

Teacher Education

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Program Purposes and Goals

The curricula for teacher education programs at WVU are the products of cooperative efforts of faculty, students, and practitioners. These groups have engaged in systematic efforts to develop teacher education programs consistent with the mission of the University, the mission of the College of Human Resources and Education, the requirements of the West Virginia Department of Education, and the recommendations of professional organizations and learned societies.

The goals of the WVU teacher education program describe the qualifications that represent the end result of teacher preparation. Graduates of the program should have these qualifications:

- Possess a commitment to and the skills for life-long learning.
- Be effective communicators.
- Recognize that teaching is a professional, moral, and ethical enterprise with well-developed ethical frameworks which facilitate effective teaching.
- Be a facilitator of learning for all students.
- Possess in-depth knowledge of both pedagogy and content, as well as an integrated understanding of these two important knowledge areas.
- Be reflective practitioners who can thoughtfully apply knowledge and experience to practice and critically examine choices.
- Be aware of and have respect for human diversity.
- Be liberally educated: value and integrate knowledge from a wide variety of fields, be creative and open to new ideas, and be able to act constructively in a world characterized by technological, cultural, and societal diversity and change.

The teacher education program is a five-year program culminating in two degrees which are awarded simultaneously; a baccalaureate degree in the content area and a master's degree in education. The program meets standards for teacher licensure in West Virginia.

Programs for Elementary Education

All students preparing to teach early and middle childhood must complete requirements for the multi-subjects K–6 program. They must also select at least one of the following specialization options.

Specializations for Grades 5-9

French
General science
English
Mathematics
Social studies
Spanish

Specializations for K-adult

Special education, multi-categorical

Specializations for Early Childhood

Birth through age four. Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten

Programs for Secondary Education, Grades 5–Adult and 9–Adult

Students preparing to teach secondary education may select approved combinations of specializations in the following subjects and grade levels.

Specializations in Grades 5–adult

English
French

General science
German
Mathematics
Social studies
Spanish

Specializations in Grades 9–adult

Biology
Chemistry
Journalism (taken as a second specialization)
Physics

Admission to Pre-Education

High school students interested in teaching careers should seek admission to the pre-education program when applying to the University. Students may also seek admission to pre-education at any point between entry and successful completion of 59 hours of approved University coursework. To be admitted to pre-education, a student must have an ACT score of 23, an SAT math and verbal combined score of 1030, or a high school GPA of 3.0. Students transferring into teacher education must also have an acceptable University GPA. Since formal admission into teacher education cannot occur until 59 hours have been completed, those students admitted to education are designated pre-education students; the general admission requirements for teacher education are described below.

Admission to Teacher Education

Students are admitted to teacher education only in the spring semester. Admissions to teacher education are limited. Within both elementary and secondary education, enrollment is limited to the capacities of specific content areas. Pre-education students are advised to consult with advisors regarding the availability of the specializations in which they are most interested.

General Requirements for Admission

To be eligible for consideration for admission to teacher education, a student must do the following:

- Complete a minimum of 59 hours of approved University coursework.
- Achieve a 2.75 grade point average (GPA) computed on all approved University work attempted, and a 3.0 GPA with no grade below a C on all work completed in professional education.
- Achieve an acceptable level of performance as designated by the State Department of Education and/or the College of Human Resources and Education on the Praxis Pre-Professional Skills Tests.
- Submit a written portfolio which includes (a) a statement that all general requirements for admission into teacher education have been met, (b) letters of recommendation from faculty in education, (c) letters of recommendation from faculty in the subject area one wishes to teach, (d) evaluation from volunteer experience, (e) passing scores on the PPST, and (f) transcript.
- * Complete successfully EDUC 200 and all its prerequisites.
- * Complete an approved volunteer or work experience with children or youth.

Admission Process

Applications for admission to teacher education are accepted and reviewed in the spring semester. Students are normally admitted to teacher education in the fourth semester. The credentials of qualified pre-education students from WVU and WVU Potomac State College will be reviewed by the admissions committee, and students are admitted to the specialization of their choice in order of decreasing portfolio scores until the specialization reaches its capacity. If space is not available in the preferred specialization, students may elect to be considered for another specialization or compete for admission in the following year. Minority students may be given special consideration for admission to the major.

Remediation Options

Students who do not meet the skill-proficiency requirements listed under General Requirements for Admission may avail themselves of the numerous remediation options on campus, including the Reading and Study Skills Laboratory and the Teaching and Learning Technologies Center.

