

# **Professional Education Program**

## Undergraduate Advising Guide



**University of Wisconsin**  
**Stevens Point**



# College of Professional Studies University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

## **Our Values**

- Our college attracts and builds bonds with individuals who care about the well-being of people.
- We promote personal and organizational growth through deep understanding, inventive solutions and focused action.

## **Our Mission**

- We prepare undergraduate and graduate students for successful professional careers, while we emphasize critical thinking, leadership skills, ethics and lifelong learning.
- We stress research and analytic practice among faculty and students to transform our professions, communities and the world.
- We collaborate with our professional colleagues to sharpen best practices and to enhance student performance in the fields.

## **Our Vision**

- To expand opportunities for bachelor's and advanced degrees and for research/development that contributes to a vibrant economy and flourishing communities.
- To infuse college programs with the commitment to individual, family and community wellness.
- To support international experiences, incorporating our knowledge of the peoples of the world in new ways.
- To explore new, and deepen existing, mutually beneficial partnerships.



## College of Professional Studies University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

### Welcome to the Professional Education Program at UW-Stevens Point!

We are pleased that you have chosen the Professional Education Program at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. UW-Stevens Point began in 1894 as the Stevens Point Normal School, whose primary purpose was to prepare teachers. We have continued to maintain education as a primary mission throughout the years. The faculty in the Professional Education Program is dedicated to providing you with the newest innovations in teaching methods and technology. We strongly believe that teacher candidates should have frequent experiences in classrooms and we strive to provide this opportunity in all phases of the teacher preparation program. Advisors are also available to provide assistance to you throughout your studies. The quality of our program is reflected in our success with placing graduates in educational positions. We hope you will take advantage of all that the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Professional Education Program has to offer and that you enjoy your time with us.

The Professional Education Program Undergraduate Handbook is designed to guide you through the different phases of the Professional Education Program. Information regarding our conceptual framework, Wisconsin teaching standards, advising, choosing a major and minor, Professional Education Program application procedures, Education Programs, scholarships, student involvement opportunities, and résumé resources are included to assist you in devising a personal plan of action for your time with us. By examining the booklet thoroughly you will pass through the stages of the Professional Education Program more smoothly and efficiently, making your progress more enjoyable.

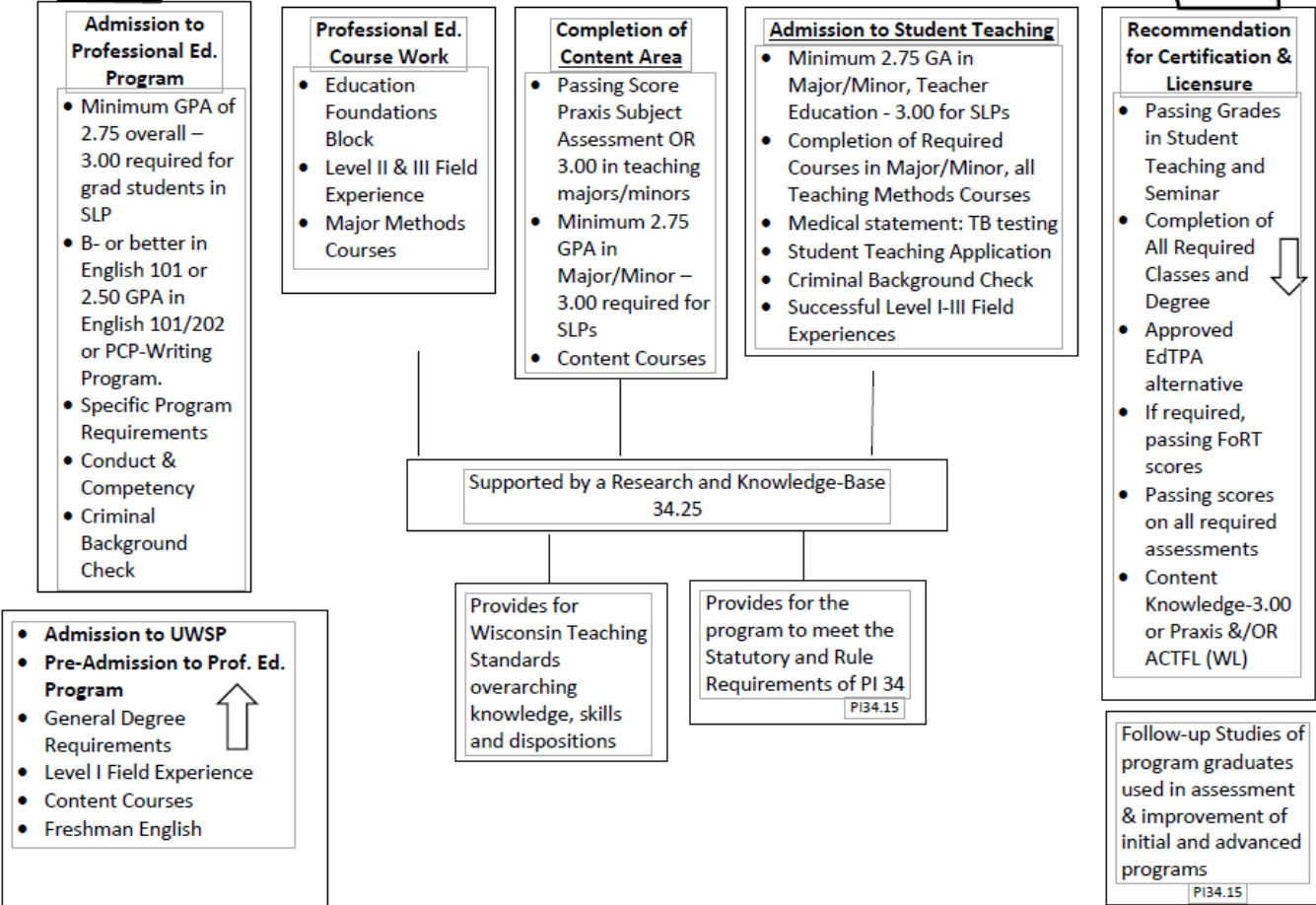
Best wishes to you for your educational success!

