College of Education

Dean
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Undergraduate major: BA
Undergraduate minors: educational psychology; human relations
Graduate degrees: MA; MAT; MS; EdS; EdD; PhD
Graduate certificates: applied behavior analysis; institutional research and effectiveness; K-12 equity and inclusion; online teaching; talent development
Website: https://education.uiowa.edu/

Programs

Undergraduate Programs of Study

Majors
The College of Education offers the following undergraduate degree and programs.

Degree Program Offered
Bachelor of Arts in Education Studies and Human Relations
Within the BA in Education Studies and Human Relations, the following subprograms are available.
  • Education studies and human relations.
  • Education studies and human relations (education studies).
  • Education studies and human relations (human relations).

Department of Teaching and Learning
The College of Education also offers eight undergraduate majors in teacher education licensure areas. Students pursuing any of the undergraduate majors complete a Teacher Education Program (TEP) approved by the State of Iowa through the College of Education. See TEP Licensure [p. ] in this section of the catalog. See the Department of Teaching and Learning in the catalog for details about the majors.
The following programs are available for the BA.
  • Art education.
  • Elementary education.
  • English education.
  • Mathematics education.
  • Music education.
  • Science education.
  • Social studies education.
  • World language education.

Combined BA (Special Education Subprogram)/MA in Teaching and Learning (Special Education Subprogram)
Bachelor of Arts students interested in pursuing a graduate degree in special education may apply to the combined Bachelor of Arts with a special education subprogram/Master of Arts with a special education subprogram (K–8 instructional strategist I: mild/moderate; nonthesis) offered by the College of Education. Designed for undergraduate students majoring in elementary education who are currently enrolled in the TEP program, the combined program enables students to earn a BA and MA in five years by beginning to earn graduate credit during their last year of undergraduate study and counting up to 12 s.h. of qualifying credit toward both degrees. For more information, see Combined Programs under the BA in elementary education section of the catalog. Interested students should consult an advisor.

Minors
The College of Education offers two undergraduate minors for students who wish to be better informed about education and related fields: one in educational psychology and one in human relations, offering students an overview of various educational areas beyond, but supportive of, traditional education programs. The minors may help support students' future career objectives and benefit students in their roles as parents, taxpayers, or future members of local boards of education. View the minor in educational psychology (Department of Psychological and Quantitative Foundations) and the minor in human relations (Department of Counselor Education) in the catalog to learn more.

Graduate Programs of Study
Graduate study in the College of Education is guided by the policies of the Graduate College, with additional requirements set by the College of Education's faculty. Graduate students in education enroll in the Graduate College and receive their degrees from that college. See the Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website.

Majors
The College of Education offers the following graduate degrees and programs.

Degree Programs Offered
Department of Counselor Education
MA and PhD in counselor education; the following programs are available.
  • Clinical mental health counseling (offered in the MA).
  • Counselor education and supervision (offered in the PhD).
  • Rehabilitation counseling program (offered in the MA).
  • School counseling (offered in the MA).

