

ABSTRACT

Munawwaroh, Aliyah Safitri. 2025. Gap Between Students' Preparation and Implementation of Teaching Practicum in Magang Kependidikan Program. Faculty of Teacher Training and Education of Universitas Jambi in Academic Year 2023/2024. The first supervisor is Dedy Kurniawan, S.S, M.A. The second supervisor is Dony Efriza, S.Pd., M.Pd.

The purpose of this study is to examine the discrepancy between students' academic preparation and real-world application during the *Magang Kependidikan* teaching practicum at Universitas Jambi's English Education Study Program. The study uses in-depth interviews and a qualitative phenomenological technique to examine the experiences of six practicum teachers. The results show that even with thorough academic preparatory courses, students still face major challenges when putting their newly acquired knowledge to use in actual classroom settings. The finding shows that although student-teachers in the English Education Study Program receive comprehensive academic preparation, it includes a broad scope of subject matter of courses on key areas of teaching practice. However, significant challenges arise during teaching practicum, including limited autonomy in assessment design, classroom management difficulties, and inadequate infrastructure. These challenges highlight a clear gap between theoretical training and practical application. Student-teachers struggled to apply their training due to limited infrastructure, restricted autonomy in assessment design, and lack of practical experience in classroom management. Despite those challenges, they developed professionally through reflection and greater self-awareness. The researcher recommends exploring the student-mentor teacher relationship to help bridge the theory-practice gap and enhance future teacher competence.

Keywords: *teaching practicum, teacher preparation, magang kependidikan, experiential learning.*