



# Teacher Education

## School of Education

Few professions offer the challenges, satisfactions and rewards that are available in a teaching career. One's individuality and creativity are cultivated in the exciting processes of creating opportunities for learning. The joy of watching people learn, whether children, adolescents, or young adults, is a benefit of this profession. The School of Education at UW-L offers programs that lead to licensure by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

### Undergraduate Programs

#### Elementary Education

- Early Childhood/Middle Childhood (Early Childhood minor **required**)
- Middle Childhood/Early Adolescence

#### Secondary Education

- Early Adolescence/ Adolescence
- Early Childhood/Adolescence

### Program Features

#### ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

##### Early Childhood/Middle Childhood (*Elementary Education*)

By completing general education requirements, teacher education requirements, plus the Early Childhood Education minor, students may be certified to teach students from birth to 11 years. Students are required to create a portfolio showing their competence in meeting the Teacher Education Professional Standards and fulfill assessment requirements in order to meet the Department of Public Instruction's (PI34) standards for licensure.

Students are prepared to teach in public, private, and parochial elementary schools. Students are prepared to provide instruction in all curriculum areas:

reading and language arts, general science, mathematics, and social science. The Early Childhood minor is only valid with this certification option.

##### Middle Childhood/Early Adolescence (*Elementary/Middle Education*)

By completing general education requirements, teacher education requirements, plus a certifiable minor, students may be certified to teach students from 6-13 years. Students are required to complete a portfolio showing their competence in meeting the Teacher Education Professional Standards and fulfill assessment requirements in order to meet the Department of Public Instruction's (PI34) standards for licensure.

##### Middle Childhood/Early Adolescence (*Elementary/Middle Education*)

###### Certifiable Minors

- Earth Science
- English
- English as a Second Language
- French
- General Science
- Geography
- German Studies
- History
- Mathematics
- School Health Education
- Social Studies
- Spanish
- Special Education

#### SECONDARY EDUCATION

##### Early Adolescence/Adolescence (*Middle /Secondary Education*)

Students selecting this program option must complete a major within their chosen content area. All major content area requirements and teacher education program requirements must be completed before being eligible to apply for teacher certification. Students must fulfill the teacher education requirements and one or more certifiable majors of at least 34 credits to be licensed to teach students from 10-21 years. Students are required to complete a portfolio showing their competence in meeting the Teacher Education Professional Standards and fulfill assessment requirements in order to meet the Department of Public Instruction's (PI34) standards for licensure.

##### Early Adolescence/Adolescence (*Middle /Secondary Education*)

###### Certifiable Majors

Early Adolescence/Adolescence students may be certified in any of the following majors, minors, and/or concentrations. Though not a requirement, election of an additional minor(s) or an additional major is encouraged because of the demand for teachers who are certified in more than one academic discipline.

- Biology
- Broad Field Science
- Broad Field Social Studies
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- English
- Mathematics
- Physics

##### Early Adolescence/Adolescence (*Middle /Secondary Education*)

###### Certifiable Minors

- Biology
- Chemistry

- Computer Science
- Earth Science
- Economics
- English
- French
- Geography
- German Studies
- History
- Mathematics
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- School Health Education
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Special Education

**Early Childhood/Adolescence**  
(K-12 Certification)

Students selecting this program option must complete a major within their chosen content area. All major content area requirements and teacher education program requirements must be completed before being eligible to apply for teacher certification. Students must fulfill the teacher education requirements and one or more certifiable majors of at least 34 credits to be licensed to teach students from birth – 21 years. Students are required to complete a portfolio showing their competence in meeting the Teacher Education Professional Standards and fulfill assessment requirements in order to meet the Department of Public Instruction’s (PI34) standards for licensure.

**Early Childhood/Adolescence**  
(K-12 Certification)

**Certifiable Majors:**

Certification in grades K-12 is available in the following areas:

- Art
- French
- German Studies
- School Health Education
- Music-General
- Music-Choral
- Music-Instrumental
- Physical Education
- Spanish

## Sample Courses

The following are a sample of the teacher education courses:

- Introduction to Education
- Level I Field Experience
- Understanding the Contexts of Classroom Practice
- Foundations of Public Education in the U.S.
- Field Experience II
- Literacy
- Learners with Exceptional Needs and Abilities
- Prescribed Methods in major(s)/minor(s)
- Student Teaching

## Career Opportunities

**Entry Level**

- Elementary, Middle or High School Teacher
- Kindergarten Teacher
- Nursery School Teacher
- Salesperson with Educational Publisher

**Long Term Career Development**

- Department Chairperson/ Lead Teacher
- Educational Consultant (private firm)
- Executive Director of Day Care
- Head Day Care Teacher
- National Board Certification/ Master Teacher
- Principal
- Public Relations (government or private)
- Superintendent of Schools

## Occupational Outlook

Graduates of UW-La Crosse’s Teacher Education programs enjoy a high placement rate. Career Services office personnel and faculty advisers keep abreast of professional teaching positions and can advise students about job market supply and demand, as well as actual placement information.

Graduating students with good credentials who are willing to relocate should find sufficient teaching positions available to them. Students with proficiency in more than one language are also in high demand.

Students who make a commitment to a middle level/ secondary program will find placement for teachers excellent. There are serious shortages of qualified teachers in mathematics, computer science, general science, chemistry, physics, earth science, and biology. Those preparing to teach a foreign language, music, art or speech will also find many opportunities.

Students majoring in English and the social sciences will have good opportunities for placement if they have a double major and/or a major and minor combination and are willing to relocate.

Opportunities for teachers at all levels and in most disciplines are expected to increase dramatically in the next several years. Now is a good time to begin preparing for those opportunities, and UW-La Crosse is a good place to get that preparation!

**School of Education**

235 Morris Hall

(608) 785-8122

[www.uwlax.edu/mediaservices/soe/html/soe-about.htm](http://www.uwlax.edu/mediaservices/soe/html/soe-about.htm)

