



RECOMMENDED ACADEMIC PLAN

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION B.A. with PA GRADES PK-4 & SPECIAL EDUCATION PK-12 CERTIFICATIONS

Program Info: 93 credits, pre-student teaching (150 hours), student teaching (2 placements total of 14 weeks). See the program requirements on the back side of the page.

FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
Recommended Courses	Sem/Year	Grade	Recommended Courses
Year 1 priorities: clearances for field experience, min grade and GPA requirements			
Year 1	SRH 101 SEARCH Seminar: Enduring Questions (3 cr.) SPE 110: Overview of Human Exceptionalities (3 cr.) MAT 105: Math for Teachers: Principles of Mathematics (3 cr.) COM 101: Composition & Research (3 cr.) THE 105: Foundations of Theology (3 cr.)		ED 110: The Teaching Profession (3 cr.) MAT 106: Math for Teachers: Geometry (3 cr.) PSY 101: Introductory Psychology (3 cr.) HIS course (3 cr.). PHI 105: Introduction to Philosophy (3 cr.) COM Elective (3 cr.)
Year 2 priorities: teacher candidacy, min grade and GPA requirements			
Year 2	ED 204: Human Development and Learning (3 cr.) ENG elective (3 cr.) MAT 208: Probability & Statistics (3 cr.) BIO 102: Fundam. of Biology/BIO 109: Human Biology (3 cr.) Foreign Language I (3 cr.)		ED 209: Planning & Preparation (3 cr.); pre-reqs: ED 110, ED 204 SPE 345: Individuals Requiring Complex Supports (3 cr.) THE/PHI (200-400) (3 cr.); ethics/morality @ 200 level Foreign Language II (3 cr.) Art/Music/Theater (3 cr.) PATH elective or Course in minor (3 cr.)
Year 3 priorities: clearances for field experience, min grade and GPA requirements			
Year 3	ED 313: Managing Classroom Learning Communities (3 cr.); pre-req: ED 209 ED 320: Assessment and Evaluation (3 cr.) SPE 315: Teaching Reading/Language Arts to Students with Disabilities (3 cr.); pre-req: ED 209 SPE 335: Supporting Neurodiversity & Mental Health in Today's Schools (3 cr.) SPE 343: Personal Management & Technologies (3 cr.); pre-req: SPE 345 THE/PHI (200-400) Elective (3 cr.)		ED 302: Principles of Writing Instruction (3 cr.); pre-req: SPE 315 ED 370: Introduction to Inclusive Instruction for English Language Learners (3 cr.); pre-req: ED 209 ED 445: Principles of Universal Design for Learning (3 cr.); pre-reqs: ED 209, SPE 110. SPE 410: Evaluation & Progress Monitoring with Special Needs Students (3 cr.) SPE 420: Secondary-age Students with Special Needs (3 cr.) SPE 425: Legal & Prof. Practices in Special Education (3 cr.)
Year 4 priorities: All ED courses with field hours, student teaching, min grade and GPA requirements, PA Educator Certification Test (PECT), job search documents			
Year 4	ED 403: Reading Methods for Elem. Inclus. Classroom (3 cr.) ED 404: Teaching Math in the Elementary School (3 cr.) ED 414: Teaching Social Studies in Elementary School (3 cr.) ED 440: Teaching Science in Elementary School (3 cr.) ED 436: Field Experience III (150 hours) (3 cr.) (Note that all ED courses this semester are co-reqs.) PATH Elective (3 cr.)		ED 470: Student Teaching (14 weeks; 2 placements) (10 cr.) ED 472: Student Teaching Seminar (2 cr.) (Note that all ED courses this semester are co-reqs.) PATH Elective (3 cr.) Note re. Year 4 non-ED courses: All Year 4 ED courses have a considerable amount of fieldwork which may interfere with taking an on-campus non-ED course. Please plan taking electives prior to Year 4.

This page explains the major requirements of the teacher preparation program. Please discuss them with your education faculty advisor.

CLEARANCES FOR FIELD EXPERIENCES

Field experiences are an integral part of the teacher preparation programs. They include course-embedded fieldwork, pre-student teaching, and student teaching. In order to participate in field experiences, education students must **submit** the following documents **at the beginning of the freshmen and junior years**:

- Pennsylvania state clearances for teachers including PA Criminal Record Check (Act 34), PA Child Abuse Clearance (Act 151), and FBI Clearance (Act 114)
- Certificate of the training completion Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse: Mandated and Permissive Reporting in Pennsylvania (Act 31)

Submit annually:

- TB screening and the University Health and Wellness requirements

Academic Compliance Office

Bernardine Hall, Office 113

Academic.Compliance@alvernia.edu

Read more at <https://tinyurl.com/edufieldreqs>

TEACHER CANDIDACY

Teacher candidacy signifies the formal admission to the teacher preparation program. Students admitted to pursue an education major at Alvernia University **must apply** for the teacher candidacy **by the end of the sophomore year**. **Mid-degree transfer students must apply** for teacher candidacy **within the first semester** of their studies at Alvernia University. Teacher candidacy status is required to enroll in upper division education courses, pre-student teaching, and student teaching.

To declare teacher candidacy, students must satisfy the following requirements:

- Earn minimum of 48 credits including 6 math, 3 English composition, and 3 American/British literature credits with earned Grade C or better. Please refer to the program coursework requirements in the Catalog.
- Earn a cumulative GPA 3.0 or better.
- Satisfy the field experience requirements.
- Submit the application for the teacher candidacy to the Education Department for review and obtain approval.

STUDENT TEACHING

Student teaching is the major milestone in the teacher preparation program. To be admitted to student teaching, a student must satisfy the following requirements:

- Complete the general education core, related requirement, special education (SPE) and professional education (ED) courses except ED 470 and ED 472 with Grade C or better. Please refer to the program coursework requirements in the Catalogue.
- Earn a cumulative GPA 3.0 or better.
- Satisfy the field experience requirements.
- Submit the application for student teaching to the Education Department for review and obtain approval.

PENNSYLVANIA INSTRUCTIONAL CERTIFICATION

During the senior year, candidates for the Pennsylvania Instructional Certificate Grades PK-4 **must take & earn a passing score on the Pennsylvania Educator Certification Test (PECT)** assessing their general knowledge, professional knowledge, and subject area knowledge. Upon successful completion of the program and certification test, students will **apply for their Instructional I Certificate** through Pennsylvania Teacher Information Management System.