Dr. Lynda Fernholz  
Associate Dean & Head  
School of Education

Maggie Beeber  
Undergraduate Advising  
Coordinator & Teacher  
Certification Officer



# UWSP Professional Education Program Conceptual Framework



## OVERARCHING ASSESSMENT PLAN

Stage in Program of Study	Requirement	Task
Entrance to UWSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See <a href="#">UWSP Admissions website</a></li> </ul>	
Pre-Admission Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General degree requirements</li> <li>Content courses</li> <li>Freshman English Comp</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level I Field Exp.</li> </ul>
Admission to Professional Education Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum 2.60 GPA overall</li> <li>Minimum grade of B- or better in English 101 or 150, OR 2.50 in English 101/202 OR five, ½ hour tutoring sessions with a Writing Lab Tutor through the Tutoring Learning Center OR bachelor's degree, be currently enrolled in ENGL 101 or 150 and earn a B- or better by the end of that semester for full admission</li> <li>Complete Conduct and Competency Disclosure</li> <li>Agree to Dispositions Policy</li> <li>Criminal Background Check</li> <li>Meet specific additional program area requirements</li> </ul>	
Completion of Professional Education Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All required courses completed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approved assessments to meet WI InTASC standards 1-8</li> <li>Level II Field Experience</li> <li>Level III Field Experiences</li> </ul>
Completion of Content Area Course of Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Passing score on required Praxis Subject Assessment OR 3.00 or higher in teaching majors and teaching minors</li> <li>Passing Score for World Language teaching majors -ACTFL WPI and OPI tests</li> <li>Minimum GPA of 2.75 in major/minor; some majors require 3.00</li> </ul>	
Admission to Student Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum GPA of 2.75 in major/minor, teacher education, and overall GPA, some majors require 3.00</li> <li>Completion of all required courses in major/minor</li> <li>Completion of all teaching methods courses</li> <li>Present medical statement re: TB testing</li> <li>Submit application for student teaching</li> <li>Obtain Criminal Background Check</li> <li>Successful Level I-III Field Experiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence of minimum of 2, pre-student teaching evals based on 10 Wisc. Teaching Standards</li> </ul>
Prior to UWSP Recommendation for Certification and Licensure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Successful completion of student teaching as documented by UWSP Supervisor</li> <li>Completion of all required courses and assessments</li> <li>Content Knowledge Requirement met</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive student teaching evaluation based upon 10 Wisconsin Teaching Standards (Level IV Field Experience)</li> <li>Minimum GPA of 2.75 in major/minor, teacher education, and overall GPA</li> <li>Completion signature assessments to include specified performance tasks as evidence of proficiency in standards 1-10 Wisconsin InTASC Teaching Standards and</li> </ul>

		<b>evidence related to subject knowledge</b>
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## School of Education Academic and Career Advising Center

The School of Education Academic and Career Advising Center is home to all students interested in teaching. Advisers are here to assist students in meeting their academic and career goals. Advisers assess students' progress within the Professional Education Program, assist in course selection, provide insight into career exploration and answer questions.

School of Education  
Academic and Career Advising Center  
469 College of Professional Studies  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

715-346-2040 (phone)  
[education.office@uwsp.edu](mailto:education.office@uwsp.edu)

Office hours  
8:00a.m.-noon and 1:00-4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

### Meeting with a School of Education Adviser

- To schedule a meeting with an adviser in the School of Education Academic and Career Advising Center, please call the center at 715-346-2040. Appointments cannot be made by email.
- For quick questions (1-10 minutes), students are encouraged to utilize Open Advising hours. Open Advising is on a first come, first served basis. See the School of Education Academic and Career Advising Center website and weekly newsletter for dates, times and directions: <https://www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/CurrentUndergrad/UndergraduateAdvise/openAdvisinghours.aspx>

### What to Bring to an Advising Appointment

Students are expected to come prepared to an advising appointment. It is expected that students bring the following items to every meeting with an adviser:

- Undergraduate Advising Guide
- Current Degree Progress Report
- Printed graduation plan (if the student has one)

### Advising Assignments by Major

Major	Advising Responsibilities
Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education Physical Education and Special Education	First-year students will be advised by a professional adviser in University College in their first 3 semesters of college. In their fourth semester they will be assigned a faculty adviser or to a professional academic adviser. <b>Transfer students</b> are assigned to the advising coordinator until admission to the Professional Education Program.
All other Secondary Education and K-12 majors	Students will be advised by a professional adviser in University College in their first 3 semesters of college. In their fourth semester they will be assigned a faculty adviser in the Department of their major.

**All students:** Students should officially declare their intent to teach by scheduling a “teaching intent meeting” with the School of Education Academic and Career Advising Center. During this meeting, students will receive information about state requirements, application requirements and other important information regarding the Professional Education Program. Students are invited to see the professional adviser in the School of Education for assistance with specific questions involving teacher education requirements and licensing.



## Choosing a Major or Minor

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point offers teacher certification in many majors and minors. Make sure that you are following the requirements for the “teaching” major or minor in the UWSP catalog. While examining the list of available majors, minors and add-on certifications, keep your academic strengths and interests in mind.

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has recently realigned all teaching licenses to grade levels. This started in Fall 2020. UWSP has now been approved for all new teaching licenses programs with just two minors pending final approval. Final approval should be formalized before the start of Spring 2022. Job assignments will ultimately be determined by school districts.

