

# **English—Credential Option**

## **Early Field Experience**

### **Observation Guide**

#### **English 494/4910**

Name:

Course Section/Instructor:

Subject/Grade Level Observed:

Observe in your assigned classroom for a minimum of two hours and complete the following observation guide. You will need to complete a copy of this form for each observation. This form will help guide your observation and prepare you to write your reflection so that you can acquire a more comprehensive understanding of the teaching process in secondary schools.

1. What literature was the teacher teaching?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How did the teacher engage the students, or meet them where they are?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What opportunities (if any) did the teacher provide the students for performance?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What projects (if any) were the students working on? How did the projects connect with the literature? Were they working in groups? Independently?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What information did the teacher provide about the author/time period/genre of the literary work?

6. How did the lessons, including choice of literature, compare with what you remember from your own high school experience? With our class discussions in English 494?
7. How did the literature compare with that which you have studied in your classes at CSULA?
8. Are there any other instructional strategies that could be used to teach the same lesson/content? If so, give examples; if not, why not?
9. Think about an activity related to the study of literature that we have recently discussed in English 494. Now, if you were going to teach that same content to secondary students, describe how you would adapt or alter that activity to provide the necessary scaffolding for teaching that content to those students.
11. What literary elements (if any) was the teacher focusing on?
12. What California State Standards did the lessons support?

After you have completed this observation, use this form as a guide to write a 2-3 page reflection. This reflection should describe what you saw and should explain the differences you can see between the instruction you observed and the instruction you are receiving in this content area at the university. What steps did the teacher provide that might be missing in university classrooms? Did these steps work? If not, discuss alternative methods that might have been useful.