



GREAT IDEAS

GRADUATE STUDY IN EDUCATION

GREAT LEADERS



Making a difference in human-helping professions since 1885



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FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY, SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE HAS BEEN
A LEADER IN PROVIDING A BROAD AND BALANCED EDUCATIONAL
EXPERIENCE. HUMANICS, THE PHILOSOPHY THAT HAS INSPIRED
SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE FROM ITS BEGINNING, CALLS FOR
EDUCATING THE WHOLE PERSON—SPIRIT, MIND, AND BODY—
FOR LEADERSHIP IN SERVICE TO OTHERS.



GRADUATE STUDY IN EDUCATION

TEACHERS PLAY A VITAL ROLE in the development of children. What children learn and experience during their early years can shape their views of themselves and the world and can affect their later success or failure in school, work, and their personal lives.

Besides being knowledgeable in their subject area, teachers must have the ability to communicate, inspire trust and confidence, and motivate students, as well as understand their students' educational and emotional needs. Teachers must be able to recognize and respond to individual and cultural differences in students and employ different teaching methods that will result in higher student achievement. Teachers need to be organized, dependable, patient, and creative.

Teaching requires a mastery of content, daily ingenuity in presentation, the ability to improvise, and extreme sensitivity and respect for the unique needs of students. After all, what works for one student isn't necessarily going to work for another.

The Springfield College Education Department is committed to preparing effective teachers who will demonstrate strong critical-thinking skills, knowledge of curriculum, and reflective teaching practices. Our graduates will be prepared to create dynamic learning environments in which teaching and assessment meet the needs of students. The department strives to strengthen partnerships with the community and

foster teaching that empowers students, promotes equity, celebrates diversity, and demonstrates a commitment to the Humanics philosophy.

There is a continual demand for excellent teachers in this country. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, job opportunities for teachers over the next ten years will vary from good to excellent, depending on the locality, grade level, and subject taught. According to the National Science Teachers Association, teachers with backgrounds in the sciences, at the elementary, middle, and high school levels, are presently in high demand—and will continue to be in the foreseeable future. Currently, many school districts are looking for qualified teachers in mathematics, science, and special education.

A course of study incorporating the latest in curriculum development and learning theory, combined with extensive student-teaching opportunities, lays the foundation for the future success of not only our graduates, but those who will be their students.

Graduate study in education is designed to enable educators to earn their initial teaching license or to enhance their teaching skills in order to better serve preschools; elementary, middle, and high schools; early childhood education centers; and other educational institutions.

Interdisciplinary study characterizes the teacher-preparation program, providing adult students with greater knowledge and understanding of their profession, enhancing their ability to work with youth and their families. Challenging coursework explores current knowledge about theory, practice, educational research, technology, and multicultural issues.

The program is designed to meet the needs of each individual. This allows participants to meet all initial licensure requirements and be employed as full-time teachers within fifteen to twenty-four months. Licensure programs may be completed as stand-alone programs or in combination with a Master of Education (M.Ed.) or a Master of Science (M.S.) degree. The College also offers graduate fellowships and assistantships within a number of departments for a limited number of qualified graduate students to help provide financial assistance.

FIELD-BASED TRAINING

When it comes to learning how to be a good teacher, there is no substitute for experience. All licensure programs include rigorous field-based training experience in which participants complete a minimum of 400 hours in the field. Fieldwork starts with an observation-based pre-practicum and culminates in a full practicum that gives students the opportunity to plan, organize, and manage a classroom under the guidance of an experienced, fully certified

teacher at a participating school. A seminar conducted by Springfield College faculty is included, giving students a chance to discuss on-the-job experiences with their professors.

The Springfield College AmeriCorps Program meets fieldwork requirements while providing financial assistance. The program provides eligible students the chance to serve for one year in a Springfield public school. Benefits of service include a living stipend and a monetary education award from the Corporation for National Service. (This program is contingent upon ongoing grant funding through the Massachusetts Service Alliance.)

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Early Childhood Education Teacher Licensure Program (PreK–2)

This program prepares early childhood educators to assume teaching positions in public schools, childcare programs, private preschools and kindergartens, early intervention programs, family support and home visiting programs, and inclusive early childhood settings. It combines six courses (18 semester hours) with a full-time practicum (6 semester hours) in a school setting for a total of 24 credits. Students can opt to take an additional 9 credits for a master's degree. The semester-long, supervised practicum consists of 300 hours (100 hours at the pre-kindergarten level and 200 hours at the first-or-second-grade level), with at least one segment in a public school setting that includes students with disabilities for part of the school day.

“I was aware of Springfield College and its reputation for providing excellent programs in many human-helping fields. I currently work as an academic intervention teacher. I also run and organize two afterschool programs, and serve on a team implemented to create an anti-bullying policy for the school at which I teach. I love what I do and thank my experience at Springfield College for all of the leadership and community service skills I received.”

Ayanna Crawford G'06

Program: Education—School of Arts, Sciences, and Professional Studies

Place of Employment: Gerena Community School, Springfield, Mass.

