



GRADES 4 THROUGH 8 CERTIFICATION

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING PROGRAM

The mission of the middle level certification program at Moravian College is to prepare knowledgeable and competent professionals who become educational leaders. We provide a comprehensive approach to mentoring pre-service teachers through teaching and research addressing the specific affective and cognitive needs of adolescents. Middle level certification candidates complete a liberal arts core of studies, an academic major in Mathematics, Science, English, History, or an approved interdisciplinary combination; education courses for teacher certification; and a sequence of field experiences that are developmentally appropriate, linked directly to education coursework, in a variety of educational settings. Moravian's middle level pre-service teachers are knowledgeable about the organization and philosophy of middle school education, adolescent development, the fourth through eighth grade curriculum, skills necessary for middle level instruction, use of data for assessment, effective classroom management strategies, current skills in the use of educational technology, and the design of successful interventions responsive to the needs of individual middle level students.

Course Requirements

Professional Education Courses Required for Certification

- EDUC 501 Young Adult Literature
- EDUC 502.2 Intro. to the Education of English Language Learners (spring)
- EDUC 503 Student Development & Instructional Design (40 hr Stage 1&2 Field Exp)
- EDUC 507 Culture, Community & Diversity: Intro. to Critical Pedagogy (40 hour Stage 1&2 Field Experience/ fulfills M3)
- EDUC 520.2 Interventions for Middle Level Learners
- EDUC 530.2 Computer Technology in the Classroom
- EDUC 534 Including Students with Disabilities (spring)
- EDUC 550 Social Studies for Middle Level Learners
- EDUC 551 Science for Middle Level Learners
- EDUC 552 Mathematics for Middle Level Learners
- EDUC 553 Literacy for the Middle Level Learner
- EDUC 558.2 Pre-Student-Teaching Field Experience (75 hour Stage 3 Field Experience)

EDUC 559.2 Pre-Student-Teaching Field Experience (75 hour Stage 3 Field Experience)

EDUC 571 Issues in Middle Level Education

EDUC 575-7 Student Teaching

Teacher Action Research

- EDUC 500 The Teacher as Inquirer
- EDUC 506 The Teacher as Researcher
- EDUC 508 The Teacher as Evaluator
- EDUC 700 Curriculum Development and Action Research
- EDUC 701 Writing a Review of Educational Research
- EDUC 702 Reflective Practice Seminar
- EDUC 704-5 Literacy-Based Action Research Thesis

The Field Experience Program

The purpose of the field experience is to provide students with appropriate classroom experiences at each level of their coursework. These experiences are meant to assist the student in determining whether teaching is an appropriate career choice. For those who decide to pursue teacher certification, field experiences will progress from early field experiences to pre-student teaching to student teaching. All field experience is directly related to material presented in the sequence of education courses. The Education Department's director of field experiences is responsible for securing all field placements.

Cooperating teachers for field experiences hold appropriate certification and are selected for their willingness and ability to mentor, their excellence in teaching, their knowledge of teaching practice, and their devotion to the teaching profession. The cooperating teacher or any field experience provides a valuable opportunity for students to observe a teaching professional and participate in a classroom setting.

The Early Field Experience (Stage 1& 2: Observation and Exploration) is an opportunity for the student to become familiar with classroom teaching and responsibilities under extensive support and direction. Students in the Elementary Middle Level program enrolled in EDUC 503 and 507 will participate in field experiences and are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours in a classroom for each.

The Pre-Student-Teaching Experience (Stage 3) is an opportunity for the student, before student teaching, to experience daily classroom activities as well as planning and presentation of lessons. Students enrolled in EDUC 558.2 and 559.2 will complete a minimum of 75 hours per semester in the fall and spring prior to student teaching.

The Student Teaching Experience (Stage 4) is the culminating experience of the teacher-preparation program. Its purpose is to help the student develop into a competent professional. Student teaching is physically and psychologically exhausting, but it is also satisfying. It is a full-time commitment and will consume most of the student's time in the semester in which it occurs. It takes place under the supervision of qualified program faculty and cooperating teachers. Student teachers will have two experiences (different grades and different schools) over the semester. All placements are in Pennsylvania schools near the College. In addition to daily classroom experience, students enrolled in EDUC 571, Seminar for Middle Level Education, are required to attend a weekly seminar with their College supervisors.

Clearance Requirements

There are three clearance checks required of ALL STUDENTS by the Pennsylvania Department of Education at every level of Field Experience. These are: FBI Federal Criminal History Record, Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check, and Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance. Students will be placed in field experiences only if all background checks are clear of record. Clearances must be updated annually and valid for the entire field placement. Unless clearances have been updated, students will be unable to register for Education courses with field experiences.

In addition, all students must have a TB test within three months of the start of any field placement.

Program Advisors

Middle Level Certification Advisor: Dr. Joseph Shosh
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Education Department Chair: Dr. Joseph Shosh
(610) 861-1482 | shoshj@moravian.edu

Post-Baccalaureate Advisor: Dr. John Dilendik
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Important Guidelines

- Students must have an overall GPA of 2.7 in order to take education courses numbered above 510.
- All education courses must be completed prior to beginning student teaching. No other courses should be taken during the student teaching semester.
- Students must have prior written approval by the program coordinator if they plan to complete any of these courses at another institution.

The Requirement for Basic Skills Assessment

Students in all Pennsylvania Instructional I teacher certification programs must successfully complete basic skills assessments in reading, mathematics and writing. Currently there are two testing options. You may take either the Pearson PECT Pre-service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA) or the ETS Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators (CORE) exams. Please consult test provider websites for additional information regarding test content, testing locations and registration procedures. See: <http://www.pa.nesinc.com>, select 'tests', then 'PAPA' and/or <https://www.ets.org/praxis/about/core/>.

Students may qualify for exemption from the basic skills assessment exams based on their SAT or ACT scores. Please contact the Education Department regarding exemptions and other test related questions you may have.

Candidates are encouraged to take the PAPA or CORE exams prior to or during the sophomore year. If not exempt, all teacher certification

candidates will be required to pass these tests prior to admission into the teacher certification program and participation in any Stage 3 Field Experiences.

For additional information, contact Dr. Joseph Shosh at 610 861-1482, or email at shoshj@moravian.edu.

Testing Requirements for Middle Level (4-8)

1

Basic Skills Assessments (Administered by Pearson or ETS):

***PAPA Modules: Reading/Math/Writing**

*or **CORE Modules: Reading/Math/Writing**

*or testing **EXEMPTION** based on SAT/ACT scores

*REQUIRED PRIOR TO Acceptance into Teacher Certification Program and Participation in STAGE 3 PST Field Experiences.

2

****ETS Content Area Tests**

Grades 4-8: Core Assessments (Combined) (5152)

In Pedagogy (5153)

English Language Arts & Social Studies (5154)

Mathematics and Science (5155)

PLUS Subject Modules for the area(s) you plan to teach:

Subject Concentration English Language Arts (5156)

Subject Concentration Social Studies (5157)

Subject Concentration Mathematics (5158)

Subject Concentration Science (5159)

**REQUIRED PRIOR TO CERTIFICATION IN PENNSYLVANIA.



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