

## Undergraduate-only, Initial Teacher Licensure Program

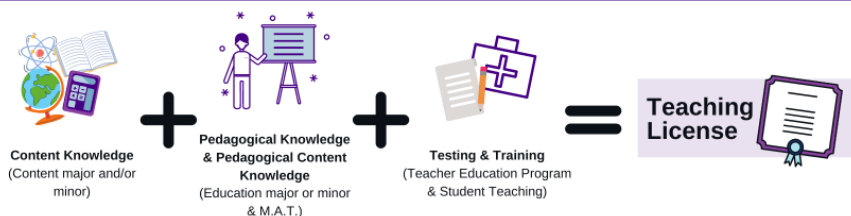
**B.S. in Secondary Education**

## Program Overview

Catalog Year 2024-2025

This Virginia Department of Education-approved Secondary Education undergraduate-only program prepares individuals for an initial teaching license for grades 6-12. This double major program in Secondary Education is designed to provide candidates with the course offerings and experiences that form the required foundation for recommendation to the Virginia Department of Education for a Virginia teaching license.

In order to be eligible for a teaching license, candidates must show mastery of certain competencies and certification of various trainings. The requirements can be summarized by the equation illustrated to the right. Only when a candidate satisfies each of the three requirement areas are they then eligible for their teaching license.

**Understand the Steps to a Teaching License**

**Content Knowledge**  
(Content major and/or minor)

**Content Knowledge**

In this double major program, candidates meet the "Content Knowledge" requirement by majoring in one of our Virginia Department of Education-approved teacher **licensure areas**. See the Endorsement Checklists on the MSME website for more information:

- English
- History, Teacher Education Concentration (must also declare the Social Studies minor)
- Mathematics
- Political Science (must also declare the Social Studies minor)

Students interested in one of the science endorsement areas (Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, or Physics) should contact the MSME Department for more information and advising.

**Add-On Endorsements and non-Licensure Minors**

Customize your academic experience with an add-on endorsement or minor. Below are some recommended programs:

**ADD-ON ENDORSEMENTS:** Algebra 1

**MINORS:** Coaching Education  
Educational Media  
Human Resource Development

Military Leadership  
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

**College of Education** Department of Middle, Secondary, and Mathematics Education

Memorial Hall, 395 S. High Street, Room 3200, MSC 6912 Harrisonburg, VA 22807 | (540) 568-6486 | <https://www.jmu.edu/coe/msme/>

*This document is provided as an advising resource only. Official curriculum requirements are listed in the JMU Undergraduate Catalog and the JMU Graduate Catalog. In the case of discrepancies, the University Catalog is the official curriculum students must follow. This document was reviewed by the Middle, Secondary, and Mathematics Education Academic Unit Head on June 1, 2024.*



**Pedagogical Knowledge  
& Pedagogical Content  
Knowledge**  
(Education major or minor  
& M.A.T.)

## Pedagogical Knowledge & Pedagogical Content Knowledge

In this double major program, candidates meet the “Pedagogical Knowledge & Pedagogical Content Knowledge” requirement by majoring in Secondary Education. Candidates must also select a concentration that corresponds with their chosen content area: English, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies. Concentrations are added by students through their Student Center in MyMadison.

The table below shows the general course sequence. See the Endorsement Checklists on the MSME website for more specific course information.

### Secondary Education Major Course Work

- Candidates must receive grades of “B-” or higher in all Secondary Education course work, unless otherwise indicated.
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher is required for admission into the Teacher Education program.
- Ensure a minimum of 120 undergraduate credit hours will be completed to earn an undergraduate bachelor’s degree.