Department of Educational Policy and Leadership Studies
MA, EdD, EdS, and PhD in educational policy and leadership studies; the following programs are available.
  • Educational leadership (offered in the MA, EdS, and PhD).
  • Higher education (offered in the EdD).
  • Higher education and student affairs (offered in the MA, EdS, and PhD).
  • PK–12 administration (offered in the EdD).
coursework in the student’s teaching field. Students must complete a
undergraduate coursework. The program includes 18 s.h. of graduate
program requires a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.00 in
The program leads to a master’s degree and licensure as a secondary
See the
art and sciences graduates who completed few or no professional
The MAT program is designed for academically superior liberal
foundations; the
following programs are available.
• Counseling psychology (offered in the PhD).
• Couple and family therapy (offered in the PhD).
• Educational measurement and statistics (offered in the MA and
• Learning sciences and educational psychology (offered in the MA
• School psychology (offered in the EdS and PhD).
Department of Teaching and Learning
MA, MAT, MS, and PhD in teaching and learning; the following
programs are available.
• Art education (offered in the MA and MAT).
• English education (offered in the MA and MAT).
• Literacy, culture, and language education (offered in the PhD).
• Mathematics education (offered in the MA, MAT, and PhD).
• Multilingual education (offered in the MA).
• Science education (offered in the MS, MAT, and PhD).
• Social studies education (offered in the MA and MAT).
• Special education (offered in the MA and PhD).
• STEM education (offered in the MS).
• Teaching, leadership and cultural competency (offered in the
• World language education (offered in the MAT).
Master of Arts
The College of Education offers a Master of Arts. Some of the
college’s MA programs are offered with thesis as well as without
thesis. Nonthesis programs usually provide more specialized
coursework than do thesis programs. Although a nonthesis program
is not necessarily terminal, students who expect to continue their
studies in a doctoral program are urged to select a thesis program in
order to gain more experience in research procedures. Students who
complete a nonthesis MA and are admitted to a PhD program may
be asked to submit evidence of writing and research skills to their
advisor or department during the early part of their doctoral program.
For information about programs that offer a thesis option, see the
program descriptions under “Graduate Programs of Study” in College
Education department sections of the catalog.
Coursework completed more than 10 years before the session in
which the degree is to be conferred must be evaluated to determine
how much credit may be accepted toward the degree requirements.
Students must earn at least 24 s.h. in University of Iowa courses after
formal admission to a master’s degree.
Master of Arts in Teaching
The MAT program is designed for academically superior liberal
arts and sciences graduates who completed few or no professional
education courses in their undergraduate programs. It is a nonthesis
program with requirements that range from 45 s.h. to 67 s.h. of credit.
See the MAT in teaching and learning in the catalog.
The program leads to a master’s degree and licensure as a secondary
teacher in the fields of art, English, foreign languages, mathematics,
science education, and social studies education. Admission to the
program requires a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.00 in
undergraduate coursework. The program includes 18 s.h. of graduate
coursework in the student’s teaching field. Students must complete a
minimum of 20 s.h. of graduate work in education to satisfy licensure
requirements.
Combined BA/MAT (Science Education Subprogram)
Bachelor of Arts students interested in pursuing a graduate degree
in teaching may apply to the combined Bachelor of Arts/Master
of Arts in Teaching with a science education subprogram offered
by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of
Education. The MAT with a science education subprogram is open to
any undergraduate student majoring in the sciences, but draws most
typically from students in the following majors: biology, chemistry,
environmental sciences, geoscience, mathematics, or physics. The
combined program enables students to earn a BA and MAT in five
years by beginning to earn graduate credit during their fourth year
of undergraduate study and by counting up to 19 s.h. of qualifying
credit toward both degrees. For more information, see “Combined BA/
MAT” under Science Education in the Master of Arts in Teaching,
MAT section of the catalog. Interested students should consult an
advisor.
Master of Science
The College of Education offers a Master of Science in teaching
and learning with a science education subprogram. The degree
requirements are similar to those for a Master of Arts. It also offers
the Master of Science in teaching and learning with a STEM education
subprogram.
Specialist in Education
The EdS is granted upon completion of a prescribed two-year
postbaccalaureate program designed for students preparing for
professional work in fields such as administration and supervision,
and special services. Of the minimum 60 s.h. required for the degree,
28 s.h. must be in the specialization area; the rest may be earned in
cognate fields, supervised experience, research, and elective courses.
The research must culminate in a written report.
Other requirements for the EdS are the same as for the master’s
degree, except that an EdS requires students to complete 30 s.h. of
resident work on campus after admission to the program. Coursework
completed 10 years before the final examination must be evaluated to
determine the amount of credit that may be accepted toward program
requirements.
Not all programs offer an EdS degree. For a list of programs and
degrees offered, see “Graduate Programs of Study” above.
Doctor of Education
The EdD is designed for educators seeking a terminal doctoral degree
to practice upper-level leadership in PK–20 educational settings.
Based on the scholar-practitioner model, the EdD differs from the
PhD in that it allows for a more practical-based approach, grounded
in problem-based learning pedagogy, to use and perform applied
research in educational settings. EdD students must complete 75 s.h.
post-baccalaureate, with at least 27 s.h. completed at the University
of Iowa after formal program admission. Students are expected to
already have a related master’s degree when admitted to the program
and to have been practicing in education for a minimum of three years.
Up to 36 s.h. may be transferred from the previous graduate degree for
elective credit toward the 75 s.h. to earn the EdD degree.
Doctor of Philosophy
The PhD is the most advanced academic degree. It is conferred upon
students who have demonstrated superior scholarship and mastery of
research skills in coursework as well as in the preparation and defense
of a dissertation. PhD students must complete at least 39 s.h. while
registered in the University of Iowa Graduate College and after formal program admission.

