Certification Minor in Education

Students may be admitted for the certification minor in education at any time during the sophomore year or later, providing they have good academic standing at the University. A 2.0 grade point average is required in the certification minor for graduation and a 2.5 grade point average in the prerequisite courses and a 2.8 grade point average in the major is required for entry into the professional semester.

Required courses

EDUC 203 Contemporary Issues in American Education.
EDUC 301/450 Principles of Teaching Adolescents: Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
EDUC 305 Educational Psychology (pre-requisite: PSYC 100 or 101 Intro. Psychology)
EDUC 455 Language Acquisition and Literacy Development Across the Curriculum and
The Professional Semester (Student Teaching)
   EDUC 405 Seminar: The Dynamics of School Teaching
   EDUC 406 SYE: Supervised Student Teaching
   EDUC 410 Methods, Materials and Literacy Development in the Content Area
   (separate sections for each certificate area)
   EDUC 436 Individual Differences in Inclusive Classrooms
   EDUC 437 Classroom Organization and Management (0.5 credit)

The professional semester (student teaching) requires a full load of 4.5 courses in education, to be taken during one semester of the senior year. Student teaching in English, mathematics, science and social studies is offered only during the fall semester; student teaching in foreign language and art is offered only during the spring semester.

In addition to the coursework in education, students seeking teaching certification should consider taking EDUC 3006: Critical Aspects of Teaching English as a Second Language.

Admission to the Professional Semester (Student Teaching)

Students intending to student-teach in any fall semester should submit an application to the education department by March 1 of the previous semester. Students intending to student-teach during any spring semester should submit an application to the education department by October 1 of the previous semester. The faculty Academic Advising Committee will review applications. Students will be notified of admission prior to pre-registration.

Admission Criteria
1. Senior standing (or higher) at the University, verified by transcript attached to the application.
2. Satisfactory social standing at the University, verified by communication from the dean of student life and co-curricular education.
3. Satisfactory academic writing, verified by evidence that the student has cleared any prior U/W on the transcript.

Continued...
4. Satisfactory academic achievement at the University, verified by one of the following:
   • a 2.5 cumulative GPA and a 2.8 GPA in one’s major OR
   • a 3.0 average the semester before student teaching and a 2.8 GPA in one’s major OR
   • approval by the Academic Advising Committee.

5. Satisfactory completion at the 2.5 level or higher of the four prerequisite courses in education or their equivalents (EDUC 203, 301, 305 and 455).

6. Recommendation by the department of the academic major, verified by communication from the department chair or designee. (Students seeking certification in 7-12 French or Spanish must complete at least one semester abroad.)

7. Recommendation by the department of education faculty members under whom the student has studied, verified by internal communication with the department chair.

8. A portfolio evidencing successful completion of field experience requirements in the prerequisite education courses.

Students may register for the professional semester once they are admitted to student teaching by the Academic Advising Committee. Student teaching placements in the schools are arranged only by the University’s coordinator of teacher education and the school administrators. Because weekly seminars during the professional semester are required, student teaching placements are generally made within St. Lawrence County.