

Secondary Education

Teaching Certification (Grades 7-12) (37 credits)

Teaching Certification (Grades 7-12) with Master of Education (55 credits)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS IN BRIEF

Alvernia University is a Franciscan university rooted in the Catholic and liberal arts traditions, dedicated to the ideals of service in the helping professions. Our rich heritage of service and strong faith resonates in contemporary ways in our campus life and academic programs. Alvernia University's graduate programs are designed for the focused working professional who places equal value on intellectual achievement and professional growth. Our faculty and staff are committed to teaching, guiding, and supporting our students in all aspects of their experience at Alvernia University, from course selection and scheduling, to connecting with peers and colleagues.

The Secondary Education Teaching Certification (Grades 7-12) is dedicated to providing instruction in educational theory balanced with current classroom practices. The curricula have been developed to reflect the general standards and specific program guidelines prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The program focuses on a values-centered approach toward the preparation of caring, uniquely-qualified candidates to address the needs of diverse populations in today's schools. The Secondary Education Teaching Certification (Grades 7-12) curriculum prepares students to teach in grades seven through twelve in one accomplished content area (English, Social Studies, Math, or Science). Students can also choose to pursue their Master of Education degree after they complete their teaching certification coursework at Alvernia.

ADMISSION

Students are eligible for admission to the Secondary Education Teaching Certification (Grades 7-12) program when the following criteria have been met:

1. Transcripts from prior universities indicating
 - a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher in all completed undergraduate and any graduate coursework
 - Six credit hours of the undergraduate mathematics at the 101 level or higher
 - Three credit hours of undergraduate British or American literature
 - Three credit hours of English composition
2. Successful completion of the appropriate pre-professional skills test required by the PDE. Information and a schedule of testing dates can be obtained in the Education Department office in Upland 106.
3. Completion of Graduate application for admission including all supporting documentation

BACKGROUND CHECKS AND CLEARANCES

Candidates for teaching certification are required to have current Act 34 (PA Child Abuse), Act 151 (PA Criminal Background), and Act 114 (FBI Fingerprinting) clearances on file prior to all fieldwork experiences. It is strongly recommended that upon acceptance, applicants begin the process of obtaining these screenings and present the appropriate documents to Alvernia University's Education Department. In addition, a clear tuberculosis screening must be on file during the student teaching placement.

CAREER SUCCESS

At Alvernia we measure our success by our graduates' personal and professional satisfaction, and by the ways they contribute to the greater good in all areas of society. Our graduates are employed in virtually all schools in Berks County, and in many schools throughout the Middle Atlantic region. No matter what your aspirations and dreams, we'll give you the tools and support to help you thrive.



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW:

Note: Up to 6 graduate credits earned at another institution may be accepted for the Alvernia equivalent below at the discretion of the department.

Secondary Education Teaching Certification (Grades 7-12):

MED 501	Standards-based Planning & Instruction*	3 credits
MED 503	Adolescent Development & Secondary Schools Today	3 credits
MED 505	Introduction to Special Needs Students*	3 credits
MED 515	Differentiated Instruction in Inclusive Classrooms	3 credits
MED 522	Practicum I: Taken with MED 540 (30 hours)	1 credit
MED 523	Practicum II: Taken with MED 548 (30 hours)	1 credit
MED 540	Assessment & Evaluation in Today's Schools	3 credits
MED 545	Social Development & Behavior Support in Inclusive Classrooms	3 credits
MED 548	Meeting the Needs of English Language Learners	3 credits
MED 615	Literacy Learning in the Content Areas	3 credits
MED 661, or	Teaching Strategies for Secondary English	
MED 662, or	Teaching Strategies for Secondary Mathematics	
MED 663, or	Teaching Strategies for Secondary Social Studies	
MED 664	Teaching Strategies for Secondary Science	2 credits
MED 668	Pre-Student Teaching Practicum (70 hours)	1 credit
MED 670	Student Teaching	6 credits
MED 672	Student Teaching Seminar: Professional & Legal Topics for Today's Teachers	2 credits
	Total Credits in Teaching Certificate Program	37 credits

*These classes are to be taken prior to those listed below them.

Additional Requirements for Master of Education

COR 510	Moral Leadership	3 credits
COR 600	Organizational & Professional Ethics	3 credits
MED 518	Quantitative Research Methods	3 credits
MED 520	Educators as Researchers (Pre-requisite: MED 518)	3 credits
MED 610	School Law & Social Advocacy	3 credits
MED 680	Research Seminar (Pre-requisite: MED 520)	3 credits
	Total Additional Credits in M.Ed. Program	18 credits

CONTACT INFORMATION

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