

# Teacher Education Programs

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The Department of Teacher Education and Educational Leadership (TEEL) offers a variety of programs to students who want to teach students in Kindergarten through High School. Admission to all teacher education programs is restricted, requiring a minimum GPA, successful completion of Florida Teacher Certification Exams, and other requirements. TEEL partners with local school districts to prepare highly qualified graduates who are ready to assume classroom leadership roles. TEEL is a part of the NCATE Accredited Professional Education Unit and its teacher certification programs are approved by the Florida Department of Education.

## Exceptional Student Education (K-12) and Elementary Education (K-6) Dual Certification

This 132 hour program prepares graduates to teach children and youth with exceptionalities (K-12) and traditional elementary (K-6) students. Many aspects of the program provide the student with opportunities to work with exceptional children and in the traditional elementary classroom. Graduates of this Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) approved specialization earn FLDOE professional certification in both Exceptional Student Education and Elementary Education with ESOL and Reading Endorsements, and are certified as "highly qualified" based upon the No Child Left Behind Act. This program may be completed fully online or by combining face-to-face and online courses. For more information about this program, please see the Exceptional Student Education portion of the undergraduate catalog (<http://catalog.uwf.edu/undergraduate/exceptionalstudenteducation>).

## Elementary Education (K-6)

The traditional 124 hour FLDOE approved specialization leads directly to Florida teacher certification in Elementary Education with ESOL and Reading Endorsements for Kindergarten through Grade 6. This program is offered in a face-to-face format with some courses also being offered online. For more information about this program, please see the Elementary Education portion of the undergraduate catalog (<http://catalog.uwf.edu/undergraduate/elementaryeducation>).

## Middle and High School Subjects

Students should earn a degree in the major field of study, e.g., English, History, Biology, etc., and complete one of the following options:

### Professional Education Minor (Undergraduate Coursework)

The Minor in Professional Education is designed to provide non-education majors with the Professional Education component requisite to becoming a certified teacher in Florida. Coursework meets the requirement of the Professional Training Option and is consistent with the program requirements of Florida Department of Education Administrative Rule 6A-5.066 (Approval of Educator Preparation Programs) and includes the state required Professional Preparation outlined in Florida Department of Education Administrative Rule 6A-4.006. For more information about this program, please see the Professional Education Minor portion of the undergraduate catalog (<http://catalog.uwf.edu/undergraduate/professionaleducation>) or contact Teacher Education Student Services (TESS@uwf.edu or 850-857-6306).

## Music Education

The Bachelor of Music Education is designed for students seeking careers in the field of music education and prepares graduates to teach music in public and private schools. The degree includes Florida Department of Education certification in Music (K-12) with accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). Permission to major in music is required through audition and application to the department. For more information about this program, please see the Music Education portion of the undergraduate catalog (<http://catalog.uwf.edu/undergraduate/musiceducation>) or contact the Department of Music advisor ([music@uwf.edu](mailto:music@uwf.edu) or 850-474-2147).

## Physical Education

The Physical Education/Teacher Education Specialization prepares students to teach in public and private schools. The degree includes Florida Department of Education certification in Physical Education (K-12). For more information about this program, please see the Physical Education-Teacher Education portion of the Exercise Science and Community Health section of the undergraduate catalog (<http://catalog.uwf.edu/undergraduate/healthleisureandexercisescience>) or contact the ESCH advisor ([hles@uwf.edu](mailto:hles@uwf.edu) or 850-474-2592).