



FIELDWORK I

15 Hours - 1 Unit - Year 1

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Fieldwork 1 is an observational survey course undertaken in the first year of the program. The goal is to visit a wide range of Waldorf schools and classrooms. It is recommended that students experience a broad spectrum of Waldorf education regardless of their focus (grades or early childhood).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- [Course registration](https://www.greatlakeswaldorf.org/course-registration) (<https://www.greatlakeswaldorf.org/course-registration>)
- Planning meeting with advisor
- Completion of [Fieldwork 1 Proposal](#) form (advisor approval needed)
- 15 hours of classroom observation
- Completion of [Fieldwork 1 Observation Log](#)
- Observation journal (using the [Classroom Observation Guides](#))
- 5-7 page essay reflecting on their classroom visits

PLANNING YOUR CLASSROOM VISITS

Schedule a meeting with your advisor to discuss possible locations and goals for classroom visits. Keep in mind the following requirements:

- Visits to 3-6 well-established, AWSNA or Alliance Waldorf schools, at least one out-of-state
- Observation of various early childhood, grade, and/or high school teachers, who each have at least 5 years of experience
- Observation of specialty classes such as music, handwork, foreign language, or eurythmy

Observation may include a school festival or faculty meeting, but only 1 hour of such participation may be counted toward the 15 hour requirement.

FIELDWORK 1 PROPOSAL

Students are required to submit a proposal to their GLWI advisor, using the [Fieldwork 1 Proposal](#) form which includes a plan and timeline for completion of the required fieldwork hours. The advisor will review, suggest any necessary changes, ensure compliance with GLWI requirements, and sign.

OBSERVATION JOURNAL

The student will record objective observations for each classroom visited, to be shared with the GLWI advisor after completion (electronic format is preferable). When observing classes, please use the [Classroom Observation Guides](#).

ESSAY REFLECTING ON CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

Write a 5-7 page (double spaced) paper describing your personal response to what you observed. What did you learn from the observations? How will what you learned inform your teaching?