

## **Environmental and Sustainability Education (ESE) Inquiry into Practice**

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All teacher candidates in their second and final year of the Teacher Education Program at the University of Ottawa engage in a three-week alternative practicum experience of their choosing. The ESE Inquiry into Practice Alternative Practicum is offered to 10 interested and self-identified candidates who are committed to incorporating ESE into their emerging professional practice and identity.

Through an intensive, interdisciplinary and experiential learning field-based framework, candidates together with lead Faculty, Dr. Glithero, actively explore current ESE-related practice in the Ottawa region. Over the three-week practicum, this community of learners engages with and critically examines several classroom, schoolyard, and community-based programming spaces of ESE learning. Diverse pedagogical approaches, perspectives and theoretical foundations related to ESE, including Indigenous ways of knowing, are examined. Current Ministry and district policy frameworks related to ESE are also discussed.

Candidates work directly with Dr. Glithero over the three-week practicum, participating in learning experiences from 8:30am to 3:30pm, Monday to Friday. In the final week of the alternative practicum candidates engage in an immersive field trip experience in nature (i.e., multi-day canoe, hiking or x-country skiing trip). Candidates are expected to actively participate and critically engage in all practicum learning activities, discussions, and assigned tasks. Candidates are also expected to keep an ESE Inquiry into Practice Journal throughout the three weeks, designed in such a way as to serve as a tool to add to their professional portfolios. Finally, candidates will be supported to connect with regional and national ESE networks for ongoing professional development opportunities post practicum and upon graduation from the Teacher Education Program.