DEPARTMENT OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

Office
Hawkins Hall 404, 410-704-2562

Mission Statement
The mission of the Teacher Education Unit is to inspire, educate and prepare facilitators of active learning for diverse and inclusive communities of learners in environments that are technologically advanced.

Programs of the Department and Declaring for Secondary Education

The Department of Secondary Education offers the following programs of study: the major in Middle School Education (grades 4–9) and 13 certification programs in the secondary education (grades 7–12) subject areas of biology, chemistry, Earth-space science, English, French, geography, German, health, history, mathematics, physics, social science and Spanish.

Programs for teaching kindergarten through grade 12 in Art, Dance, Health, Music and Physical Education are offered by those academic departments.

All Teacher Education programs are approved by the Maryland State Department of Education and the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Upon graduation in one of these programs, students are eligible for certification to teach in Maryland.

The programs of education for middle, junior and high school teachers are designed to bring about close integration between theory and practice. Students are required to apply directly to the Department of Secondary Education. A Secondary Education adviser is required in addition to an adviser in the major for the following majors

- English Education
- Geography Education
- History Education
- Mathematics Education
- World Language Education
- Science (Biology, Chemistry, Earth-Space Science and Physics) Education
- Social Science Education.

For the Middle School Education Program, students are required to meet every term with the adviser assigned after admission.

For information, go to Hawkins Hall 404.

Declaring the Middle School Education Major

Students interested in becoming Middle School Education majors must first gain admission to Towson University. Admission to the university does not guarantee admission to the Middle School Education program. Students declare majors online at http://onestop.towson.edu.

All students enrolled in a Teacher Education program are required to undergo a criminal background check before participating in any internship placement.

Kindergarten-12th Grade Teacher Education Programs

Students may obtain certification to teach the following subjects at both the elementary, middle school and secondary levels: art, dance, music and physical education.

Teacher Education programs exist in the following areas:

- Art Education
- Dance Education
- Music Education
- Physical Education

For required courses and special program information, consult the section of this catalog dealing with the specific department and the requirements for those majors.

Special Education Program

Students wishing to major in Secondary Special Education should contact Charles Meyer, Hawkins Hall 120C, 410-704-3595

Master of Arts in Teaching—Secondary

Director: Judy Reber
Hawkins Hall 222, 410-704-4935

The Master of Arts in Teaching program is designed to prepare highly qualified post-baccalaureate students for teaching certifications in grades 7 through 12. Consult the Graduate Catalog for more information.

FORMAL ADMISSION TO THE middle school or secondary education PROGRAM

Students should apply for formal admission into the Middle School or Secondary Education Program when they have met the following criteria:

1. completion of at least 45 college units
2. completion of a written application, including an essay
3. a 2.75 cumulative GPA for all postsecondary institutions attended (submit original transcripts)
4. presentation of SCED Score Reporting Form or passing score on Praxis I (Pre-Professional Skills Test: Reading, Writing and Mathematics), SAT, ACT or GRE test to the Center for Professional Practice. Information on these tests and qualifying scores is available in the Department of Secondary Education, Hawkins Hall 404.
5. All students applying for admission to a Teacher Education program at Towson University are required to complete a Criminal History Disclosure Form. This form is to be notarized and sent to the Department of Secondary Education to be kept on file. (Note: Some subject areas may have a cap on admissions. Prospective students should contact the department for more information.)

NOTE: Once passing test scores and the application is received, students in Secondary Education and Middle School Education are permitted to enroll in Principles of Secondary Education or Principles of Middle School Education, and Using Reading and Writing in the Secondary or Middle School. Prior to program admission, students are permitted to
take only Introduction to Special Education, Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on America’s Urban Schools; Teaching and Learning in a Diverse Society; Education, Ethics and Change; Adolescent Learning, Development and Diversity; and Integrating Instructional Technology from the education program.

After successfully completing the copurses listed above students become eligible for appropriate internships. This includes the prospective middle or secondary teacher being able to enter the full-time internship term which begins prior to the start of classes at TU. Methods, philosophy, techniques and practice are combined with thorough preparation for teaching, with being able to demonstrate student teaching.

Students must secure approval for full-time internship from the department; it is contingent upon successful completion of the required courses, demonstration of acceptable competencies in the tested areas, and meeting GPA requirements (see Requirements for Full-Time Internship).

In order for students to become certified, they must take the appropriate pedagogical and subject area test on the Praxis II examination. Information is available from the adviser as well as from the department.

Notes for prospective Secondary Education Students:

1) Students interested in obtaining Maryland State Teaching Certification (Grades 7-12) in one of the following subject areas: English, French, History, Social Science, and Spanish should contact the Department of Secondary Education Chair, Dr. Terry Berkeley (tberkeley@towson.edu).

2) Students interested in Mathematics or Science and leading to Maryland State Teacher Certification in Secondary Education (Grades 7-12) can select from one of the following subject areas: Biology, Chemistry, Earth-Space Science, Mathematics of Physics. The students should contact the Towson University U-Teach Program director, Dr. Linda Cooper (lcooper@towson.edu), or the Master Teacher, Christine Roland (croland@towson.edu).

Major in Secondary Education

- Major in Middle School Teacher Education (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/education/secondary-education/middle-school-education)
- Secondary Teacher Education Requirements (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/education/secondary-education/secondary-education-program)