The knowledge base for the early childhood field has expanded substantially in the past five years, and the Springfield College program that leads to licensure as an Early Childhood Teacher of Students With and Without Disabilities is established on that new knowledge base. The program addresses the need for tomorrow's teachers to be prepared to serve a far more diverse group of young children and families than at any time in the past. It gives students the opportunity to student-teach in inclusive early childhood settings which welcome young children with disabilities. With the foundation provided by the required courses, including the pre-practicum and practicum field experiences, individuals completing the program will draw from a continuum of teaching strategies in order to support the learning and development of all children.

Prerequisites:

An undergraduate degree in the liberal arts or in a field related to early childhood education; a broad background in coursework related to the primary grade knowledge of the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks; and documented experience in working with children between the ages of three and eight.

Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL) Required

All students in the Early Childhood Graduate Initial Licensure Program are required to pass the following exams prior to practicum:

- Communication and Literacy Skills exam
- Early Childhood Subject exam
- Foundations of Reading exam

Elementary Education Teacher Licensure Program (1–6)

This program prepares students for the initial license as an elementary education teacher in grades 1-6. It combines five courses (15 semester hours) with a full-time practicum (6 semester hours) in a school setting for a total of 21 credits. Students can opt to take an additional 11 credits for a master's degree. The semester-long, supervised practicum includes 300 hours in an elementary classroom and coursework designed to help educators address the complex social and emotional environments of their learners.

The program prepares teachers to create learning environments that support children in their transition to adolescence, and reflects the need for educators to have increased awareness of the social and emotional needs of elementary students and the principles for creating safe and effective schools. Educators must not only be proficient in content area knowledge and pedagogy; they must also be able to understand the complex social and emotional context of their learners. With the foundation provided by the required courses, including the pre-practicum and practicum field experi-

ences, individuals completing the Graduate Initial Licensure Program in Elementary Education will be able to create a learning environment which supports the positive social and emotional development and high academic standards that are now required within public schools.

Prerequisites:

Arts and sciences coursework covering the Elementary Teacher Subject Matter Knowledge requirement in the Massachusetts Regulations for Educator Licensure. In general terms, this includes specific coursework in English, mathematics, history and social science, science, technology/engineering, child development, visual and performing arts, physical education, and health.

Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure Required

All students in the Elementary Graduate Initial Licensure Program are required to pass the following exams prior to practicum:

- Communication and Literacy Skills exam
- General Curriculum–Multi-subject sub-test
- General Curriculum–Mathematics sub-test
- Foundations of Reading exam

Secondary Education Teacher Licensure Program

Content areas: biology (8–12), chemistry (8–12), earth science (8–12), English (8–12), history (8–12), mathematics (8–12), political science/political philosophy (8–12), visual art (5–12).

This program prepares students for the initial teaching license from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the content area of the student's bachelor's degree. The program combines six courses (17 semester hours) with a full-time practicum (6 semester hours) in a school setting for a total of 23 credits. Students can opt to take an additional 9 credits for a master's degree.

The Secondary Education Teacher Licensure Program offers several practicum placement options including:

- Working as a salaried teacher with a waiver or provisional license within Springfield Public Schools
- Participating in a nine-month pre-practicum/practicum
- Serving as a member of the Springfield College AmeriCorps Program in an appropriate classroom setting

Through this nine-month field experience, students complete a minimum of 75 pre-practicum hours and 300 practicum hours under the direct supervision of a teacher with professional status and a Springfield College faculty member.

The program prepares high school teachers to create learning environments that support young people in their transition to adulthood. The cornerstones of the program are inquiry-based

teaching methods, standards-based curriculum development, and team building strategies that enhance relationships with individuals, groups, and families. The interdisciplinary nature of the courses provides a wider frame of reference for the students as they develop a foundation in the theoretical, historical, social, and political foundations of education.

Faculty teaching courses within this program will use the students' field experience to deepen the students' understanding of behavior management; reading strategies for content area learning; teaching methods; curriculum design; assessment and evaluation; inclusion of all students; special education; and learning and teaching through technology.

Prerequisites:

A bachelor's degree in a content area appropriate to the license sought: math, English, political science, history, chemistry, biology, earth science, or visual arts.

A course in Child Development

Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure Required

All students in the Secondary Graduate Initial Licensure Program are required to pass the following exams prior to practicum:

- Communication and Literacy exam
- Content exam appropriate to license sought

Special Education Teacher Licensure Program (PreK–8 or 5–12)

For students who already have an initial teaching license at the elementary or secondary level or are concurrently enrolled in the Elementary or Secondary Initial Licensure Program, the Special Education Teacher Licensure Program leads to eligibility to teach children with learning disabilities, attention disorders, language and communication disorders, intellectual delays, and behavioral disorders. The program leads to the Massachusetts Teacher of Students with Moderate Disabilities License (grades PreK–8 or 5–12), combining coursework with a practicum in a school setting for a total of 21 credits (PreK–8) or 24 credits (grades 5–12). Students can opt to take additional credits for a master's degree.

