Middle School Education (Grades 4-8) | Major

"The education department has prepared me in so many ways to be ready for my own classroom. They have given me great advice that I will take with me forever, and I know I can come to them with questions even after I have graduated."—Ryan Ludwig '12 Northumberland, P.A.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS IN BRIEF

Alvernia University is dedicated to the ideals of service in the helping professions. Alvernia's Middle School (Grades 4-8) Education program is grounded in adolescent development and enables students to gain the knowledge and experience to work successfully with family members and the broader community. It combines a sound liberal arts background with field work and studies in young adolescent growth and development, curriculum, methods and materials. Designed to meet new Pennsylvania State Department of Education and national standards, the program prepares students for certification in middle school education.

Students are offered the opportunity to obtain certification in one of the following areas:

- Social Studies
- English/Language/Reading
- Mathematics
- Science and English/Language/Reading
- Math and Social Studies
- Math and English/Language/Reading
- Math and English/Language/Reading with Special Education
- Math and Science

RELATED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The **Alvernia Education Association** seeks to provide its student members with opportunities to enrich their college experience and prepare them for careers in education. Alvernia University students and professors commonly work together on service projects within local schools. The Education Association hosts guest lecturers, special activities coinciding with college-sponsored events, and special events that enable participants to gain knowledge and skills specific to the education field.

Pi Lambda Theta Honor Society's mission is to honor outstanding educators and inspire them to be effective leaders who address critical issues in education.

The **Council for Exceptional Children** is dedicated to individuals with disabilities and their families through service activities in the local community and through access to professional organization activities at the state and national level.

CAREER SUCCESS

Alvernia Education graduates are employed in virtually all schools in Berks County, and in many schools throughout the Middle Atlantic region, nationally and internationally. Our Career Services staff provides assistance with resume preparation, interview skills and job and graduate school searches. Students obtaining a dual certification are particularly marketable after graduation.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Students are admitted into the Education Department and are fully accepted when all of the following criteria have been met:

- Successful completion of 48 credit hours
- Six (6) semester credit hours (or the equivalent) of mathematics
- Three (3) semester credit hours (or the equivalent) in college level English Composition
- Three (3) semester credit hours (or the equivalent) in college level English/American Literature
- Successful completion of the PRAXIS I Tests
- Faculty recommendation
- Minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher
- Entrance application into Education Program

All Education students must complete observations in the school, pre-student teaching and student teaching. All coursework must be completed prior to student teaching. Applicants for the student teaching assignment must have the approval of the Education Department and an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher. Each candidate for certification must take the PRAXIS II before student teaching and must pass the PRAXIS II Subject Tests before applying for an Instructional I Certificate.

*For current information on education curriculum, please visit www.alvernia.edu/academics/professional-programs/education

CONTACT INFORMATION

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