

CERTIFICATION
GRADES 4 THROUGH 8

THE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR MIDDLE LEVEL CERTIFICATION

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 squence 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.

Important Guidelines

- Students must complete all foundation (100 level) courses with grade C or better in order to continue taking upper level courses. Two 100-level courses require an early field experience. They may not be taken in the same semester. Students in middle level certification programs should take Education 100.2 in their first term of study at the College.
- Students must have an overall QPA of 2.7 in order to take education courses at the 200 level or above.
- All education courses must be completed prior to the start of student teaching. No other courses should be taken during student teaching which is completed in the senior year.
- Any of the above courses which you plan to complete at another institution must have prior written approval of the program coordinator.

Professional Education Courses Required For Certification

Recommended for the first year

EDUC 100.2 Intro. to the Education of English Language Learners (fall)
EDUC 160 Culture, Community & Diversity: Intro. to Critical Pedagogy (spring; 40 hour Stage 1&2 Field Exp. / M3)

Recommended for the sophomore year

EDUC 130 Student Development & Instructional Design (40 hr. Stage 1&2 Field Exp.)
EDUC 131 Young Adult Literature (spring only, fulfills M2 requirement)
EDUC 140.2 Computer Technology in the Classroom

Recommended for the junior year

EDUC 244 Including Students with Disabilities (fall)
EDUC 332 Mathematics for Middle Level Learners (spring, with 359.2)
EDUC 333 Literacy for the Middle Level Learner (spring, with 359.2)
EDUC 359.2 Pre-Student-Teaching Field Experience (spring, 75 hour Stage 3)

Recommended for the senior year

EDUC 232.2 Interventions for Middle Level Learners (fall only)
EDUC 330 Social Studies for Middle Level Learners (fall, with 358.2)
EDUC 331 Science for Middle Level Learners (fall, with 358.2)
EDUC 358.2 Pre-Student-Teaching Field Experience (fall, 75 hour Stage 3)
EDUC 371 Issues in Middle Level Education
EDUC 375-7 Student Teaching Experience (spring, Stage 4 field)

Major Requirements and the LinC Curriculum

Students seeking certification in middle level education (grades 4 through 8) must complete a major in mathematics, elementary general science, English, history, or historical studies, or they may complete a pre-approved interdepartmental major in mathematics/general science, mathematics/English, or general science/English. Students must also complete the College's program of general education, Learning in Common. Students must select MATH 125 to fulfill the requirement in Quantitative Reasoning (F2) and ENVR 112 to fulfill the lab science requirement (F4). (Students majoring in mathematics, mathematics/general sciences, or mathematics/English are exempt from taking MATH 125.) In the Multidisciplinary (M) categories, students must take History 113 to fulfill the Historical Studies (M1) requirement; EDUC 131 to fulfill the Literature (M2) requirement; EDUC 160 to fulfill the Ultimate Questions (M3) requirement; POSC 110 to satisfy the Economic, Social, and Political Systems (M4) requirement; and IDIS 110 to fulfill the Cultural Values and Global Issues (M5) requirement. The Aesthetic Expression (M6) requirement is waived for these students. In addition, elementary/middle level education students must complete one of the two Upper-Division (U) categories, which may be a part of the major; the other is waived.

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 130 and 160 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 358.2 and 359.2 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 371, Issues in 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.

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 inSTAGE 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.

The Basic Skills Assessment Requirement

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 Basic Skills Test (PAPA or CORE) 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 be enrolled in any 300 level and above courses in Education and any Stage 3 Field Experiences.

Moravian College is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and is an institutional member of the Association for Continuing Higher Education. The information in this document is provided for the assistance of the student. It is accurate at the time of printing but is subject to change from time to time as deemed appropriate by the College in order to fulfill its role and mission, or to accommodate circumstances beyond its control. Any such changes may be implemented without prior notice and without obligation, and unless specified otherwise, are effective when made.

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