Major Information
The School’s Department of Undergraduate Teacher Education administers degrees and programs that are registered in New York. Students can earn a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and qualify for initial teacher certification in Childhood Education (grades 1-6). Students may choose the program in Elementary & Special Education and earn a Bachelor of Science in Special Education which leads to dual certification in Childhood Education (grades 1-6) and Children with Disabilities (grades 1-6). In either of those programs, students may choose to complete two additional courses and become eligible for an additional certification in Early Childhood Education (birth to grade 2).

Students may choose to prepare for all three certificates. It is possible to complete the work for all three certifications in four years by following the program of studies carefully.

All education majors choose an academic concentration in an arts or science discipline.

Field Experiences
Our philosophy is that you learn to teach by teaching. Thus, our majors begin field experiences in area schools in their first semester and have experience in elementary classrooms almost every semester. Students have almost 1,000 hours of actual classroom experience by the time they graduate.

Our Students Say…
“The diverse experiences you will be given, the energetic professors you will meet, and the close-knit campus you will set foot on will all be a part of your enriching experience as a Bonnie. With over 500 hours of teaching experience before student teaching, you too will become a professional before you know it!”

Ashleigh Donner, ‘13

“The St. Bonaventure Education Program gave me the confidence and skills I would need to become a successful teacher. I was able to go to an international job fair and find a first-year teaching job overseas in South Korea. When it was time for me to graduate, I felt completely prepared to step right into a classroom and begin working. The amazing faculty also helped me to grow as both a professional and a person.”

Becca Goess, ‘16

A building principal’s perspective:
I am impressed with the quality of elementary and special education teaching candidates graduating from your programs. Seeing St. Bonaventure credentials on an application means that the potential candidate has an excellent foundation that will prepare them for immediate success in the classroom.

Bob Woughter, Principal