Purpose of the Program

This program provides individuals who have a baccalaureate degree in a content subject the opportunity to become initially certified to teach that subject in grades 7-12 in New York. The program prepares teachers in the following subject areas: English, math, social studies, French, Spanish, biology, chemistry, physics and earth science.

Objectives & Goals

Graduates of the Adolescence Education program will:

- have acquired a strong foundation in developmental learning theories, pedagogy, principles of classroom management, and sound educational research for use in adapting curriculum and teaching to support the learning and development of all adolescents.
- have achieved mastery of content knowledge needed to create instructional opportunities that will enable and motivate all students to understand and apply knowledge, skills, and ideas to real world issues.
- be able to apply their content knowledge and skills to construct learning opportunities, supportive of a diverse student population.
- know and be able to utilize a variety of formal and informal assessment techniques to evaluate learning.
- continue to be reflective practitioners who exhibit commitment to the profession’s code of ethics.

Information about Certification

Upon completion of this program in its entirety students may apply for 7-12 certification in New York through the Office of Field Services (716-375-2357) at St. Bonaventure University.

Field Experience

During the summer or fall of their first year, and prior to Field Block, students are required to complete 30 hours of tutoring as arranged through the Office of Field Services. Students are also expected to spend two days per week in a 7-12 classroom during the Professional Development School (PDS) semester of their program prior to the student teaching semester. During the student teaching semester, students will be placed in 7-12 school settings full-time for the entire semester teaching in each placement. Student teaching is a full-time commitment for a semester. There is a placement in grades 7-9, and one in grades 10-12.

Admission Requirements*

1. A bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university. Official transcripts are required showing proof of degree and all courses taken (3.00 GPA out of 4.00 is the working standard).
2. Successful completion of at least six semester hours of university level credit in each of the following content areas: English, math, science, social studies, and a language other than English. Sign language may be used for the language requirement.
3. Thirty semester hours in an arts or sciences major in the subject area of teaching certification. Business majors do not qualify.
4. A personal interview and writing sample.
5. Two letters of recommendation: one letter related to your ability to do graduate work and one letter from someone who has observed your work with children.
6. Modern Language candidates are required to take the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) prior to or upon admission.
7. GRE, MAT, SAT or ACT score
8. Candidate must pass the NYSTCE Content Specialty Test (CST) for his/her/their concentration area.

*State law requires SBU to collect immunization records from students taking 6 or more credit hours in any semester.

Degree Requirements* (30 credits)

- SPED 510 Instructional Design and Strategies for Inclusive Education
- READ 525 Problems of Literacy in the Secondary School
- READ 560 Reading in the Content Areas
- EDUC 500 Research/Inquiry Tools for Education Professions
- EDUC 505 Technology for the Education Professions
- EDUC 510 Advanced Human Growth and Development
- EDUC 523 Designing and Delivering Instruction
- EDUC 524A-E Methods & Models for Special Subjects (take one)
- EDUC 526 Managing Instruction and Behavior
- EDUC 528 Legal and Ethical Issues for Educators
- EDUC 533 History and Foundations of Curriculum
- EDUC 540 Evaluating Learners and Learning
- EDUC 588 Secondary Student Teaching: 7-12
  (Prerequisite: all coursework completed)
- EDUC 599 Workshops (A,B,D,J) in School Safety, Cultural Diversity, Child Abuse Prevention & Anti-Bullying
- EDUC 599K Culturally Diverse Experience (0 credits)

*For course descriptions, go to www.sbu.edu/graduate.

Exit Criteria

1. A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
2. An electronic portfolio of professional growth and accomplishments
3. Successful completion of the comprehensive exam
4. Successful completion of student teaching