to work with faculty mentors to develop their own pedagogical skills and to provide supplemental instruction in lower-level courses.

**Did we mention that you will also get a stipend and course credit? For more information check out:**

[http://www.temple.edu/vpus/programs\\_initiatives/upperdivision/diamondpeerteachers.htm](http://www.temple.edu/vpus/programs_initiatives/upperdivision/diamondpeerteachers.htm)

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