Your accredited education program at SUNY Fredonia prepares you well for a career in teaching. If you are an undergraduate, you have opportunities to be in school classrooms throughout your program, as you complete five field-based experiences, each connected to a course. In each field experience, you have a chance to observe how teachers and students interact, to use your own knowledge and creativity, and to develop your skills in helping students learn. If you are a graduate student, your program builds on your previous experiences and knowledge, preparing you for leadership roles as a teacher or administrator. For all students, your courses in child development, educational psychology, teaching methods, and assessment challenge you to reflect on ways you could change the lives of students in diverse, inclusive classrooms.
All children can learn, and they learn best when taught by responsive teachers. The underlying philosophy of SUNY Fredonia’s education programs reflects themes that characterize current educational reform movements.

The College of Education offers a variety of rigorous undergraduate and graduate programs leading to certification in New York State. Fredonia students are engaged in actively learning about what it means to be an educator in the 21st century through frequent early field experiences connected to educational method courses, as well as meaningful student teaching experiences. Students also have various opportunities to explore teaching and learning in various experiences connected to educational method courses, as well as meaningful student teaching experiences. 

Each adolescence program is based on collaboration with the College of Education, which oversees all programs leading to initial and professional certification. The College of Education prepares educators to serve all students, including English language learners, gifted students, and students with disabilities, giving you a highly sought-after set of skills that make you especially attractive to school districts within New York State and across the country!

You’ll also have plenty of practice in refining your skills before graduation. You begin field experiences in actual schools during your first year and continue to work with elementary, middle, and high school students throughout your undergraduate program. You complete a series of four field-based experiences in local schools, taught in conjunction with courses led by professors who specialize in their respective fields and who connect educational theory and practice. Student teaching, coordinated by the Office of Field Experiences, gives you a chance to work with a group of students over an extended period of time. Placements are available in 182 schools throughout 58 New York districts. You can also teach in New York City or Australia.

The faculty consists of nationally recognized teacher scholars who are dedicated to providing cutting-edge teacher preparation. Many faculty have been awarded national and state research grants which support the preparation of educators for critical shortage areas such as TESOL, special education, and STEM areas.

Graduates

Nationwide, there is high demand for certified special education teachers, as well as certified general education teachers with experience in inclusive settings. Fredonia graduates consistently pass the New York State certification exams at an impressive 98 percent rate, and recent graduates have enjoyed better than 90 percent employment rates immediately after graduation. College of Education graduates are employed throughout the region and across the nation.