Course		Course Title		Credits
FIRST YEAR (offered fall & spring semesters)				
Recommend taking MSSE 101, MSSE 201, or CSM 199 for an optional early field experience opportunity.				
Teacher Education Core	Prerequisites to the Major	PSYC 160	Life Span Human Development (C5SD; "C" or higher)	3
		WRTC 103	Rhetorical Reading and Writing (C1W; "C" or higher)	3
		EDUC 200	Foundations of Education in the United States ("C" or higher)	3
SOPHOMORE YEAR (fall & spring semesters)				
Classroom Foundations		MSSE 210 <sup>1</sup>	Diversity in Middle/Secondary Grades	3
		MSSE 370 <sup>2</sup>	General Instructional Methods for Grades 6-12 (old MSSE 240; co-requisite MSSE 371)	3
		MSSE 371 <sup>2</sup>	Clinical Experience in Adolescent Education (co-requisite MSSE 370)	1
JUNIOR YEAR (offered fall & spring semesters)				
Enroll in one course from each of these categories in the same semester.	Middle School Teaching Methods (choose one)	MSSE 411 <sup>2</sup>	English/Language Arts Teaching Methods, Grades 6-8 (old MSSE 470E; pre-requisite MSSE 370; co-requisite MSSE 415; spring recommended)	3
		MSSE 412 <sup>23</sup>	Social Studies Teaching Methods, Grades 6-8 (old MSSE 470H; pre-requisite MSSE 370; co-requisite MSSE 415, HIST 357; spring recommended)	
		MSSE 413 <sup>2</sup>	Mathematics Teaching Methods, Grades 6-8 (old MSSE 470M; pre-requisite MSSE 370; co-requisite MSSE 415; spring only)	
		MSSE 414 <sup>2</sup>	Natural Sciences Teaching Methods, Grades 6-8 (old MSSE 470S; pre-requisite MSSE 370; co-requisite MSSE 415; fall only)	
	Middle School Field Placement	MSSE 415 <sup>234</sup>	Content Area Field Experience in Middle Schools (old MSSE 471E, MSSE 471H, MSSE 471M, MSSE 471S; pre-requisite MSSE 370; co-requisite MSSE 411, MSSE 412, MSSE 413, or MSSE 414; spring recommended except science)	3
	Literacy	LED 440 <sup>2</sup>	Disciplinary Literacy in Secondary Education (pre-requisite MSSE 210, MIED 211, LED 212, MSSE 370; typically offered spring, summer, and fall)	3
		MSSE 425 <sup>2</sup>	Assessment in Middle and Secondary Education (pre-requisite MSSE 370; recommend spring of third year)	3
SENIOR YEAR (fall semester)				
Enroll in one course from each of these categories in the same semester.		MSSE 420 <sup>2</sup>	Differentiation for Adolescents (old MSSE 460; pre-requisite MSSE 370; fall only)	3
		MSSE 441 <sup>2</sup>	English/Language Arts Content Methods Grades 9-12 (old MSSE 480E; fall only; pre-requisite MSSE 411; co-requisite MSSE 446) or	3 (or 2 for science)
	High School Teaching Methods (choose one)	MSSE 442 <sup>2</sup>	Social Studies Content Methods, Grades 9-12 (old MSSE 480H; fall only; pre-requisite MSSE 412; co-requisite MSSE 447) or	
		MSSE 443 <sup>2</sup>	Mathematics Content Methods, Grades 9-12 (old MSSE 480M; fall only; pre-requisite MSSE 413; co-requisite MSSE 448) or	
		MSSE 444 <sup>2</sup>	Science Content Methods Grades 9-12 (old MSSE 480S; 2 credit hours; fall only; pre-requisite MSSE 414; co-requisite MSSE 449)	

	Course	Course Title	Credits
High school Field Placement (choose one)	<b>MSSE 446<sup>24</sup></b>	<b>English Field Placement, Grades 9-12</b> (old MSSE 481E; <u>fall</u> only; pre-requisite MSSE 415; co-requisite MSSE 441) <i>or</i>	3
	<b>MSSE 447<sup>24</sup></b>	<b>Social Studies Field Placement, Grades 9-12</b> (old MSSE 481H; <u>fall</u> only; pre-requisite MSSE 415; co-requisite MSSE 442) <i>or</i>	
	<b>MSSE 448<sup>24</sup></b>	<b>Mathematics Field Placement, Grades 9-12</b> (old MSSE 481M; <u>fall</u> only; pre-requisite MSSE 415; co-requisite MSSE 443) <i>or</i>	
	<b>MSSE 449<sup>24</sup></b>	<b>Science Field Placement, Grades 9-12</b> (old MSSE 481S; <u>fall</u> only; pre-requisite MSSE 415; co-requisite MSSE 444 and a science pedagogy course)	
SCIENCE MAJORS ONLY: (choose one)	<b>MSSE 397 or PHYS 302</b>	<b>Science Pedagogy or Science Pedagogy</b>	2
<b>SENIOR YEAR (spring semester)</b>			
Choose one course to the right based on your content area major.	<b>MSSE 403<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Behavior and Classroom Management in a Diverse Society</b> (offered spring and fall; pre-requisite MSSE 370)	3
	<b>MSSE 450<sup>245</sup></b>	<b>Internship Seminar</b> (co-requisite MSSE 475)	2
	<b>MSSE 475<sup>245</sup></b>	<b>Internship in Middle and Secondary Education</b> (co-requisite MSSE 450)	8
	<b>MSSE 455 or LED 254 or MSSE 495 or BIO 489</b>	<b>Special Topics in Pedagogical Content Knowledge</b> (old MSSE 489H and MSSE 489M; history, political science, and math majors) <i>or</i> <b>Literature for Adolescents</b> (take <u>before</u> student teaching semester; English majors) <i>or</i> <b>Topics in Science Pedagogical Content Knowledge</b> (chemistry, Earth science, and physics majors) <i>or</i> <b>Topics in Science Pedagogical Content Knowledge</b> (biology majors)	3 (or 2 for science)
	<b>Total Pre-requisite Credit Hours</b>		<b>6</b>
		<b>Total Undergraduate Major Credit Hours</b>	<b>47</b>