## UW-Stevens Point Teaching Majors and Minors

### UWSP Teaching Majors and Minors

Area	Major	Minor
Bilingual/Bicultural Education- grade levels align with major.		Certificate – requires ESL minor
<b>*Communication Science and Disorders – Fall 2021 catalog</b> License: Speech Language Pathology PK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Undergraduate major – *requires master’s degree for license	
Early Childhood Education – <b>Fall 2020 catalog</b> License: birth-3 <sup>rd</sup> grade regular education	X	
Early Childhood Special Education – <b>Fall 2020 Catalog</b> License – birth-3 <sup>rd</sup> grade		X
Elementary Education – <b>Fall 2020 catalog</b> License: K-9 <sup>th</sup> grade regular education including 4 year old kindergarten	X	
English – <b>Fall 2021 catalog</b> License: English and Language Arts 4 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade – license allows the teacher to teach all areas of English and language arts	X	
English as a Second Language – <b>Fall 2021 catalog</b> License: ESL K-12		X
Family and Consumer Science – <b>Fall 2021 catalog</b> License: PK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade	X	
German – <b>Fall 2021 catalog</b> License: PK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade	X	
Health Education – <b>Fall 2020 catalog</b> License: PK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade		X
History and Social Studies - – <b>Fall 2020 catalog</b> License: Social Studies 4 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade – license allows the teacher to teach all areas of history and social studies	X	
Mathematics - – <b>Fall 2021 catalog</b> License: Mathematics 4 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade	X	X

Music Education – <b>Fall 2020 catalog</b> License: Music grades PK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade - license allows the teacher to teach all areas of music	X	
Natural Science – – <b>Fall 2021 catalog</b> License: Science 4 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade – license allows the teacher to teach all areas of science	X	
Physical Education – <b>Fall 2021 catalog</b> License: Physical Education PK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade Optional License: Adaptive Physical Education -6 additional credits	X	
Spanish – <b>Fall 2021 catalog</b> License: PK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade	X	
Special Education – <b>Fall 2020 catalog</b> License: K-12 Cross Categorical Special Education – does not include 4year old kindergarten	X	X

# PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applications for the Professional Education Program are only processed two times a year. Applications are available outside 469 CPS or online at [www.uwsp.edu/education/Documents/stuRes/Appsoe.pdf](http://www.uwsp.edu/education/Documents/stuRes/Appsoe.pdf). The following requirements must be met **BEFORE** applying to the Professional Education Program. Use this as a checklist to help you gauge what you need to accomplish before applying to the program.

**Deadlines:** February 22 and September 22 (due the Friday prior the deadline if the deadline falls on a Saturday or Sunday).

## **24 Credits completed**

Advanced Placement (AP), CLEP, retroactive credits and credits by exam are included in the 24 credit requirement (if approved at UWSP).

## **2.60 Cumulative GPA from all accredited institutions attended**

Please note that an overall Cumulative GPA is required in order to student teach.

## **Freshman English Requirement**

- Receive a B- or better in English 101 or 150 OR
- Receive a 2.50 in English 101/102 or 101/202 OR
- Receive a B- or better in English 250 OR
- Test out of English 101 through department test-out exam or receive credit by examination. This does not include AP credit for English 101 if English 150 is required. OR
- Complete at least five, ½ hour sessions in the UWSP Tutoring Learning Center, specifically in the Writing Lab. These sessions must be completed since you completed either English 101 or English 150. Sign-up – contact the Tutoring Learning Center, 715-346- 3568, room 018 Albertson Hall, [tlctutor@uwsp.edu](mailto:tlctutor@uwsp.edu). OR
- A completed bachelor’s degree.
- Be currently enrolled in English 101 or 150 (if you apply using this criteria, you can only be conditionally admitted to the Program and must receive a B- or better by the end of the semester for full admission to the Program).

## **Criminal Background Check – you must submit either a or b with your application to the Program**

- a) Request, print and attach a Wisconsin Department of Justice (Wisconsin DOJ) background check: <https://recordcheck.doj.wi.gov/> We will accept a previous check that is no older than 6 months from the date you turn in your application. There is a small fee associated with this. Order the option to get it online immediately. **DO NOT ORDER THE OPTION TO BE MAILED TO YOU.**  
Directions: [https://www.uwsp.edu/education/Documents/fieldExp/Practicum/DOJ\\_PublicAccess.pdf](https://www.uwsp.edu/education/Documents/fieldExp/Practicum/DOJ_PublicAccess.pdf)  
**OR**
- b) If you have worked in a child care center and have had the DCF (Department of Children and Families) background check performed, including electronic fingerprints, you can attach your “letter of eligibility” from DCF if it is dated within the last 6 months from the date you turn in the application.

## **Major/Minor Department Requirements**

It is the **student’s responsibility** to see the department of major(s) and minor(s) for additional requirements. More information can be found online at

<http://www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/CurrentUndergrad/EnrollmentCap/default.aspx>

***\*All Application Requirements must be met and results received prior to application.\****

## **Conduct Disclosure**

Please be aware that you will be asked to self-disclose previous conduct-related matters during the Professional Education Program application process. **Complete the self-disclosure questionnaire honestly and accurately. Students who have questions regarding whether or not previous conduct situations should be included on the questionnaire should contact the agency that handled the situation (example: courthouse or campus conduct officers).** The existence of on-campus behavioral issues and/or a criminal record do not constitute an automatic bar to admission and will be considered only as it/they substantially relate(s) to the duties and responsibilities of the program and eventual licensure.

It is strongly recommended that students seeking admission to the Professional Education Program practice positive role-modeling behavior early in, and consistently throughout, their student career. It is important to note that students are responsible for their own behavior, as well as the behavior of their guests on campus.

Students with multiple, recent, and/or serious conduct histories may be required to meet with a committee in the Professional Education Program to discuss their behavior in order to determine admission status.

## **Disposition Expectations**

Students admitted to the Professional Education Program will be expected to meet disposition expectations throughout the academic program. Students will submit a Statement of Understanding for the Disposition Expectations at the time of application to the Program.

## Exceptions Policy

If you meet the following criteria you may apply for an exception of the 2.75 grade point by using the formal Exceptions Application available in the School of Education Academic and Career Advising Center. If granted, this exception allows you to apply to the Professional Education Program without meeting the requirement.

