Graduate Program in

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

www.plattsburgh.edu/academics/education/cai/

The Vision

The teacher education unit faculty at SUNY Plattsburgh engages in the professional development of educators at both the undergraduate and graduate level. Our purpose is to prepare educators who are competent, qualified, and caring relative to NYSED standards; who are anchored in the university’s commitment to the liberal arts; and, who endeavor to practice effective pedagogy, reflect critically upon teaching and the learning process, and exemplify ethical, human and democratic principles within a complex technological and global society.

The shared vision reflects our commitment to diversity and technology across the curriculum, and dedication to preparing our education majors to work with students with culturally and ethnically diverse backgrounds and students with disabilities—all students.

The core elements of the shared vision are summarized in nine themes to prepare competent, qualified, and caring teachers:

- Content in Context
- Learning Environments
- Technology
- Assessment
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Recursive Learning
- Collaboration
- Modeling
- Multiculturalism and Diversity

Curriculum & Instruction

The Curriculum and Instruction (C&I) Program is designed for strong teachers who want to improve their teaching skills. Those with certification in Childhood 1-6, Music, Visual Arts, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, English, French, Mathematics, Physics, Social Studies, or Spanish will be recommended for certification upon successful completion of the program. Those with initial/provisional certification in other areas (e.g., physical education, health education) will have to apply for permanent/professional certification through the individual pathway on the TEACH website (http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/teach/). Students may pursue this program at SUNY Plattsburgh’s Main or Branch Campus at ACC.

Advantages of Our Program

- Strengthen Teaching Skills in Your Content Area: Three 4-credit Integrated Studies Courses allow you to incorporate pedagogy in projects that are content specific.
- Tailor Your Own Professional Development: Electives allow you to pursue interests in instructional technology, literacy education, counseling, educational leadership, and more.
- Study Full-time or Part-time
- Study at Convenient Hours: Courses are offered in the afternoon and evening so that our candidates may work as substitute or full-time teachers during the regular school day. Some of our classes are offered in a web-based format through distance learning so that they can fit into many people’s busy schedules.
- Learn from Experienced Faculty

SUNY Plattsburgh’s Main and Branch Campuses

The Main Campus is located in a small city on the shores of Lake Champlain, bordering the Adirondack Mountains and one hour from Lake Placid; Burlington, Vermont; and Montreal, Canada. The Branch Campus at the Adirondack Community College (ACC) in Queensbury is ideally located for those who reside in the greater Albany area. Easy access to recreation, arts, and entertainment make living in the region unique and enriching.

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Curriculum and Instruction Coursework

The M.S.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction requires a total of 33 credit hours and is divided into three major areas of study:

- **Advanced Studies (15 credits)**
  - Advanced study in technology
  - Advanced study in social foundations of education
  - Advanced study in assessment of student learning
  - Advanced study in classroom management
  - Advanced study of educational research

- **Integrated Studies (12 credits)**
  - INT 501 Integrated Studies: Curriculum Issues
  - INT 502 Integrated Studies: Content & Pedagogy
  - INT 503 Integrated Studies: Capstone Project

- **Additional Electives (6 credits)**
  Courses selected by advisement in the primary field of certification if available, or in advanced methods in an area listed above, or in advanced pedagogy or a related professional area of interest.

Capstone Project

Candidates must complete a capstone project in INT 503 and a portfolio. The capstone project is in the area of content study and requires the candidate to integrate research and pedagogy. The portfolio begins in the introductory course, INT 501, continues throughout the program, and ends as one component of the capstone evaluation.

Admission Requirements

- Appropriate preparation at the baccalaureate level;
- Completed Graduate Study Application Form with required supporting materials;
- Evidence of a 2.5 undergraduate GPA on a 4.0 scale;
- Evidence of superior achievement in courses most closely allied with the student's teaching or certification area(s);
- Statement of purpose indicating why you want to enter this program;
- Three letters of recommendation that address your ability to take part in a graduate program in education (at least 2 of the letters should be from college faculty);
- Copy of your teaching certificate at the elementary and/or secondary level (applicants with provisional, rather than initial, certification need to have completed only the LAST and ATWS at the time of admission); and
- Attendance at an on-campus interview, if invited.
- Availability of program openings.

Financial Aid

Several forms of financial aid—including the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) for New York State residents, Federal Direct Loans, and college work-study awards—are available to qualified graduate students. The college also offers a limited number of scholarships and assistantships. Access the following web page for more information on graduate assistantships: www.plattsburgh.edu/admissions/graduate/assistantships/.

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant (TEACH) is a new federal grant for graduate students who intend to teach in public or private elementary or secondary schools that serve students from low-income families. For information, please go to www.studentaid.ed.gov/.

Part-time employment opportunities exist on campus and in the community. The graduate catalog and application packet have further information about financial aid. For more information, please email: finaid@plattsburgh.edu.