

Secondary Education

Degree Offered

- Associate of Arts

Nature of Program

Secondary Education majors complete the initial course work required to become a certified teacher. Future teachers naturally expect to be responsible for lesson planning, instruction, and assessment in their future classrooms; however, with society's demands for critical thinkers and citizens committed to life-long learning, it is crucial that future educators experience teacher-preparation rich in opportunities to discover the impact of culturally relevant teaching, learner centered classrooms, and integrated curriculum as well as solid communication, management, and organizational classroom skills.

Potomac State College offers direct classroom experience for prospective secondary educators as early as the first semester of study.

Secondary Education teacher education has a two-part focus: the content area (English or Social Studies) and educational design and delivery.

Secondary Education majors who wish to pursue a four-year degree in other content areas (biology, chemistry, math, or physics) should pursue an AA in the content area, complete EDUC 100 their first semester and EDUC 200 their fourth semester, and meet with their secondary education advisor every semester.

Career Opportunities

Four-year graduates teach students from 5th through 12th grades. They usually specialize in one subject area and may teach several different classes within that subject area. Some teachers continue course work in their specific discipline, earning a graduate degree leading to careers in research, higher education, or curriculum development. Others pursue graduate degrees in school administration.

FACULTY

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

- Ruth Upton - M.A. (West Virginia University)
Special Education

INSTRUCTOR

- Andrea Schafer - M.A. (West Virginia University)
Elementary Education

Admission Requirements

Entering freshmen are admitted directly into the major.

Benchmark Expectations

Secondary Education majors should earn a C- or better in EDUC 100 and EDUC 200 to meet degree requirements. Students must demonstrate competence and professionalism, following all College and school district guidelines and policies, in their school-based placement(s). Students must meet with their education adviser each semester. Students who do not meet these benchmarks may be removed from their major.

Testing Requirements

In West Virginia, Praxis Core tests are waived if you have already completed a master's degree OR if you scored 26 on the ACT OR if you scored 1170 on the SAT (Math and Verbal, pre-March 2016 sitting) OR SAT Evidence Based Reading/Writing and Math Section 1240 (post-March 2016 sitting). All other students must earn passing scores (based on score benchmarks for the intended transfer institution) on all subsections of the Praxis Core by the application or transfer deadline set by the intended transfer institution. More information about the Praxis CORE can be found at <https://www.ets.org/praxis/about/core/>.

Disclaimer: State Board of Education requirements may change testing and program requirements.

General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

General Education Foundations

F1 - Composition & Rhetoric		3-6
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Skills		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

Curriculum Requirements

WVUE 191	First Year Seminar	1
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research (GEF 1)	6
EDUC 100	Education Colloquium	1
EDUC 200	Professional Inquiry in Education	3
Foreign Language		12
MATH 121	Intro Concepts Of Mathematics (or higher - GEF 3)	3

Select one of the following tracks: 34

English Track (34 credit hours)

GEF 2A		
GEF 5		
GEF 7		
ENGL 200	Foundations of Literary Study	
ENGL 226	Non-Western World Literature	
ENGL 241	American Literature 1 (GEF 6)	
ENGL 242	American Literature 2 (GEF 8)	
ENGL 261	British Literature 1 (GEF 8)	
ENGL 262	British Literature 2	
ENGL 263	Shakespeare 1 (GEF 8)	
Elective		

Social Studies Track (34 credit hours)

HIST 152	Growth of the American Nation to 1865 (GEF 5)	
HIST 153	Making of Modern America: 1865 to the Present	
HIST 179	World History to 1500 (GEF 8)	
HIST 180	World History Since 1500 (or HIST 250)	
ECON 201	Principles of Microeconomics (GEF 8)	
ECON 202	Principles of Macroeconomics (GEF 8)	
GEOG 102	World Regions	
GEOG 107 & GEOG 106	Physical Geography and Physical Geography Laboratory (GEF 2B)	
POLS 102	Introduction to American Government	
PSYC 101	Introduction to Psychology (GEF 4)	
SOCA 105	Introduction to Anthropology (GEF 7)	

Total Hours 60

Suggested Plan of Study for English Track

First Year

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
EDUC 100	1 ENGL 102 (GEF 1)	3
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)	3 ENGL 200	3
ENGL 241 (GEF 6)	3 ENGL 242 (GEF 8)	3
ENGL 263 (GEF 8)	3 MATH 121 (or higher - GEF 3)	3
Foreign Language	3 Foreign Language	3
WVUE 191	1	
Elective	1	
	15	15

Second Year

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ENGL 226	3 EDUC 200	3
ENGL 261 (GEF 8)	3 ENGL 262	3
Foreign Language	3 Foreign Language	3
GEF 2A	3 GEF 2A	3
GEF 5	3 GEF 7	3
	15	15

Total credit hours: 60

Suggested Plan of Study for Social Studies Track

First Year

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
EDUC 100	1 ENGL 102 (GEF 1)	3
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)	3 HIST 152 (GEF 5)	3
GEOG 102	3 HIST 179 (GEF 8)	3
MATH 121 (or higher - GEF 3)	3 PSYC 101 (GEF 4)	3
Foreign Language	3 Foreign Language	3
WVUE 191	1	
	14	15

Second Year

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ECON 201 (GEF 8)	3 ECON 202 (GEF 8)	3
GEOG 107 & GEOG 106 (GEF 2B)	4 EDUC 200	3
POLS 102	3 HIST 153	3
SOCA 105 (GEF 7)	3 HIST 180 or 250	3
Foreign Language	3 Foreign Language	3
	16	15

Total credit hours: 60

Major Learning Outcomes

SECONDARY EDUCATION

A primary mission of the AA in Secondary Education at Potomac State College is to prepare individuals for a changing teaching profession. Teachers influence many facets of education including students, parents, school policies and procedures, curriculum design, instructional materials, and classroom environment. Educational issues must be grounded in current research on best practices and deep reflection on ways to implement them in teaching practice.

Upon successful completion of the A.A. degree, **Secondary Education** majors will be able to:

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- Utilize commitment and skills to engage in life-long learning, including research skills applied to the discipline;
- Practice effective communication; both oral and written;
- Recognize that teaching is a professional, moral, and ethical enterprise with well-developed ethical frameworks which facilitate effective teaching;
- Serve as facilitators of learning for all students;
- Apply in-depth knowledge of both pedagogy and content, and the relationship between them
- Be reflective practitioners;
- Be aware of, and have respect, human diversity;
- Value and integrate knowledge from a wide variety of fields, be creative and open to new ideas, and be able to act constructively in a world characterized by technological, cultural, and societal diversity and change.