Deadlines for exception requests are September 11 and February 7. If a deadline falls on a weekend, the applications are due the Friday prior.

The Department of Public Instruction limits us to granting exceptions to 10% of our PEP admitted student population.

1. Students will be ranked using 50% overall GPA and 50% largest score deviation.
2. Final exception decisions will be determined by the SOE. Exception decisions are not appealable.

Exception Applications can be found outside 469 CPS or online at:

[www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/CurrentUndergrad/UndergraduateAdvise/waiverpolicy.aspx](http://www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/CurrentUndergrad/UndergraduateAdvise/waiverpolicy.aspx)

Exception Type	Exception Requirements
Grade Point Exception Requirement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. You have completed at least 24 credits with a grade point of 2.60 or better.</li><li>b. Your grades show significant improvement over a minimum of two consecutive semesters (3.00 or higher).</li><li>c. You have <b>attached</b> a letter explaining your reasons for requesting an exception.</li></ol>

**Results will be emailed within 5 working days of deadlines. Requests with incomplete paperwork will not be processed. If you do not receive a response within 5 working days, please contact the School of Education Academic and Career Advising Center immediately.**

## Application Process

- You should be ready to apply for the Professional Education Program and have completed the application requirements by the completion of 24 credits.
- Applications are available in the SOE Academic and Career Advising Center, 469 College of Professional Studies.
- The application and a copy of your current Degree Progress Report must be submitted to room 469 CPS by the Professional Education application deadlines. Some students may need to submit unofficial transcripts from every university attended. See application for details. Applications **will not** be processed at any other time.
- **DEADLINES: SEPTEMBER 22 AND FEBRUARY 22 by 4:30 p.m.** (If a deadline falls on a Saturday or Sunday, all applications are due to the SOE Academic and Career Advising Office, room 469 CPS, the Friday prior to the deadline.)
- Admission responses are emailed via [Education.Office@uwsp.edu](mailto:Education.Office@uwsp.edu) within 4 weeks of the application deadline.
- Students denied from the program will have the opportunity to appeal this decision.
- Students may only apply to a program twice.

## Appeals Process

Due Dates: April 1 and November 1 – If the deadline falls on a Saturday or Sunday, application is due the Friday prior to the deadline. Each major program with a student appeal has at least one faculty representative on the committee. Prior to the meeting, copies of the appeals are sent to the committee member representing that program area. If an appeal is granted, students will be allowed to pre-register, after the deadline, for School of Education courses requiring admission. (Appeals do not count against the limit of 2 program applications.)

**Students who are denied admission, and those who do not have all requirements met by the regular deadlines, or have missed the deadline, can choose to submit a Letter of Appeal that includes the following:**

### 1. Required Information:

- a. Name, address, phone number
- b. 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> denial
- c. Major/Minor program denied
- d. Semester you would be student teaching (Plan this out – do not guess)

### 2. You may choose to include some of the following:

- a. Reason for appeal  
(Note: If you have missed the deadline, please explain why this happened and what you will do to ensure you will not miss future deadlines.)
- b. Why you feel you would be a good teacher
- c. Extenuating circumstances that may have influenced any of the criteria used for admission ranking in your major (i.e. illness, death in the family, etc.)
- d. Any new information that would speak for your specific situation
- e. Experience working with children
- f. Resubmit revised materials you may have submitted to the department of your major (Secondary majors/minors only)
- g. Reference Letters
  - i. Most students include reference letters from someone knowledgeable about the teaching profession
  - ii. Secondary students also often include reference letters from someone who can recommend them in their field of study.

**Appeal deadlines vary, however, students who are denied admission will be notified of the appeal deadline in their letter of denial. Late Letters of Appeal will not be accepted.**

## Student Completion Requirements (PI34.14(2))

Wisconsin Teacher Certification rules, referred to as PI34 throughout this document, and additional state-adopted mandates, state that all students must meet the following program completion requirements to be approved for a teaching license:

- Cumulative GPA Requirements:** Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 (3.00 for Communication Sciences and Disorders students).
- Additional GPA Requirements:** Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.75 in all teaching majors, teaching minors and teacher certification coursework. Some majors and minors require a higher GPA.
- Minimum Grade Requirement:** Receive a grade of “C-” or better in all courses with prefix “ECED, EDUC and PHED.” Effective catalog year fall 2013 or later.
- Content Knowledge Requirement:** Demonstrate content knowledge by either 1) obtaining a 3.00 or higher in each teaching major and teaching minor or 2) submit passing scores on the required Praxis Subject Assessment exams (Fees required if needed. Testing information found later in this advising guide.). Students must meet one of the above requirements for teacher licensure.

NOTE: Any student seeking a teaching license in French, German or Spanish are required to pass the ACTFL OPIC and WPT exams, regardless of their major/minor GPA. These exams must be passed prior to applying to student teaching. (Fee required. Testing information found later in this advising guide.).

- Foundation of Reading Test for Wisconsin:** Early Childhood, Elementary and Special Education majors/minors must demonstrate knowledge of reading methodology by receiving passing scores on the Foundations of Reading Test for Wisconsin (FoRT) – (Fees required). A passing score is required for full teacher licensure, but not for graduation. For more information on this test, test preparation, registration and the UWSP FoRT alternative for licensure in special education: <https://www3.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/fort/default.aspx> Students should take this test towards the end of the semester in which they take Educ 309. Register at least 6 weeks in advance.

NOTE: If you are earning a teaching major only in special education or double major in elementary/special education, there is an approved UWSP alternative available ([see website](#)). If you are seeking a secondary/12 teaching major in regular education major with a special education minor or major, you may not need FoRT or the FoRT Alternative ([see website](#)).

