

EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Program Leadership

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Conceptual Framework:

A Teacher-Student Dynamic of Sensitivity, Reflection and Faith

Mission Statement

The mission of the Educator Preparation Program is to prepare highly effective educators within an environment of sensitivity, reflection, and faith.

Description of the Statement: Effective educators demonstrate knowledge in their respective fields, sensitivity to students' diverse learning needs, reflection in scholarship and inquiry, motivation of their students' becoming life-long learners, and a careful examination of their worldview and integration of the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

Candidate Outcomes

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Internship I and II

Research reports that more extensive clinical experience better prepares teachers for the P–12 classrooms of today. Therefore, students will complete a year-long internship from fall through spring semesters of the senior year in one classroom appropriate to the grade range of the license. Internship I will begin prior to the beginning of Union's fall semester so the student will be able to experience the first days of the school year. During Internship I in the fall semester, the student will be in the classroom two or three days a week while taking professional education coursework on campus the other days. This schedule will allow the student to move seamlessly from theory into practice. During Internship II, which begins when the placement school starts in January and continues through the spring semester, the student will be in the same classroom all day, every day. The student will take Problems-based Seminar during Internship II during which discussions will focus on current issues in today's classrooms. Several out-of-classroom days occur during the internship to allow the student to experience a variety of school settings and grade levels.

Admission To and Continuation In The EPP And Admission To Internship

Admission to the EPP: Undergraduate students must meet the following requirements for admission to the Educator Preparation Program:

1. Minimum of 24 semester hours in general education.
2. Minimum GPA of 2.75 in all course work at Union University.
3. Interview with the Teacher Education Screening Committee.
4. Two dispositional evaluations completed in EDU 150.
5. 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.
6. Prior to placement in any field experience, each teacher candidate must submit to a criminal background check and fingerprinting completed by the T.B.I. in accordance with TN law. The cost is the responsibility of the teacher candidate. For procedures, see [http://www.tn.gov/education/teacher-education/teacher-education-procedures.html](#).
7. Satisfactory scores on the Core Academic Skills for Educators (CORE) tests (Reading = 156, Writing =

Liability insurance is also available through Union University. Assessment of student outcomes. Student outcomes Information about each of these options is available through the Assistant Dean for Teacher Education. The student is responsible for transportation to and from field experience. edTPA. Praxis tests measure content knowledge, and edTPA is a performance assessment of the candidate's ability to teach

Appeals. The School of Education is charged with the responsibility to follow the established policies for admission end of Internship I, and edTPA is submitted in the spring to and completion of the EPP. The EPPC, which includes representatives of the faculty from across the University, is the EPP 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 EPPC should be contacted. The EPPC is also the appeals committee for the EPP. All appeals for variance from established policy and practice should be presented in writing to the Dean of the College 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 EPPC. The student should contact the chairman of the EPPC and present the appeal in writing. After the EPPC has considered the appeal, the student will be notified in writing of the committee's determination.

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Health K–12 (add on)

Complete the Physical Education and Health major as outlined in the Dept. of Physical Education, Wellness, and Sport section of the C , for licensure, plus the Secondary Professional Education. This program leads to dual endorsements in PE K–12 and Health K–12.

History 6–12

Complete the History major as outlined in the Dept. of History section of the C , for licensure, plus the Secondary Professional Education.

Marketing 6–12

Complete the Business Administration major with concentration in Marketing as outlined in the McAfee School of Business Administration section of the C , for licensure, plus the Secondary Professional Education. This program leads to dual endorsements in Marketing 6–12 and Business Education 6–12.

Mathematics 6–12

Complete the Mathematics major as outlined in the Dept. of Mathematics section of the C , for licensure, plus the Secondary Professional Education.

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 C , plus the Secondary Professional Education Core.

Music Education, Vocal/General Music K–12

Complete the Bachelor of Music degree core with emphasis in Music Education, Track for General/Choral Instructor as outlined in the Dept. of Music section of the C , plus the Secondary Professional Education Core.

Physical Education K–12

Complete the major in Physical Education and Health as outlined in the Dept. of Physical Education, Wellness, and Sport section of the C , for licensure, plus the Secondary Professional Education.

Physics 6–12

Complete the Physics or Physical Science major as outlined in the Dept. of Physics section of the C , for licensure, plus the Secondary Professional Education.

School Social Worker, PreK–12

Complete the major in Social Work to include SW 340 and complete SW 490 in a school setting, as outlined in the Social Work section of the C ,

Spanish PreK–12

Complete the Spanish major, Teacher Education track, as outlined in the Dept. of Language section of the C , plus the Secondary Professional Education.

Special Education Interventionist K–8 and 6–12 and Comprehensive K–12

Complete the major in Special Education and the Professional Education tailored for licensure in Special Education as outlined in the School of Education section of the C . To add Elementary K-5, take UNI 300 and either GEO 215 or 216.

Speech Communication 6–12 and Theater K–12 dual endorsements

Complete the Theatre and Speech major with Teacher Licensure emphasis as outlined in the Dept. of Communication Arts section of the C , plus the Secondary Professional Education.

Visual Art K–12

Complete the major in Art as outlined in the Dept. of Art section in the C , for licensure, plus the Secondary Professional Education.

Additional endorsement

Courses required for additional endorsements total roughly the equivalent of a minor but include specified courses to focus on knowledge and skills as determined by the Tennessee State Department of Education. The State's Licensure Policy (2015) includes guidelines for adding endorsements based on the endorsement(s) held. See the TN Department of Education's website or the Assistant Dean for current policies. Based on input from P-12 Directors of Personnel, students seeking initial licensure in the following areas are strongly encouraged to add endorsement(s) as indicated: History add-on Government and/or Economics and/or Geography; Biology, Chemistry, or Physics add-on another science area; Physical Education add-on Health and/or another area.

Student Services/ General Information

Academic advisor. Students are assigned an academic advisor within the major department.

Practicum/Internship supervision. Students enrolled in practicum experiences and the internship are assigned a University coach who observes the student regularly in the teaching environment and provides feedback regarding strengths and areas that need strengthening. Regular meetings are held with the intern and the University coach.

Assistant Dean. The Assistant Dean 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 EPP. The student is responsible for scheduling an appointment with the Assistant Dean for a degree audit prior to October 1 of the junior year when internship applications are due to assure completion of requirements for graduation and licensure.

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