

DEPARTMENT OF SECONDARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATION

Hawkins Hall 404
Phone: 410-704-2562

Vision Statement

Towson University will be recognized for preparing innovative and socially just professionals who advocate on behalf of children, families, and the profession. We will empower educators with strong knowledge of research-based pedagogies, a technology-rich skillset, a deep understanding of how children, youth, and adults learn, and caring dispositions to lead and succeed in inclusive and equitable settings.

Mission Statement

The mission of Educator Preparation Programs at Towson University is to:

- Prepare the next generation of diverse educators and leaders committed to meet the individual needs of all learners.
- Advance scholarship around significant priorities in the profession.
- Collaborate with and advocate for children, families, and communities.
- Develop and implement innovative solutions to education challenges.

Programs of the Department

Declaring Secondary Education

The Department of Secondary and Middle School Education offers the following programs of study: the major in Middle School Education (grades 4–9) and certification programs in English, and history / social studies (grades 7–12).

Programs for teaching pre-kindergarten through grade 12 in Art, Dance, Music, Physical Education, Spanish and French are offered by those academic departments.

All Teacher Education programs are approved by the Maryland State Department of Education. Upon graduation in one of these programs and completion of Maryland State Department of Education content testing requirements, students are eligible to apply for certification to teach in Maryland.

The programs of education for middle and high school teachers are designed to bring about close integration between theory and practice. Students are required to apply directly to the Department of Secondary and Middle School Education. A Secondary Education adviser is required in addition to an adviser in the major for the following majors:

- English
- History
- Social Sciences
- Foreign Languages

For the Middle School Education Program, students are required to meet every term with the adviser assigned after admission.

For information, go to Hawkins Hall 404.

Declaring the Middle School Education Major

Students interested in becoming Middle School Education majors must first gain admission to Towson University. *Admission to TU does not guarantee admission to the Middle School Education program.* Students declare majors online.

All students enrolled in a Teacher Education program are required to undergo a criminal background check before participating in any internship placement.

Pre-Kindergarten through 12th Grade Teacher Education Programs

Teacher Education programs exist in the following areas for grades PreK-12:

- Art Education
- Dance Education
- Music Education
- Physical Education
- World Languages (Spanish and French)

For required courses and special program information, consult the section of this catalog dealing with the specific department and the requirements for those majors.

Master of Arts in Teaching—Secondary

Director: Dr. Pamela Wruble
Psychology Building 102
Phone: 410-704-4935
Email: pwruble@towson.edu

The Master of Arts in Teaching program is designed to prepare highly qualified post-baccalaureate students for teaching certifications in grades 7 through 12. Consult the Graduate Catalog for more information.

Admission

Admission Requirements for Teacher Education

The Teacher Education Executive Board, representing all initial teacher education programs at Towson University, utilizes the following **minimum** requirements as conditions for admission into teacher education programs, maintaining candidate status and formal entry into the capstone internship. Programs may include additional requirements for admission into the program and/or the capstone internship.

The College of Education admits students either as freshmen or as undergraduate transfer students from accredited, post-secondary institutions. During the freshman and sophomore years, students are generally engaged in pre-professional courses or courses that fulfill Core Curriculum requirements, as well as all identified prerequisites (e.g., specific and sequential courses in Core Curriculum) for admission to COE screened majors and programs.

All College of Education undergraduate programs are screened majors. As an integral part of the teaching/learning experience, students work with advisers in a strategic planning process across all years at TU.

Accordingly, to support student success, all COE students are required to confer prior to registration each term with their assigned advisers.

I. PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO ALL TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

1. Complete a self-disclosure criminal background form to be submitted to the major department with the application.
2. Submit an application for formal admission to the program. Students seeking admission to teacher education programs must contact their department chairperson or program coordinator by 45 credit hours for program-specific procedures and requirements for admission to professional education programs.
3. A cumulative/overall GPA of 3.00 or higher is required for admission to an initial licensure teacher education program.
 - i. Applicants with a GPA between 2.50 - 2.99 may be admitted conditionally if they provide evidence of passing scores on a Basic Skills Assessment* as identified by the Maryland State Department of Education (i.e. SAT, ACT, GRE, Praxis Core) and receive approval from the department chairperson/program coordinator.

**Candidates may apply for a test waiver directly to the department. Such waivers should only be granted if it is predicted, based on the individual candidate's transcript data, that the candidate's final cumulative/overall GPA will be above a 3.00.*

II. ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Students should apply for formal admission into the Middle School or Secondary Education Program when they have completed at least 45 college units.

Once a completed application is received, students in Secondary Education and Middle School Education are permitted to enroll in Principles of Secondary Education or Principles of Middle School Education, and Using Reading and Writing in the Secondary or Middle School.

Prior to program admission, students are permitted to take only Introduction to Special Education, Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on America's Urban Schools; Teaching and Learning in a Diverse Society; Education, Ethics and Change; Adolescent Learning, Development and Diversity; and Integrating Instructional Technology from the education program.

Notes for prospective Secondary Education Students:

1. Students interested in obtaining Maryland State Teaching Certification in one of the following areas: English (Grades 7-12), History / Social Studies (Grades 7-12), and World Languages (Grades PreK-12) should contact the Department of Secondary Education Chair, Dr. Heather Haverback (Hhaverback@towson.edu).
2. Students interested in Mathematics or Science and leading to Maryland State Teacher Certification in Secondary Education (Grades 7-12) can select from one of the following subject areas: Biology, Chemistry, Earth-Space Science, Mathematics of Physics. The students should contact the TU U-Teach Program director, Dr. Linda Cooper (lcooper@towson.edu).

Majors

- Major in Middle School Education
- Secondary Education Requirements

Faculty

Professors: Heather Haverback (Chairperson), Todd Kenreich, Molly Mee

Associate Professors: Ashley Lucas (Graduate Program Director), Montana McCormick, Pamela Segal

Assistant Professors: Laura Jacobs, Danielle Sutherland

Associate Teaching Professor: John Foley, Jamie Silverman

Assistant Teaching Professor: Katie Gjoni, Katie Landon, Chelsea McClure