

Teacher Education Program

School of Education and Human Studies

Conceptual Framework: A Teacher-Student Dynamic of Sensitivity, Reflection and Faith

Mission Statement

The mission of the Teacher Education Program is to prepare highly effective teachers

Biology, 7-12
 Chemistry, 7-12
 Data Processing, 7-12
 Early Childhood Educ., PreK-4
 Economics, 7-12
 Elementary, K-8
 English, 7-12
 English as a Second Lang., PreK-12
 French, 7-12
 Government, 7-12
 Health, K-12
 History, 7-12
 Marketing, 7-12
 Mathematics, 7-12
 Middle Grades, 5-8
 Music Education:
 Vocal/General, K-12

Instrumental, K-12
 Physical Education, K-12
 Physics, 7-12
 Spanish, 7-12
 Special Education:
 Modified, K-12
 Comprehensive, K-12
 Early Childhood, Birth-Grade 1
 Speech Comm., 7-12
 Theatre, K-12
 Visual Art, K-12

Admission To & Continuation In The TEP And Admission To Student

Teaching

Admission to the TEP: Undergraduate students must meet the following requirements for admission to the Teacher Education Program:

1. Minimum of 24 semester hours in general education.
2. Minimum GPA of 2.5 in all course work at Union University.
3. Interview with the Teacher Education Screening Committee.
4. Field experience in education at the appropriate grade level; field experience acquired through transfer credit must be verified with a course description or syllabus indicating the total hours completed and the placement.
5. Satisfactory scores on the PPST (Reading=174, Math=173, Writing=173), **or** ACT (Composite of 22e), **or** SAT(R) (Combined score of 1020).
6. Approval of the Education Department.
7. Approval of the Teacher Education Committee.

Application to the TEP. EDU 150, Foundations of American Education, should be taken during the second semester of the freshman year or during the first semester after transfer. The application to the TEP is submitted during this course, and a 20-hour field experience in an approved setting is also completed. By completing the admission process early in the college career, a student is able to take courses that require admission to the TEP when they are offered. A student who has transferred the equivalent of EDU 150 should make application to the TEP immediately upon entrance to Union.

Continuation in the TEP. In order to remain in the TEP following admission, the student must maintain a GPA of 2.5 in all course work, in the major, and in the professional education core. A recommendation from the student's major department is required during the junior year for continuation in the TEP. As required of all graduates, the student must pass the English Proficiency Exam before accumulating 45 hours of college credit; a student transferring 45 or more hours to Union must take the examination during the first semester of attendance.

Admission to student teaching. Students must file an application in order to be admitted to student teaching before the posted deadline during the semester prior to student teaching. Applications are available in the Education Department. Other requirements for student teaching are as follows:

1. Minimum scores on all applicable portions of the Praxis II series.
2. Minimum GPA of 2.5 in all course work.
3. Minimum GPA of 2.75 in the major; some major departments require a higher minimum GPA in the major.

4. Minimum GPA of 2.75 in the professional education core.
5. Completion of the professional education core.
6. Lack no more than one course for completion of the endorsement requirements.
7. Recommendation from the major department.
8. Approval of the Dean of Students.
9. Approval of the Teacher Education Committee.

While no courses may be taken during the semester of student teaching, student teaching seminars are held on Thursday afternoon from 3:30-5:00, and **attendance is mandatory**.

Application for teacher licensure. Applications for Tennessee teacher licensure are completed during a student teaching seminar and are filed by the licensing officer with the Tennessee State Department of Education when all course work (including student teaching) is completed.

Academic Policies

Minimum GPA requirements. Minimum GPA's are listed above. Following admission to the TEP, if the GPA drops below the minimum, the student is removed from the TEP and may not take any courses that require admission to the TEP. In this case it is strongly recommended that the student repeat courses that caused the GPA to fall below the minimum required. When the GPA is at or above the minimum, the student will be submitted for readmission to the TEP.

Early field experiences. As is required by national standards and by the Tennessee State Department of Education guidelines, early field experiences are a vital part of the TEP at Union. The purpose of these early field experiences is to introduce the prospective teacher to a variety of school settings, learners, and routine activities. The knowledge and skills introduced in course work will be refined in the early field experiences.

Liability Insurance. This expense is the responsibility of the student. Options for this coverage include, but are not limited to, membership in Student Tennessee Education Association, Christian Educators' Association International, or Professional Educators of Tennessee. Liability insurance is also available through Union University. Information about each of these options is available through the Director of Teacher Education.

