



Childhood Education Programs

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 childhood education** and qualify for **initial teacher certification in elementary education** (grades 1-6). Students may add an additional certification in **(a) early childhood education** (birth-grade 2), or **(b) special education** (grades 1-6), or **(c) acquire all three**.

Students may choose to prepare for all three certificates, and can complete the work for all three in four years by following the program of studies carefully.

All education majors choose an academic concentration in one area: social studies; English; or math, science and technology.

Become Technology Proficient

The School of Education is committed to preparing technology proficient educators who can use a variety of tools to design and enrich learning environments. We challenge our students to use a broad array of technological tools for their own learning. More importantly, SBU students learn to use technologies to support the learning of the children in actual classrooms.

Our field experiences involve the use of technology in tutoring, and in small- and large-group instruction. We believe that children's learning is best supported by using a variety of approaches, materials and tools, and we focus on helping future teachers learn to evaluate, elect and design appropriate learning environments.

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.

What 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 more than 500 hours of teaching experience before student teaching, you too will become a professional before you know it!"

Ashleigh Donner, '13

"St. Bonaventure's education program gave me the confidence and skills I needed to become a successful teacher. I went to an international job fair and found a first-year teaching job overseas in South Korea. When it was time to graduate, I felt completely prepared to step right into a classroom and begin working. The amazing faculty also helped me to grow as a professional and a person."

Becca Goess, '16

A Principal's Perspective

I am impressed with the quality of the elementary and special education teaching candidates graduating from your programs. Seeing St. Bonaventure credentials on an application means the candidate has an excellent foundation that will prepare him or her for immediate success in the classroom.

Bob Woughter, Principal