

EVALUATING TEACHER CANDIDATES' SELF-EFFICACY & PERCEPTIONS PRIOR TO STUDENT TEACHING

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INTRO & FRAMEWORK

- There is a national shortage of 200+ SBAE teachers (Smith et al., 2024).
- 78% of teacher candidates (TCs) entered SBAE (Smith et al., 2024).
- Helping TCs build self-efficacy is important to helping them recognize their potential in SBAE (Harlin et al., 2007; Krysher et al., 2012).
- Bandura's (1977) self-efficacy theory explores how individuals build belief in their ability to succeed.

PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

PURPOSE

To assess TCs' beliefs and perceptions about teaching before student teaching.

OBJECTIVES

- Measure TCs' efficacy related to engagement, teaching strategies, and management.
- Examine relationships between TCs' desire to teach and their efficacy.

METHODS

- Descriptive survey method with 3 scales adapted from Tschannen-Moran and Woolfolk (2001).
- Overall Cronbach's Alpha of 0.94 (Nunnally, 1978).
- Items used a scale from 1 to 9.
- Census of 14 ISU Spring 2025 TCs.
- Analysis on Qualtrics and SPSS.
- ANOVA to evaluate differences between TCs who desired to teach and TCs who did not.

RESULTS

AVERAGE SCORES ON EACH SCALE ($n = 14$)

	μ	σ
Student Engagement	7.11	0.82
Instructional Strategies	7.29	0.79
Classroom Management	7.31	0.88

SCORES BASED ON DESIRE TO TEACH ($n = 14$)

	Desire to Teach		No Desire to Teach		df	p
	μ	σ	μ	σ		
Student Engagement	7.23	0.69	6.81	1.14	13	0.038*
Instructional Strategies	7.46	0.61	6.84	1.12	13	0.009*
Classroom Management	7.51	0.54	6.81	1.42	13	0.015*

CONCLUSIONS

- TCs had high levels of self-efficacy prior to student teaching.
 - May be attributed to limited day-to-day, long-term classroom experiences and could shift (Bandura, 1977).
- TCs who desire to teach have a significant and higher self-efficacy than those who do not.
 - May be due to prior performance and persuasion received from feedback in courses or field experiences (Bandura, 1977).

RECOMMENDATIONS

RESEARCH

- Use a larger sample size.
- Conduct a post or post-post throughout student teaching.
- Explore perceptions in interviews.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

- More TC experiences to build efficacy (Bandura, 1977; Kasperbauer & Roberts, 2007; Roberts et al., 2009).

REFERENCES



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