Monitoring trainees' progress during practicum activities: Problems and possible solutions

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PES 1 / 2016 2 lessons / week + extra curricular activities

observes → co-teaches → solo-teaches (min 8 lessons)

Co-op teacher

Observes +
gives onthe-spot
feedback
Weekly
meetings

Trainee

Observes Reflects
Plans Reflects

Own lesson plan

Teaches

Own choice of EPOSTLE statements

Supervisor

Weekly written feedback (+ tutorials) solo-teaches (min 12 lessons) + project

Co-op teacher

Observes +
gives onthe-spot
feedback
Weekly
meetings

Trainee

Plans Teaches

Template provided

Reflects

Own issues and topics

Supervisor

Weekly
written
feedback
Observes 1
lesson + gives
feedback
(+ tutorials)

PROBLEMS

Over-generous co-op teacher in PES 1	Lesson plans	Reflections
No supervisor visits	Not detailed enough in PES 1	Avoidance of certain EPOSTLE statements

Possible SOLUTIONS

One supervisor visit included in PES 1

Use lesson plan template

A list of 12 focused EPOSTLE statements

Implemented in 2017 - PES 1 and PES 2

Collecting student feedback



Anonymous online survey

Year	Total nº of students	Nº of responses
2016	15	13
2017	5	3

Question topics

Reflections
Lessons plans
Observations by supervisor

Supervisor actions

Co-op teacher actions

Student feedback

	2016	2017	
Weekly reflections	 EPOSTLE statements moderately helpful (PES 1) Topics of own choice very helpful (PES 2) 		
Supervisor observations	2 or 3 during PES 1 and 2		
Supervisor feedback	on reflections, lesson observations, lesson plans and discussions during <i>Seminário de Orientação</i> sessions effective or very effective		
Tutorials	Want more		
Lesson plans	Half preferred using own	All preferred using template	

Discussion and moving forward

	2018	
Weekly reflections	 Keep 12 focused EPOSTLE statements in PES 1 Keep topics of own choice in PES 2 	
Supervisor observations	One in PES 1 and one in PES 2 (time and financial constraints)	
Supervisor feedback reflections, observations, lesson plans and <i>Seminário de Orientação</i>	To continue: time consuming but very good way to monitor progress = window into the classroom	
Tutorials	Tutorials in PES 1 / 2 and during report writing - at least 6 per student (time and financial constraints)	
Lesson plans	Continue using using template	