Course content and fieldwork, consistent with Massachusetts Department of Education requirements, prepares students to work effectively in inclusion settings and special education classrooms. Coursework emphasizes the direct application of skills to the various needs of children with disabilities in classroom settings. Students are also prepared to work collaboratively with other school professionals, communicate and work in partnership with parents, and advocate for the rights of all children to an appropriate education.

The Special Education Program is designed for part-time students who wish to pursue special education licensure while working full-time with the convenience of late afternoon and early evening courses.

The program places special emphasis on: reading and language arts instruction; Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks; assessment of physical, emotional, intellectual, and social development of children and adolescents; educational terminology for students with mild and moderate disabilities; preparation, implementation, and evaluation of Individualized Education Programs; design and modification of curriculum, instructional materials, and educational environments for students with moderate disabilities; behavior management and transitional assistance for students with mild and moderate disabilities; and services provided by other agencies and federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to special education.

Prerequisites:

A Massachusetts Initial License as an elementary or secondary teacher or simultaneous enrollment in the Springfield College Graduate Initial Licensure Program at that level and a course in child development.

Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure Required

All students in the Special Education Graduate Initial Licensure Program are required to pass the following exams prior to practicum:

- Communication and Literacy Skills exam
- Content Area exam depends on grade level
- Foundations of Reading exam

Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study:

The Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study is designed for those who already hold a master's degree and a teaching license. It combines nine courses (26 semester hours), with a full-time practicum (6 semester hours) for a total of 32 credits. Specific program requirements are determined with a faculty advisor, based on previous coursework and experience.

Educational Studies (Non-Licensure) Program

Educational Studies is a flexible, non-licensure program designed to meet the needs of individuals who want to continue their education for professional development or to change careers. The program offers a master's degree upon the completion of the required coursework in an individualized Educational Studies Program or in the non-license track of the early childhood, elementary, secondary education, or special education.

The coursework covers many of the major philosophical approaches to education, including theories of multicultural education. Emphasis is on the importance of understanding and implementing, in a philosophically consistent way, a multi-ethnic approach to education in a pluralistic society. The program also addresses contemporary issues in education, including education policy, academic standards, social justice, multicultural education, special education, curriculum, and schools in a changing society.

DEPARTMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

Standards for Practicum Placement

To be eligible for practicum placement, graduate students pursuing an initial license must meet the standards listed under the policy for educator licensure programs and those listed below for all educator preparation programs.

1. Have an overall GPA of 3.0 or better.
2. Have a passing score on all required MTEL exams for license sought, i.e., Communication and Literacy Skills Test and the appropriate subject tests (where they are required).
3. Obtain a grade of "B" or better in designated methods courses.
4. Demonstrate the personal characteristics needed to become an educator, including responsibility, dependability, work ethic, professionalism, and commitment to the field of education.

Educator Licensure Information

All students entering the program will be required to meet the specific content area requirements for each program as identified by the Massachusetts Department of Education. For those seeking an educator license, the coursework will encompass the competencies required for a teacher under Massachusetts licensure regulations. Graduate candidates may be required to complete prerequisites depending on the content of their undergraduate study, so that they can fulfill the content requirements of our approved programs. Students who seek licensure must also complete the fieldwork requirement pertaining to the license for which they will apply and pass the appropriate Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL). These include the MTEL Communication & Literacy Skills test as well as all other tests required for specific licenses.

ACADEMIC STANDING AND FINANCIAL AID

Graduate students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative average in graduate-level coursework. Full-time students are expected to complete 18 credit hours per academic year. Academic reviews are conducted each semester. Students accepted to a graduate program on a probationary basis may apply for a federal Stafford Loan during this initial probationary semester of study. Students placed on or continued on probation as a result of their graduate academic record at the College are not eligible for College or federal financial assistance, including student loans. For more information, please write or call:

Springfield College
Office of Financial Aid
263 Alden Street
Springfield, MA 01109-3797
413 748 3108



FOUNDED IN 1885, Springfield College is known worldwide as the Birthplace of Basketball® and for the guiding principles of its Humanics philosophy—educating students in spirit, mind, and body for leadership in service to others. Springfield College, with its foundation of academic excellence and rich athletic heritage, prepares students with real-world leadership skills for tomorrow’s careers that transform lives and communities. A range of undergraduate and graduate degree programs are offered in fields of health sciences, human and social services, sport management and movement studies, education, business, and the arts and sciences. Doctoral programs are in physical education and physical therapy. The College is ranked in the 2010 edition of “America’s Best Colleges” in the top tier of “Best Universities—Master’s—North Region” by *U.S. News & World Report*, and is designated a premier Leadership Development Center by the YMCA of the USA. More than 5,000 traditional, nontraditional, and international students study at its main campus in Springfield, Massachusetts, and at its School of Human Services regional campuses located in ten other U.S. locations.



Springfield College Office of Graduate Admissions

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Learn more about our graduate programs at:

www.springfieldcollege.edu