General Retention Requirements

Teacher education students must maintain a 2.75 grade point average in all hours attempted, and 2.50 in area(s) of specialization, and with no grade below a C on all work completed in professional education. Students must achieve an acceptable score on each applicable ETS Praxis subject area test and complete all undergraduate coursework by the end of the eighth semester. As applicable, students may fulfill any additional requirements within specific program areas.

Work Taken at Other Institutions

Required professional education courses must ordinarily be taken at WVU. Students who wish to take required courses at other NCATE accredited institutions must have their courses approved by the department chairperson before registering at another institution.

Graduate/Certification Requirements

To be eligible for recommendation for the master of arts in elementary or secondary education, a student must do the following:

- Comply with the general regulations of the University concerning entrance, advanced standing, classification, examination, grades, grade points, etc.
- Complete required courses and the minimum hours of approved courses in education.
- Adhere to the patterns prescribed in completing the subject specialization(s).
- Complete requirements for the approved baccalaureate in subject specialization (for prospective secondary teachers) or multidisciplinary studies (for prospective elementary teachers and secondary science teachers).
- Present a minimum of 158 hours of approved college credit. (Thirty of these must be approved graduate hours.) A general average of 2.75 as described under General Requirements for Professional Certification must be attained for the undergraduate hours with a GPA of at least 3.0 in the graduate hours.
- Submit an acceptable professional portfolio.

General Requirements for Professional Certification

Individual candidates apply for professional certification. To teach in the public schools of West Virginia, one must hold a professional certificate issued by the West Virginia Department of Education. To be eligible to receive a professional certificate, the WVU applicant must have done the following:

- Met the minimum State requirements.
- Met the University degree requirements.
- Completed at least 45 hours of upper-division work and 30 approved graduate hours (WVU standards).
- Achieved a grade point average of at least 2.75 on the total of college credits earned, on the hours earned in professional education, and in each subject specialization, on the hours earned in professional education, and 2.5 in each subject specialization.
- Demonstrated competence in supervised practica and internship.
- Complied with the West Virginia Board of Education regulations for Teacher Certification.
- Been recommended for certification by the dean of the College of Human Resources and Education.

All candidates for professional certification in West Virginia must be United States citizens.

Reciprocal Certification Agreements

West Virginia, at the time of this publication, has reciprocal agreements with certain other states for teacher certification. Inquiries about reciprocity should be directed to the Center for Student Advising and Records, 710 Allen Hall.

Calculation of Grade Point Averages

The West Virginia State Department of Education system of calculating grade point averages for certification purposes differs in some respects from the WVU system. For certification, all coursework attempted at WVU and at other institutions of collegiate rank will be considered. If a student earns a grade of D, F, or U in any course taken no later than the term when he or she has attempted a total of 60 hours, and the student repeats this course, the second grade earned will be used in determining the grade point average. The first grade will be disregarded.

The teacher education program uses the West Virginia State Department of Education system of calculating grade point averages only for admission to teacher education programs and professional internships, and for assessing teaching field and education averages. Academic performance and eligibility for graduation are assessed by the system used by WVU and other institutions governed by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission.

Professional Education Sequence Teacher Education Program

All students enrolled in the program will complete the following professional education sequence as part of the five-year program.

Year One	Fall EDUC 100 <i>Education Colloquium*</i>	Spring Volunteering requirement**
Two	EDUC 100* Volunteering Req. **	EDUC 200 <i>Professional Inquiry</i>
Three	EDUC 301 <i>Learning I</i> EDUC 311 <i>Practicum I</i>	EDUC 312 <i>Practicum II</i>
Four	EDUC 400 <i>Instruct. Design & Eval.</i> EDUC 410 <i>Practicum III</i>	EDUC 401 <i>Managing & Organizing Learning Environments</i> EDUC 411 <i>Practicum IV</i>
Five	EDUC 612 <i>Prof. internship****</i> EDUC 602 <i>Prof. Id.: Teacher as Leader</i>	Prof. development semester*** EDUC 601 <i>Context of Education</i> EDUC 600 <i>Teacher as Researcher</i> EDUC 687 <i>Instructional practicum</i>

*EDUC 100 is a one-hour course which is to be taken in one of these semesters only. (All freshmen admitted directly to pre-education must take this in the first semester.)

**To be admitted to the major, students must document that they have had experience volunteering/working with children. This requirement may be completed during any semester or combination of semesters or summers prior to the professional inquiry course.

