

# Education Majors

## Certification Tracks

- Early Childhood Education Major (birth – grade 3)
- Elementary Education Major (grades 1-6)
- Health Education Major (grades k-12)
- Middle School Education Major (grades 5-9)  
Concentrations: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences
- Physical Education Major (grades k-12)
- Secondary School Education Major (grades 9-12)  
Concentrations: Biology, Business, Chemistry, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Sciences
- Spanish Education Major (grades k-12)

## Non-Certification Tracks

- Education Curriculum Studies Major
- Education Minor

The Westminster College Teacher Education Program is designed so that majors complete a course of study approved by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), which will lead to recommendation for certification in the chosen major and concentration areas. Students who prepare for a teaching career must meet professional education requirements specified by DESE, as well as the program requirements of Westminster College. Final certification approval is determined by DESE and not by Westminster College. Academic certification requirements, set by DESE, consist of:

- the completion of degree program and submission of official transcript;
- a 3.0 or higher GPA in education coursework and content courses, if applicable;
- passing the appropriate State required content assessment (Praxis);
- and a summative combined student teaching evaluation score of 42 or higher.

All students seeking a certification must first be accepted into the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in order to complete their degree. To be admitted into TEP students must:

- declare their major in an education certification track;
- obtain a 3.0 or higher GPA in education coursework and content courses, if applicable;
- receive positive student disposition scores from education faculty members; and

- successfully participate in an interview process.

Once admitted to the TEP, students must remain in good standing in order to progress through the program.

All students seeking a certification must student teach in their last semester. To be admitted into a student teaching placement student must: obtain a 3.0 GPA in education coursework and in content area, if applicable;

- attempted the appropriate state required content assessment (Praxis);
- present proof of liability insurance;
- clear the Family Care Safety Registry (FCSR) background check;
- obtain a valid Missouri substitute teaching certificate;
- submit a Westminster College General Liability Release;
- complete all certification specific coursework except for EDU 490 and student teaching;
- submitted a student teaching application.

The Education Department faculty at Westminster College reserve final judgment on admission to student teaching and assignment to a placement.

# EDUCATION MAJORS

## Middle School Education (Grades 5-9)

English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences

Professors: B. Bumgarner, S. Serota  
Associate Professor: T. Ensor  
Assistant Professor: S. Hairston (chair)  
Instructor: C. Echelmeier, C. Webb, L. Williams

Contact: Dr. Sarah Hairston  
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Please refer to the Education Major Information page of the Campus Catalog for complete Education major information.

**ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS SUMMARY SHEET**

**ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025**

Major: MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATION

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Student's Last Name

First Name

Middle Initial

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