

POLICIES FOR OBSERVING (TCED 475):

1. Observe and respect the rules of the school and classroom. Demonstrate professional behavior at all times.
2. Enter the classroom unobtrusively. Rely on the cooperating teacher to direct you to a place where you can begin your observations. Do not bring food, beverages, gum, or candy with you.
3. Leave backpacks and other paraphernalia in your car. This practice reduces the possibility of leaving personal objects behind and having to make a second entrance. Your observation form and a writing utensil are all that are needed.
4. Do not engage in conversation with your teammate (if appropriate) during the classroom visit. Use codes to identify teachers and students. Respect confidentiality.
5. If the cooperating teacher asks to see what you are writing, please comply. If a student asks what you are doing, simply respond, "I am learning about ways to become a teacher" or something similar.
6. Follow the principal's suggestions for signing in and out.
7. The practicum experience will afford you the opportunity to link formal course work to the classroom. This opportunity should be received in a positive way. Therefore, attitude is important.
8. Avoid the tendency to criticize a teaching event or episode. You are a preservice teacher. You do not have sufficient skills of information about the teacher, student(s), antecedent behaviors, etc. that are all a part of the entire realm of factors that impact teaching and learning.
9. Take advantage of the opportunity to learn from the cooperating teacher. (S)He is available to assist you in this educational journey.
10. Remember that you are a guest as well as a representative of UTM. Dress, speak, and act professionally.
11. Enjoy this experience! 😊