<sup>1</sup> Enrollment is BLOCKED and requires initial application to Teacher Education.

<sup>2</sup> Enrollment is BLOCKED and requires acceptance into the Teacher Education Program.

<sup>3</sup> Candidates pursuing a SOCIAL STUDIES content area must register for HIST 357: Fates of Empires the same semester.

<sup>4</sup> Candidates must student teach local to Harrisonburg, provide dependable transportation for field experience and student teaching and must be aware that student teaching placement location travel may be significant (up to one hour driving distance).

<sup>5</sup> Course enrollment is BLOCKED and requires completion of the Student Teaching Application and all required tests and trainings.

## Student Teaching Capstone Project

JMU prepares teachers who make decisions informed by research and reflective practice in diverse classroom environments. Under our accreditation by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), Secondary Education candidates show this rigorous teaching preparation and satisfy this required assessment through the successful completion of the Student Teaching Capstone project in conjunction with the student teaching placement, during MSSE 450 Internship Seminar. Candidates should have an understanding of the purpose, structure, and value of the Student Teaching Capstone as a means to demonstrate professional decision-making in terms of instruction and assessment, and to provide evidence of candidate's ability for reflection.



**Testing & Training**  
(Teacher Education Program  
& Student Teaching)

## Testing & Training

In this double major program, candidates meet the first part of the "Testing & Training" requirement by completing the admission requirements to the **Teacher Education Program**.

Remaining requirements are completed through application to and completion of required tests and trainings for student teaching.

## The Teacher Education Program

- Admission to the Teacher Education Program** is required to enroll in upper level education courses. Generally candidates should plan to complete admission requirements no later than October of their sophomore year.
- Candidates should follow the application and admission steps located on the Education Support Center (ESC) website at [www.jmu.edu/coe/esc](http://www.jmu.edu/coe/esc) under "Admission and Licensure."

## Required Assessments

This program prepares candidates for licensure in Virginia. Therefore, candidates are required to successfully pass Virginia required assessments.

- **Teacher Education Entry Assessments:**

- Math Assessment:
  - A score of 46 or higher on the ALEKS will meet this requirement. You will have up to three opportunities to reach this score. There is no cost to the student.
  - The SAT, ACT, and the Praxis Core Math tests can also be used to meet this requirement. Please see the Teacher Education Program admission requirements for score requirements for these assessments.

- **Content Area Assessment:**

- Begin preparing for the Praxis Subject Assessment for your content area no later than your junior year.
- If you are student teaching in a **spring** semester, attempt your Praxis Subject Assessment no later than March 1 one year prior to student teaching. Submit a passing score for your Praxis Subject Assessment to the ESC no later than the following August 15.
- If you are student teaching in a **fall** semester, attempt your Praxis Subject Assessment no later than November 1 one year prior to student teaching. Submit a passing score for your Praxis Subject Assessment to the ESC no later than the following March 1.

For more information about test requirements, visit [www.jmu.edu/coe/esc/](http://www.jmu.edu/coe/esc/) or <https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements.html>.

## Student Teaching

- Applications for student teaching placements are due to the ESC by **October 31 of the academic year prior to student teaching** (typically the junior year). Candidates **must** attend one Student Teaching Information Meeting in the fall of their junior year prior to beginning the application. Instructions for the student teaching application packet are available at [www.jmu.edu/coe/esc/](http://www.jmu.edu/coe/esc/) under "Field Experience."
- Students are expected to attend all required orientations and meetings for and within the student teaching experience. Information about these meetings can be found on the ESC website.

Candidates must provide dependable transportation for field experience and student teaching and must be aware that travel to the student teaching placement location may be significant (up to one hour driving distance).