- Course Currency Requirement:** ECED and EDUC courses taken more than 10 years prior to student teaching may not be applied to the program requirements. Students may appeal the currency of courses. The ADSOE will convene a review panel of appropriate faculty/advising staff to make a decision about that appeal.
- ACT 31  
**§118.19(8), Wis Stats.**  
**Teacher certificates and licenses.**  
(8) The state superintendent may not grant to any person a license to teach unless the person has received instruction in the study of minority group relations, including instruction in the history, culture and tribal sovereignty of the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands located in this state.  
Undergraduates take [EDUC 205 - Pluralism for Educators](#)  
Graduate secondary students take [EDUC 790 - Analysis and Improvement of Educational Programs](#) with the subtopic “Pluralism”  
Graduate ACEE Elementary and CWIC Special Education take [EDUC 724 - Diversity and Development](#)
- Disclaimer:** State licensing rules may change at any time due to legislative or licensing changes.

## Praxis Subject Assessments

- *Website/information?* [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis)
- *What test(s) does my major/minor require?*  
The chart found on the next few pages will direct you to the appropriate test(s) required.
- *When should I take this test?*  
The answer to this question varies by student. Only students who do not obtain a 3.00 GPA or higher in their teaching majors and teaching minor are required to take and pass the Praxis Subject Assessment. Students should consult a professional adviser in the School of Education Academic and Career Advising Center with questions.
- *Are special accommodations available?*  
Yes. Students with documented disabilities and ESL students may request special accommodations. Special paperwork found at the ETS website must be filed with Educational Testing Services at least 2-3 months prior to taking this test. Accommodations are not available on every test date/site. Plan ahead.
- *When do I have to have the test completed and passed?*  
Passing scores for all teaching majors and minors must be received by the SOE Academic and Career Advising Center for license approval.
- *How do I register?*  
**Availability:** Most tests are offered year-round; however, some are only offered 3-7 times per year and not every site offers tests on all dates.  
Registration is available online at the Praxis Series website: [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis). Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, depending on seating availability at a given testing site. There are also deadlines to register for these tests.
- *Is there a Fee Waiver available for this test?*  
Yes. ETS offers a limited number of Fee Waivers for the Praxis Subject Assessment test. Eligibility is largely determined by family income. Fee Waiver eligibility requirements and application forms can be found at the Praxis Series Web-site: [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis). Search for "FEE WAIVERS" in the search tool.
- *Are there study materials available?*  
**Praxis Subject Assessment Study Guides** are available at the UWSP LRC Reserve Desk and may still be called Praxis II Study Guides.  
**Flash Cards** for all majors/minors are available for check out through the SOE Academic and Career Advising Center.

### *How will UWSP get my score(s)?*

Use code 1919 as the "Score Recipient" when registering for the test.

- The student is responsible for checking their Degree Progress Report to make sure SOE Academic and Career Advising Center has the scores. If the scores are not found on the DPR within one week of a student receiving his/her scores, UWSP has not received the scores and the student should bring a color copy of their score report to the School of Education Academic and Career Advising Center, 469 College of Professional Studies.
- **NOTE: ETS does not mail Praxis SA scores.** Students have about a year window in which you can get your scores from their website. After that, ETS charges a significant fee. We recommend downloading your score report to your computer, a back-up system and print a few copies with colored ink. Also, please be aware that ETS only keeps score reports for 10 years.



## ACTFL OPIc and WPT Assessments

- This assessment is required for all French, German and Spanish teaching majors and minors regardless of major/minor GPA.
- *Website/information?* [www.languageTesting.com](http://www.languageTesting.com) (LTI)
- *What test(s) does my major/minor require?*  
The chart found on the next few pages will direct you to the appropriate test(s) required.
- *When should I take this test?*  
We suggest taking these tests immediately following your experience abroad or in the spring of your junior year, whichever comes first.
- *Are special accommodations available?*  
Yes. Students with documented disabilities may request special accommodations. Special paperwork found at the LTI website must be filed with the LTI company at least one month prior to taking this test. Plan ahead.
- *When do I have to have the test completed and passed?*  
Passing scores for all teaching majors and minors must be received by the SOE Academic and Career Advising Office no later than March 1 if student teaching in the fall and October 15 if student teaching in the spring. NOTE: It takes 2-4 weeks to be able to print scores from the LTI website. Retakes of these tests are allowed every 90 days; however, LTI recommends waiting 180 days between retakes.
- *How do I register?*  
Registration is available at the LTI website, [www.languageTesting.com](http://www.languageTesting.com). LTI needs at least 10 business days from the date you submit a completed application and Proctor form to set up your testing. UWSP students should meet with Dr. Tobias Barske, Department of World Languages and Literatures, or Dr. John Gaffney, School of Education, to arrange a time to take the exams prior to registering for the test. The OPI and OPIc tests take 15-40 minutes. The WPT test takes 40-80 minutes.
- *Are there study materials available?*  
Because these tests measure your oral and written proficiencies, not facts about the subject, study guides are not available for this test. We recommend reviewing “Policies & FAQs” available at LTI’s website. The FAQs give helpful tips in preparing for the test and taking the test.
- *How will UWSP get my score?*  
UWSP should be able to download your scores from the LTI website only for those students who list UWSP as a score recipient. It is imperative that students list UWSP as a score recipient.
  - The student is responsible for checking their Degree Progress Report to make sure SOE Academic and Career Advising Center has the scores. If the scores are not found on the DPR within three weeks of a student receiving his/her scores, UWSP has not received the scores and the student must bring the original score report to the School of Education Academic and Career Advising Center, 469 College of Professional Studies.
  - **NOTE: LTI does not mail scores unless the student pays the addition fee for a certified copy, which is recommended.** You will be able to check the status of your test on the LTI website using your LTI ID and password given to you: [www.languageTesting.com/individual](http://www.languageTesting.com/individual). Once the final rating is posted, the test status will be completed and you will have an option to print out a certificate. Make sure to print your certificate out for your records.
  - Students who do not have their tests proctored through UWSP will be required to inform the SOE Academic and Career Advising Center of the date they take these tests.