***In addition to the pedagogy courses listed, students also will take a capstone course in their teaching discipline and a elective graduate course during this semester.

****Thirty hours of graduate credit are earned during year five.

Other coursework in pedagogy, content, and liberal studies also is prescribed. Students accepted into pre-education will be provided with specific program information as part of the content of EDUC 100 *Colloquium* which is taken in the first year or in the fall semester of the second year. Students may also contact the Office of Teacher Education, (304) 293-0541, or the Center for Student Advising, (304) 293-2169, for information.

Elementary Education

Students preparing to be elementary teachers earn a baccalaureate in multidisciplinary studies and a master's degree in elementary education. The degrees are awarded simultaneously at the end of a five-year program which intertwines the study of liberal arts, the disciplines to be taught, and pedagogy. Graduates are eligible for West Virginia licenses to teach multi-subjects in grades K-6 and in their specialization. Students select from the following specializations: French 5–9, Spanish 5–9, math 5–9, general science 5–9, social studies 5–9, English/language arts 5–9, early childhood (pre-kindergarten to kindergarten), or special education K-adult. Because of the complexity of dual-degree licensure programs, pre-teacher education and teacher education students are advised in the HR&E Advising Center located in 710 Allen Hall. Please contact the HR&E Advising Center at (304) 293-2169 for more information about this program and its requirements.

Secondary English Education

Students preparing to be secondary English teachers earn a baccalaureate in English and a master's degree in secondary education. The degrees are awarded simultaneously at the end of a five-year program which intertwines the study of liberal arts, the discipline to be taught, and pedagogy. Graduates are eligible for West Virginia licenses to teach English/language arts in grades 5–adult. Because of the complexity of dual-degree licensure programs, pre-teacher education and teacher education students are advised in the HR&E Advising Center located in 710 Allen Hall. Please contact the HR&E Advising Center at (304) 293-2169 for more information about this program and its requirements.

Secondary Foreign Language Education

Students preparing to be secondary foreign language teachers of Spanish, French, or German earn a baccalaureate in foreign languages with a major in the appropriate language(s) and a master's degree in secondary education. The degrees are awarded simultaneously at the end of a five-year program which intertwines the study of liberal arts, the discipline to be taught, and pedagogy. Graduates are eligible for West Virginia licenses to teach Spanish in grades 5–adult, French in grades 5–adult, and German in grades 5–adult. (German must be combined with a second field.) Because of the complexity of dual-degree licensure programs, pre-teacher education and teacher education students are advised in the HR&E Advising Center located in 710 Allen Hall. Contact the HR&E Advising Center at (304) 293-2169 for more information about this program and its requirements.

Secondary Mathematics Education

Students preparing to be secondary mathematics teachers earn a baccalaureate in mathematics and a master's degree in secondary education. The degrees are awarded simultaneously at the end of a five-year program which intertwines the study of liberal arts, the discipline to be taught, and pedagogy. Graduates are eligible for West Virginia licenses to teach mathematics in grades 5–adult. Because of the complexity of dual-degree licensure programs, pre-teacher education and teacher education students are advised in the HR&E Advising Center located in 710 Allen Hall. Please contact the HR&E Advising Center at (304) 293-2169 for more information about this program and its requirements.

Secondary Science Education

Students preparing to be secondary science teachers earn a baccalaureate in multidisciplinary studies and a master's degree in secondary education. The degrees are awarded simultaneously at the end of a five-year program which intertwines the study of liberal arts, the discipline to be taught, and pedagogy. Prospective science teachers must combine two of the following options: biology 9–adult, chemistry 9–adult, physics 9–adult, or general science 5–adult. Graduates are eligible for the appropriate West Virginia license to teach science. Because of the complexity of dual-degree licensure programs, pre-teacher education and teacher education students are advised in the HR&E Advising Center located in 710 Allen Hall. Please contact the HR&E Advising Center at (304) 293-2169 for more information about this program and its requirements.

Secondary Social Studies Education

Students preparing to be secondary social studies teachers earn a degree in inter-departmental studies with a major in social studies and a master's degree in secondary education. The degrees are awarded simultaneously at the end of a five-year program which intertwines the study of liberal arts, the discipline to be taught, and pedagogy. Graduates are eligible for West Virginia licenses to teach social studies in grades 5–Adult. Because of the complexity of dual-degree licensure programs, pre-teacher education and teacher education students are advised in the HR&E Advising Center located in 710 Allen Hall. Contact the HR&E Advising Center at (304) 293-2169 for more information about this program and its requirements.