Appeals. The Education Department is charged with the responsibility to follow the established policies for admission to and completion of the TEP. The Teacher Education Committee, which includes representatives of the faculty from across the university, is the TEP coordinating and policy-making body for the unit and is responsible for assuring that the established policies are followed. If the student feels that established policy or practice is not being followed, the Teacher Education Committee should be contacted. The Teacher Education Committee is also the appeals committee for the TEP. All appeals for variance from established policy and practice should be presented in writing to the Dean of the School of Education and Human Studies. The Dean will consider whether the appeal may, within established policy, be granted. If the appeal has been denied by the Dean, the student may choose to direct the appeal to the Teacher Education Committee. The student should contact the chairman of the TEC and present the appeal in writing. After the TEC has considered the appeal, the student will be notified in writing of the committee's determination.

Assessment of student outcomes. To be admitted to student teaching, students must acquire passing scores on all applicable portions of the Praxis II (NTE) as determined by the Tennessee State Department of Education. The NTE should be taken at least one semester prior to the beginning of student teaching to assure receipt of passing scores.

Financial Information

In addition to tuition, a fee of \$125 will be charged all students engaged in enhanced student teaching. A fee of \$35 is charged for extended field experience. This fee is used to meet part of the expenses of the cooperating teacher stipend and travel expenses incurred by the university supervisor.

A materials fee is also charged for student teaching and appropriate courses throughout the education curriculum and elsewhere in the university to cover costs directly related to the course or laboratory. Current materials fees are indicated in the "Financial Information" section of the [catalog](#).

Programs of Study in Teacher Education

Students seeking licensure in secondary areas must complete the major in the endorsement area and the **Secondary Professional Education** consisting of EDU 150, 250, 326, Secondary methods course within the content area, 433 or 435; PSY 213, 318; SE/PSY 225.

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French 7-12: Complete the French major, Teacher Education track, as outlined in the Dept. of Language section of the [College Catalog](#) plus the Secondary Professional Education.

Government 7-12: Complete the Political Science major (including PSC 313 & 325) as outlined in the Dept. of History & Political Science section of the [College Catalog](#) plus the Secondary Professional Education.

Health K-12: Complete the Physical Education and Health major as outlined in the Dept. of Physical Education, Wellness, and Sport section of the [College Catalog](#); plus PEWS 113, 301, 322, 325, & 327; plus the Secondary Professional Education. General/Specific Core must include BIO 221 or 222; MAT 114.

History 7-12: Complete the History major as outlined in the Dept. of History & Political Science section of the [College Catalog](#) plus the Secondary Professional Education. General/Specific Core must include GEO 112, 215, or 216; PSC 211.

Marketing 7-12: Complete the Marketing major as outlined in the McAfee School of Business Administration section of the [College Catalog](#) plus the Secondary Professional Education. This program leads to dual licensure in Marketing 7-12, Economics 7-12, and Basic Business/Accounting 7-12.

Mathematics 7-12: Complete the Mathematics major (including MAT 208, 315, and 413) as outlined in the Dept. of Mathematics and Computer Science section of the [College Catalog](#) plus the Secondary Professional Education.

Middle Grades 5-8: Complete the Liberal Studies Major and Professional Education tailored for licensure 5-8 as outlined in the Dept. of Education section of the [College Catalog](#).

Music Education, Instrumental K-12: Complete the Bachelor of Music degree core with emphasis in Music Education, Track for Instrumental/Band Instructor as outlined in the Dept. of Music section of the [College Catalog](#) plus the Secondary Professional Education.

Music Education, Vocal/General Music K-12: Complete the Bachelor of Music degree core with emphasis in Music Education, Track for General/Choral Instruction as

Visual Art K-12: Complete the major in Art as outlined in the Dept. of Art section in the ... (include 216, 242, 311, 323; 2 areas in the secondary concentration may be used to facilitate this requirement): ART 325; plus the Secondary Professional Education.

Additional endorsement: Courses required for additional endorsement(s) total roughly the equivalent of a minor but include specified courses to meet the knowledge and skills as determined by the Tennessee State Department of Education. Lists of add-on requirements are available through the Director of Teacher Education.

Student Services/General Information

Academic advisor. Students are assigned an academic advisor within the major department. For example, the student seeking to teach English will pursue an English major and therefore be assigned to a member of the English Dept. as advisor.

Practicum/Student teaching supervision. Students enrolled in practicum experiences and student teaching are assigned a university supervisor who observes the student regularly in the teaching environment and provides feedback regarding strengths and areas that need strengthening. Weekly meetings are held with the student teacher and the university supervisor.

Director of Teacher Education. The Director of Teacher Education is available during regular office hours to answer questions regarding programs of study, testing requirements, teacher licensure, employment opportunities, and other topics related to the TEP. The student is responsible for scheduling an appointment with the Director of Teacher Education for a Graduation Audit during both the junior and senior years to assure completion of requirements for graduation and licensure.

Director of Clinical Experiences. The Director of Clinical Experiences is responsible for placement of all field experiences including observations, practica, and student teaching.