## Content Knowledge Requirement

<b>Majors/Minors</b>	<b>Major/Minor GPA Requirement</b>		<b>Test Code/Name</b>	<b>Passing Score Requirement</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Communication Sciences and Disorders	3.00 GPA	OR	5331: Praxis SA Speech-Language Pathology	162	Must be passed prior to license application. Take during Graduate Program. 0330 or 5330 test code if taken prior to fall 2014 (score 600)
Early Childhood & ECSE	3.00 GPA	OR	5018: Praxis SA Elementary Education: Content Knowledge	157	#5014 test code if taken prior to Sept. 2016 (score 147)
Elementary Majors	3.00 GPA	OR	5146: Praxis SA - Middle School: Content Knowledge	146	Former paper version #0146
Elementary Majors with teaching minors in early childhood special education, ESL, and health education	3.00 GPA in minor	OR	Appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment for your minor subject area.		
Elementary Education majors with teaching majors in German or Spanish	<i>No GPA replaces the need for the ACTFL exam.</i>		Must take ACTFL OPic and WPT in your language (German or Spanish)	Intermediate High (IH)	
English	3.00 GPA	OR	5038: Praxis SA English Language Arts	167	0041 or 5041 test code if taken prior to fall 2014 (score 160)
English as a Second Language	3.00 GPA	OR	5362: Praxis SA English to Speakers of Other Languages	149	0360 test code if taken prior to Sept 2010 (score 530). 5361 test code if taken prior to Sept 2016 (score 143).
Family and Consumer Sciences Education	3.00 GPA	OR	5122: Praxis SA Family & Consumer Sciences	153	0120 test code if taken prior to Sept. 2008 (score 590) 5121 test code if taken prior to Sept. 2015 (score 159.)

<b>Majors/Minors</b>	<b>Major/Minor GPA Requirement</b>		<b>Test Code/Name</b>	<b>Passing Score Requirement</b>	<b>Notes</b>
French	<i>No GPA replaces the need for the ACTFL exam.</i>		ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview I (OPI) or ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview by Computer (OPIC) <b>and</b> ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test (WPT)	Intermediate High (IH)	Praxis II test #0173 test code if taken prior to Sept 2011 (score 156) For the OPIC test, we recommend the "OPIC to Advanced" test
German	<i>No GPA replaces the need for the ACTFL exam.</i>		ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview I (OPI) or ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview by Computer (OPIC) <b>and</b> ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test (WPT)	Intermediate High (IH)	Praxis II test #0181 test code if taken prior to Sept 2011 (score 153) For the OPIC test, we recommend the "OPIC to Advanced" test
Health Education	3.00 GPA	OR	5551: Praxis SA Health Education	151	If taken prior to 09/2013 - Test #0550 OR Test #5550 - score required = 610
History and Social Studies Educ.- <b>Catalog Fall 2020 and later</b>	3.00 GPA	OR	5081: Praxis SA Social Studies: Content Knowledge	153	
Mathematics	3.00 GPA	OR	5161: Praxis SA Mathematics	160	0061 or 5061 test code if taken prior to fall 2014 (score 135)
Music Education	3.00 GPA	OR	5113: Praxis SA Music: Content Knowledge	150	Former paper version #0113.
Physical Education	3.00 GPA	OR	5091: Praxis SA Physical Education: Content Knowledge	150	Former paper version #0091
Science	3.00 GPA	OR	5435: Praxis SA General Science: Content Knowledge	154	"Sciences" includes majors/minors in Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Natural Science, Physics, Resource Management Former paper version #0435
Social Science- <b>Catalog prior to Fall 2020</b>	3.00 GPA	OR	5081: Praxis SA Social Studies: Content Knowledge	153	"Social Studies" includes majors/minors in Broadfield Social Sciences, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology Former paper version #0081
Spanish	<i>No GPA replaces the need for the ACTFL exam.</i>		ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview I (OPI) or ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview by Computer (OPIC) <b>and</b> ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test (WPT)	Intermediate High (IH)	Praxis II test #0191 test code if taken prior to Sept 2011 (score 158) For the OPIC test, we recommend the "OPIC to Advanced" test
Special Education majors	3.00 GPA	OR	5146: Praxis SA Middle School: Content Knowledge	146	Former paper version #0146

# Wisconsin Educator Standards

These standards have been adopted by the School of Education. The standards have been grouped into four general categories to help users organize their thinking about the standards:

## The Learner and Learning

Teaching begins with the learner. To ensure that each student learns new knowledge and skills, teachers must understand that learning and developmental patterns vary among individuals, that learners bring unique individual differences to the learning process, and that learners need supportive and safe learning environments to thrive. Effective teachers have high expectations for each and every learner and implement developmentally appropriate, challenging learning experiences within a variety of learning environments that help all learners meet high standards and reach their full potential. Teachers do this by combining a base of professional knowledge, including an understanding of how cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical development occurs, with the recognition that learners are individuals who bring differing personal and family backgrounds, skills, abilities, perspectives, talents and interests. Teachers collaborate with learners, colleagues, school leaders, families, members of the learners' communities, and community organizations to better understand their students and maximize their learning. Teachers promote learners' acceptance of responsibility for their own learning and collaborate with them to ensure the effective design and implementation of both self-directed and collaborative learning.

- Standard #1:** Pupil Development. The teacher understands how learners grow and develop, recognizing that patterns of learning and development vary individually within and across the cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical areas, and designs and implements developmentally appropriate and challenging learning experiences.
- Standard #2:** Learning Differences. The teacher uses understanding of individual differences and diverse cultures and communities to ensure inclusive learning environments that enable each learner to meet high standards.
- Standard #3:** Learning Environments. The teacher works with others to create environments that support individual and collaborative learning, and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

## Content

Teachers must have a deep and flexible understanding of their content areas and be able to draw upon content knowledge as they work with learners to access information, apply knowledge in real world settings, and address meaningful issues to assure learner mastery of the content. Today's teachers make content knowledge accessible to learners by using multiple means of communication, including digital media and information technology. They integrate cross-disciplinary skills (e.g., critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, communication) to help learners use content to propose solutions, forge new understandings, solve problems, and imagine possibilities. Finally, teachers make content knowledge relevant to learners by connecting it to local, state, national, and global issues.

