Your accredited education program at 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 at least 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. 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.
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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 settings (rural, suburban, and urban), across grade levels, and with diverse student populations.

PROGRAMS

The College of Education's undergraduate programs lead to certification in Early Childhood (Birth—Grade 2), Childhood Education (Grades 1—6), and Students with Disabilities (Grades 1—6). Two dual certification programs—Childhood Inclusive Education (Childhood Education and Students with Disabilities) and Early Childhood/Childhood Education—afford you greater depth and breadth of expertise as well as more flexibility in job opportunities. If you’re interested in teaching Grades 7—12, you can choose from a variety of Adolescence Education degree programs at Fredonia: biology, chemistry, earth sciences, English, French, mathematics, physics, social studies, or Spanish. These programs ensure that you know your subject well and know how to teach effectively. 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 at least five 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 Western New York districts. You can also student teach in New York City or Australia.

FACULTY

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.

ALL OF FREDONIA’S EDUCATION PROGRAMS ARE ACCREDITED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ACCREDITATION OF TEACHER EDUCATION (NCATE).

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 99 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.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION – SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTNERSHIPS

Partnership schools provide clinically rich classroom experiences linking Theory to Practice.

PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to providing field experience placements for education courses and student teaching the following schools collaborate with the College of Education offering unique partnerships:

- Long-standing afterschool instruction based on individual student needs.
- Freshmen, sophomore, junior and senior level college courses taught on-site at a school followed by a field experience.
- Teaching English Language Learners in various diverse school districts.
- Competency based full year internship with 3 student teaching experiences.
- Science education courses taught at schools and in natural settings.
- Positive Behavioral Intervention Support (PBIS) workshops.
- Enhance the learning of literacy and writing in high-need schools.
- Training and implementation of certified national programs.
- Specific infant, toddler and pre-school settings.
- Special education settings with a focus on autism.

UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS

- Early Childhood Education, (Birth—Grade 2)
- Early Childhood/Childhood Education, Dual Certification, (Birth—Grade 2), (Grades 1—6)
- Childhood Education, (Grades 1—6)
- Childhood Inclusive Education, Dual Certification, (Grades 1—6 and Students with Disabilities, Grades 1—6)
- Music Education, (K—Grade 12)
- Mathematics: Middle Childhood Specialist, (Grades 5—9)
- Adolescence Education, (Grades 7—12), Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science, French, Spanish, Mathematics, English, Social Studies

ALL CHILDREN CAN LEARN, AND THEY LEARN BEST WHEN TAUGHT BY RESPONSIVE TEACHERS. THE UNDERLYING PHILOSOPHY OF FREDONIA’S EDUCATION PROGRAMS REFLECTS THEMES THAT CHARACTERIZE CURRENT EDUCATIONAL REFORM MOVEMENTS.
Your accredited education program at Fredonia prepares you well for a career in teaching. As an undergraduate, you have opportunities to be in school classrooms early in your program. Throughout your studies, you have multiple field experiences that encourage you to reflect on ways you could change the lives of students in diverse classrooms.

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 classrooms.