Certificates

The Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis requires 21 s.h. of graduate credit. The certificate program is open to students enrolled in University of Iowa graduate degree programs and to individuals who are enrolled in the Graduate College as nondegree students. The purpose of the certificate is to provide professionals who have a background in education, psychology, and related services with expertise in behavior intervention and intensive educational interventions. Students who complete the program are eligible for national certification as board-certified behavior analysts. To learn more or apply, see the Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis in the catalog.

The Certificate in College Teaching requires 12 s.h. of graduate credit. The certificate program is open to all University of Iowa students working toward a PhD or other terminal graduate degree. The certificate program complements discipline-oriented graduate programs and prepares students for careers in postsecondary education. It requires coursework, supervised teaching experience, and preparation of a teaching portfolio. To learn more or to apply, see the Certificate in College Teaching (Graduate College) in the catalog.

The Certificate in Institutional Research and Effectiveness (IRE) requires 15 s.h. of graduate credit and is offered with hybrid and conventional courses. The certificate program prepares professionals to use data for institutional decision-making, reporting, and accountability in higher education and K–12 contexts. This certificate amends and complements students’ competence in other areas (business affairs, information technology, student affairs, and development, among other areas) to prepare them with the skills and capabilities to use data for educational improvement, accountability, quality, and equity. To learn more or apply, see the Certificate in Institutional Research and Effectiveness in the catalog.

The Certificate in K–12 Equity and Inclusion requires 12 s.h. of graduate credit and is offered with hybrid and conventional courses. The certificate program offers educational professionals or nondegree-seeking students currently working in K–12 schools, districts, and area education agencies expertise in equity and inclusion to better support the needs and interests of a diversifying K–12 student population. To learn more or apply, see the Certificate in K–12 Equity and Inclusion in the catalog.

The Certificate in Online Teaching requires 12 s.h. of graduate credit and is offered completely online. The certificate program is open to students enrolled in University of Iowa graduate degree programs and to individuals who are enrolled in the Graduate College as nondegree students. The certificate program develops students’ skills in using technology to solve instructional problems associated with distance and time. The certificate’s online format uses the techniques and approaches that the program teaches. To learn more or apply, see the Certificate in Online Teaching in the catalog.

The Certificate in Talent Development requires 14 s.h. of graduate credit. The certificate is open to students enrolled in University of Iowa graduate degree programs and to individuals who are enrolled in the Graduate College as nondegree students. The purpose of the certificate is to increase the understanding of talented individuals, the process of talent development and the creative process, and prepare advocates for talented individuals. In addition to coursework, students design a culminating original project aligned with a career objective or personal interest. Students may use the coursework embedded in the certificate to apply to the State of Iowa Gifted and Talented teaching endorsement. To learn more or apply, see the Certificate in Talent Development in the catalog.

Professional Improvement

Students who are interested in taking courses as nondegree students should apply for nondegree status to the Graduate College. They can then be admitted by a department on a nondegree basis by contacting the department. Students must be admitted to a department in order to complete a program objective such as teacher licensure.