- Standard #4:** Content Knowledge. The teacher understands the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches and creates learning experiences that make the discipline accessible and meaningful for learners to assure mastery of the content.
- Standard #5:** Application of Content. The teacher understands how to connect concepts and use differing perspectives to engage learners in critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.

## **Instructional Practice**

Effective instructional practice requires that teachers understand and integrate assessment, planning, and instructional strategies in coordinated and engaging ways. Beginning with their end or goal, teachers first identify student learning objectives and content standards and align assessments to those objectives. Teachers understand how to design, implement and interpret results from a range of formative and summative assessments. This knowledge is integrated into instructional practice so that teachers have access to information that can be used to provide immediate feedback to reinforce student learning and to modify instruction. Planning focuses on using a variety of appropriate and targeted instructional strategies to address diverse ways of learning, to incorporate new technologies to maximize and individualize learning, and to allow learners to take charge of their own learning and do it in creative ways.

- Standard #6:** Assessment. The teacher understands and uses multiple methods of assessment to engage learners in their own growth, to monitor learner progress, and to guide the teacher's and learner's decision making.
- Standard #7:** Planning for Instruction. The teacher plans instruction that supports every student in meeting rigorous learning goals by drawing upon knowledge of content areas, curriculum, cross-disciplinary skills, and pedagogy, as well as knowledge of learners and the community context.
- Standard #8:** Instructional Strategies. The teacher understands and uses a variety of instructional strategies to encourage learners to develop deep understanding of content areas and their connections, and to build skills to apply knowledge in meaningful ways.

## **Professional Responsibility**

Creating and supporting safe, productive learning environments that result in learners achieving at the highest levels is a teacher's primary responsibility. To do this well, teachers must engage in meaningful and intensive professional learning and self-renewal by regularly examining practice through ongoing study, self-reflection, and collaboration. A cycle of continuous self-improvement is enhanced by leadership, collegial support, and collaboration. Active engagement in professional learning and collaboration results in the discovery and implementation of better practice for the purpose of improved teaching and learning. Teachers also contribute to improving instructional practices that meet learners' needs and accomplish their school's mission and goals. Teachers benefit from and participate in collaboration with learners, families, colleagues, other school professionals, and community members. Teachers demonstrate leadership by modeling ethical behavior, contributing to positive changes in practice, and advancing their profession.

- Standard #9:** Professional Learning and Ethical Practice. The teacher engages in ongoing professional learning and uses evidence to continually evaluate his/her practice, particularly the effects of his/her choices and actions on others (learners, families, other professionals, and the community), and adapts practice to meet the needs of each learner.
- Standard #10:** Leadership and Collaboration. The teacher seeks appropriate leadership roles and opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with learners, families, colleagues, other school professionals, and community members to ensure learner growth, and to advance the profession.

## BLOCK PROGRAM

A number of the required "Education" courses have been put into a framework called the Block Program for purposes of scheduling, team teaching and sequencing. Not all required courses fall within the block framework. The following section outlines the sequence in which you should take the blocks in your area and also discusses the practicum experiences involved. The blocks cannot be split up without permission and only under extenuating circumstances.

### Early Childhood Majors – catalog year fall 2020 and later

Be sure to plan your schedule according to course offerings in other departments. Many courses in this major require admission to the Professional Education Program in order to enroll. Also note that many courses are offered only every other semester.

**Fundamentals Courses** Courses may be taken in different semesters. However, Educ 351 must be taken at least 4 semesters prior to student teaching if pursuing a minor or double major in special education.)

Education 302 – 3 credits

Education 331 - 3 credits

Education 351 - 3 credits

Education 381 - 2 credits – take same semester and same section # as Education 382

Education 382 - 1 credit - take same semester and same section # as Education 382

### Fall only courses

Early Childhood Education 262 – 3 credits

Early Childhood Education 368 - 3 credits

### Spring only courses

Early Childhood Education 372 - 1 credit

Early Childhood Education 460 - 3 credits

**Elementary Methods Block (formerly called Integrated Curriculum Block) – Spring only** (to be taken the spring prior to student teaching)

Education 310 – 3 credits

Education 323 – 3 credits

Education 324 - 3 credits

Education 325 - 3 credits

Education 383 – 3 credits

ECSE minor course if applicable – 3 credits

**NOTE:** Additional credits beyond the 15-18 in the Integrated Curriculum Block are not recommended. Courses scheduled after 4:00 p.m. are the only other courses you may register for during this Block, and only with permission. This block is scheduled so that there will be a commitment to go out into area schools full-time for 6-8 weeks during the last part of the semester. Students admitted to the Program are required to commit to the semester in which they will take this Block and must get written permission to switch, if available. Integrated Curriculum Block practicum experiences must be completed in Stevens Point.

## Elementary Education Majors – Catalog year fall 2020 and later

**Fundamentals Courses** (Courses can be taken in different semesters. However, Educ 351 must be taken at least 4 semesters prior to student teaching if pursuing a minor or double major in special education.)

Education 302 – 3 credits  
Education 331 - 3 credits  
Education 351 - 3 credits  
Education 381 - 2 credits – take same semester and same section # as Education 382  
Education 382 - 1 credit - take same semester and same section # as Education 382  
Education 385 – 3 credits (offered summer and winterim only)

**Elementary Methods Block (EMB)** (1 semester prior to student teaching – courses cannot be taken separately)

Education 310 - 3 credits  
Education 322 - 2 credits  
Education 323 – 3 credits  
Education 324 - 3 credits  
Education 325 - 3 credits  
Education 383 - 3 credits

**NOTE:** Additional credits beyond these 17 in EMB are not recommended. Courses scheduled after 4:00 p.m. are the only other courses you may register for during EMB. This block is scheduled so that there will be a commitment to go out into the area schools full-time for 6-8 weeks during the last part of the semester. Students admitted to the Program are required to commit to the semester in which they will take this Block and must get written permission to switch, if available.

