Education

The School of Education's mission is to prepare socially responsive and discerning practitioners to serve their community and profession. The School of Education strives to:

- Model and promote leadership, scholarship, and professional competence in multiple specializations
- Create a supportive environment that is challenging, inclusive, reflective, and collegial
- Foster inquiry, intellectual creativity, and evidence-based decision-making to accept the challenges facing a global society
- Provide academic excellence in teaching, advising, service, and scholarship
- Promote, support, and respect diversity

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The Department of Teacher Education, directed by Gonzaga's humanistic, Catholic, and Jesuit mission, prepares educational leaders to serve others in need and demonstrate a commitment to social justice. The Teacher Education program offers a thorough preparation in academic subject matter and professional teaching at the undergraduate level. It provides students with the opportunity to become reflective learners and practitioners in a K-12 setting or in community learning environments.

The traditional certification program allows students in the program to combine an academic degree with initial teacher certification courses. Students may pursue elementary and/or secondary education certification.

For those seeking Elementary (K-8) certification, the Department of Teacher Education offers a B.Ed. in Community, Culture, and Language Education. This degree is designed to be paired with elementary certification, Reading and English Language Learners (ELL) endorsements. While it is primarily intended for students who are seeking Elementary certification, the degree will also attract those who seek a deeper understanding of and ability to navigate cultural and linguistic differences, as well as the tools to work in non-educational settings to build and support communities for the benefit of all.

Secondary certification candidates major in an endorsement area (e.g., English, Mathematics, Spanish, Biology, History) and take the necessary courses to obtain secondary certification as well.

TEACHING ENDORSEMENTS

- Biology, 5-12
- Chemistry, 5-12
- Early Childhood Special Education, Pre-K-3
- Elementary Education, K-8
- English Language Arts, 5-12
- English Language Learners, K-12
- Health and Fitness, K-12
- History/Social Studies, 5-12
- Mathematics, 5-12
- Music, K-12
- Physics, 5-12
- Reading, K-12
- Special Education, Pre-K-12
- Theatre Arts, K-12
- World Languages - French, Spanish, K-12
DISTINCTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Many courses in the program offer a community-based, service-learning activity, providing candidates an opportunity to experience servant leadership. As a community of reflective learners, Gonzaga’s faculty, staff, and teacher candidates form supportive relationships that encourage service for others and responsibility to each other. These experiences, in addition to the coursework, give teacher candidates significant time in the field working with K-12 students in the Spokane area.

From the beginning of education coursework, strong partnerships with the local K-12 schools provide opportunities for applying the knowledge and skills gained in the classroom to field experiences. Students complete a minimum of 90 hours of classroom experience prior to their full semester of student teaching. Qualified university supervisors and cooperating teachers provide strong mentoring support at all field practicum levels.

THE PLACE

The Rosauer Center for Education classrooms are equipped with teaching consoles, monitors, and smart boards to further enhance the teaching experience. The Active Learning Center in the building provides students with a functional workspace more suited for their needs, open space for collaboration and engagement, and a non-traditional design that can create multiple dynamic learning environments.

The Department of Counselor Education has seven rooms designated for counseling student practice sessions and are equipped with video platforms for professional development.

The Department of Special Education has space dedicated as an early childhood center for pre-school children with special needs, which has been wired for sound so the room can be observed. The observation room and early childhood center are also fitted with a one-way mirror.

ADDITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

The Department of Special Education offers a flexible and marketable academic program that prepares students to work with individuals with mild to severe disabilities such as learning, physical disabilities, communication, behavior, and autism spectrum disorders. Students can complete a major (B.Ed.) or minor in Special Education. The minor in Special Education is designed to increase personal understanding and abilities when interacting with those who may need additional guidance to fully participate in society.

There is also the opportunity for undergraduate students to pursue a Board Certified Assistant Behavioral Analyst (BCABA) certificate in coordination with the degree. Please note the BCABA option has specific course requirements. Please contact the department directly for more information.

The Department of Sport and Physical Education offers two Bachelor’s degrees:

The B.Ed. in Kinesiology and Physical Education program prepares professionals who can design and deliver health, fitness, and physical education programs. Students are trained in pedagogical and scientific practices that help others reach their highest potential through a humanistic approach to wellness. Graduates are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to work in school, clinical, community, and commercial/corporate settings to instruct, coach, and evaluate health, fitness, and sport-related activities. Additionally, this degree can serve as the path to graduate studies in Kinesiology, Exercise Physiology, and rehabilitation-focused programs.

The B.Ed. in Sport Management gives students the prestige of a Top-10 NCAA athletic brand on their resume. In addition to this reputation, graduates are inspired to impact the world with an enhanced understanding of their personal mission in life through Gonzaga’s Jesuit traditions.
GRADUATE PROGRAMS
Gonzaga’s School of Education offers a wide range of master's level programs in:
- Teacher Education
- Counselor Education
- Educational Leadership and Administration
- Sport and Athletic Administration
- Special Education

Other degree programs offered are:
- Education Specialist in School Psychology
- Doctorate in Educational Leadership

Teacher certification programs are offered for Elementary and Secondary education. We also offer additional certification programs for School Counseling and Principal Certification.

OUTCOMES & RECIPROCITY
Students from Gonzaga’s School of Education are trained to become highly qualified professionals in education and, as a result, experience excellent career outcomes upon graduation. In recent years, first-year placement rates are outstanding. On average, 90 to 95 percent of Gonzaga University Teacher Education graduates are employed in an educational setting within their first year.

The teacher preparation programs have affiliation agreements with over 30 public and private school districts in the state of Washington. This allows our students to experience a wide variety of school settings, cultures, and programming during their teacher preparation program.

All teacher preparation programs are approved by the Washington Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB). Completing a teacher preparation program at Gonzaga University, therefore, qualifies a candidate as an out of state program completer when applying for licensure in other states.

Visit gonzaga.edu/licensuredisclosure for more information on state licensures and state licensing boards.

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