## Resources

### Secondary Education Program Support:

Position/Subject Area	Name	Room	Phone 540-	Email Address
Academic Unit Head (AUH)	Dr. Katie Dredger	MH 3200B	568-6486	<a href="mailto:dredgemk@jmu.edu">dredgemk@jmu.edu</a>
Assistant AUH	Dr. Kristina Doubet	MH 3210G	568-2805	<a href="mailto:doubetkj@jmu.edu">doubetkj@jmu.edu</a>
COE Academic Advisor	Mrs. Reilly Zwanzig	MH 7240B	568-5663	<a href="mailto:zwanzira@jmu.edu">zwanzira@jmu.edu</a>
English Faculty Mentors	Dr. Mary Beth Cancienne	MH 3240D	568-7327	<a href="mailto:cancieme@jmu.edu">cancieme@jmu.edu</a>
	Dr. Melanie Shoffner	MH 3265A	568-4314	<a href="mailto:shoffnme@jmu.edu">shoffnme@jmu.edu</a>
Mathematics Faculty Mentors	Dr. Zareen Aga	MH 3265D	568-2812	<a href="mailto:agazq@jmu.edu">agazq@jmu.edu</a>
	Dr. Amanda Sawyer (& Social Studies)	MH 3240C	568-6708	<a href="mailto:sawyerag@jmu.edu">sawyerag@jmu.edu</a>
	Dr. Ann Wallace (& Social Studies)	MH 3240B	568-7325	<a href="mailto:wallacah@jmu.edu">wallacah@jmu.edu</a>
Social Studies Faculty Mentors	Dr. Leonard Richards	MH 3205D	568-5130	<a href="mailto:richarll@jmu.edu">richarll@jmu.edu</a>
	Dr. Eric Carbaugh	MH 3205C	568-7326	<a href="mailto:carbauem@jmu.edu">carbauem@jmu.edu</a>
Science Faculty Mentors	Dr. Robbie Higdon	MH 3205B	568-6791	<a href="mailto:higdonrl@jmu.edu">higdonrl@jmu.edu</a>
	Dr. Angela Webb	MH 3265B	568-5834	<a href="mailto:webbaw@jmu.edu">webbaw@jmu.edu</a>

## Campus Resources:

Following are listed only a few of the many resources available on campus to support student success.

<p><b>Educational Technology &amp; Media Center (ETMC)</b> – The ETMC provides a welcoming space for students to learn, study, and collaborate. It houses hundreds of books, including resources for education students, textbooks to assist in lesson planning, and a variety of children’s and young adult books. For more information, visit their website <a href="http://www.jmu.edu/coe/etmc">http://www.jmu.edu/coe/etmc</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Education Support Center (ESC)</b> – The ESC assists students by providing information regarding practicum and student teaching and is the place students submit documents that are required for licensure, such as Praxis scores. Peer advising is available to assist students with admission to Teacher Education. For more information, visit their website <a href="http://www.jmu.edu/coe/esc">www.jmu.edu/coe/esc</a>.</p>	
<p><b>MSME Department Website</b> – For general questions about middle and secondary education programs, visit <a href="http://www.jmu.edu/coe/msme">http://www.jmu.edu/coe/msme</a> or visit the office in Memorial, room 3200.</p>	
<p><b>Science and Math Learning Center</b> – Located on the first floor of the Student Success Center, the Science and Math Learning Center provides peer tutoring for over 26 STEM courses at no cost to students. For more information, visit <a href="http://jmu.edu/smlc">http://jmu.edu/smlc</a>. Additional tutoring is available through the Math Department. For more information, contact the professor teaching your course or see the schedule outside the tutoring room on the third floor of Roop.</p>	
<p><b>University Career Center (UCC)</b> – The UCC office is located on the third floor of the Student Success Center and assists student in planning for their future, including assistance with job searches, choosing a major, and much more. For more information, visit their office or their website at <a href="http://jmu.edu/career/">http://jmu.edu/career/</a>.</p>	
<p><b>University Writing Center</b> – The Writing Center provides assistance for students with writing papers, whether it be fixing citations or having someone revise your paper. For more information, visit their office on the first floor of the Student Success Center or their website at <a href="http://www.jmu.edu/uwc">http://www.jmu.edu/uwc</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Learning Success Strategies (LSS)</b> – Located in the Student Success Center, LSS can help you develop skills in time management, study habits, reading comprehension, note-taking, test-taking, and more. For more information, visit their website at <a href="https://www.jmu.edu/studentaffairs/departments/deanofstudents/learning-success-strategies/index.shtml">https://www.jmu.edu/studentaffairs/departments/deanofstudents/learning-success-strategies/index.shtml</a>.</p>	