**Student Teaching** (See the student teaching section for details)

### Special Education Major/Minor

Be sure to plan your schedule according to these offerings. These courses are strategically sequenced and must be taken in order. Courses within the blocks may not be taken separately without permission, but may be taken with other courses.

**Fundamentals Block** (Courses can be taken in different semesters. However, Educ 351 must be taken at least 4 semesters prior to student teaching if pursuing a minor or double major in special education.)

Education 302 – 3 credits  
Education 331 - 3 credits  
Education 351 - 3 credits  
Education 381 - 2 credits – take same semester and same section # as Education 382  
Education 382 - 1 credit - take same semester and same section # as Education 382  
Education 385 – 3 credits (offered summer and winterim only)

### Spring Only Courses

Education 309 – 3 credits  
Education 323 – 3 credits  
Education 314 – 2 credits (also available Winterim)

**Block II** (2nd semester admitted to Professional Education)

Education 356 – 3 credits  
Education 364 – 3 credits  
Education 373 – 3 credits

**Block III** (3rd semester admitted to Professional Education)

Education 362 – 3 credits

Education 369 – 3 credits

Education 397 – 3 credits

**Student Teaching** (See the student teaching section for details)

**Secondary and K-12 Majors**

**Fundamentals Courses – not all secondary and K-12 majors require all of these courses. See Degree Progress Report and secondary/K-12 planning sheet for details. Communicative Sciences Disorders majors-see adviser.**

Education 205 – 2 credits

Education 300 – 1 credit – must be taken one semester prior to student teaching

Education 331 - 3 credits (also available in summer)

Education 351 - 3 credits (also available in summer)

Education 381 - 2 credits – take same semester and same section # as Education 382 (also available winterim)

Education 382 - 1 credit – take same semester and same section # as Education 382 (also available winterim)

Education 386 – 3 credits

Education 385 – 3 credits -only offered summer and winterim

**Student Teaching** (See the student teaching section for details)



# CLINICAL AND CLINICAL FIELD EXPERIENCE REGULATIONS

Clinical field experiences, or practica, are regulated by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (WDPI) and the DPI approved teacher education program at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Pre-clinical at UWSP are administered by the Office of Field Experiences (OFE), in conjunction with program areas designated as approved for majors or minors leading to certification.

Clinical and clinical field experiences at UWSP conform to DPI regulations as stated in Wisconsin Administrative Code PI 4.10. Those experiences which precede student teaching must meet the following mandated standards:

1. The program shall require onsite supervised pre-clinical experiences which are developmental in scope and sequence and occur in a variety of school settings.
  2. The pre-clinical field experiences shall result in students demonstrating knowledge and understanding of Wisconsin Teacher Standards.
  3. Successful performance shall be measured using both of the following:
    - a. At least 2 written evaluations of each student based upon observations by the cooperating teacher or by the SCD supervisor.
    - b. The student portfolio required under s.PI34.13 (3) (b).
- Sites for clinical field experiences must be approved school programs with affiliation agreements mutually developed with UWSP.
  - Objectives, policies, and procedures governing clinical field experiences must be provided to all participants. Criteria for admission, evaluation and retention must also be published.

## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE LEVELS

### Clinical Experience Levels for Initial Certification

Structured experiences in actual classrooms involve observation of instructional programs, participation in instruction and responsibility for curriculum and instruction. These experiences are integrated throughout the Professional Education Program and may be called “practicum” experiences, “laboratory” experiences or “practice teaching.” The syllabus of each pedagogical methods course should state whether clinical field experience is required and specify its level and criteria.

Clinical experiences in teacher education programs at UWSP follow expectations established by the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

#### **Clinical Experience I.** (Typically 10-20 hours)

Pre-service teachers at this level are expected to attend all arranged sessions. The primary duty is to observe instructional programs in progress. These observations may involve limited participation, such as preparing materials or tutoring students. Participation must be under the direct supervision of a host teacher, preferably in a classroom setting. Documentation of hours by the host teacher is required. The course instructor will direct reflection and learning based on the practicum experiences.

**Clinical Experience II.** (Typically 20-40 hours)

Upon completion of at least one experience at the preceding level, pre-service teachers may assume further responsibilities, such as instructing small groups or large groups for all or parts of lessons. Lesson content and materials may be prepared by the pre-service teacher along with beginning experience with assessment of student work, subject to approval and guidance by the host teacher. Participation must be under the direct supervision of a host teacher. Documentation of hours by the host teacher is required. The course instructor will direct reflection and learning based on the practicum experiences.

**Clinical Experience III.** (As determined by the program)

Building upon successful practicum level I and II experiences, pre-service teachers will, over time and at the discretion of the host teacher, assume additional responsibilities including planning for, instructing and assessing student learning. Participation must be under the direct supervision of a host teacher in prekindergarten through grade 12 school settings. Evaluation based upon observations by the host teacher or a university supervisor of pre-service teacher performance is required. [PI.34.15(5)(a)] The course instructor will direct reflection and learning based on the practicum experiences.

At this level, some certification requirements *may* be met if supervised and documented by a university supervisor and a qualified cooperating teacher. This is subject to advance approval by the Office of Field Experiences.

**Clinical Experience IV.**

Student teaching, as required and described in PI.34.15 (5)(b).

**MINIMUM CLINICAL EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS – Catalog Year fall 2020 and later**

<b>Elementary Education Hours</b>		<b>Secondary Education Hours</b>	
<b><u>Course</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum Hours</u></b>	<b><u>Course</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum Hours</u></b>
<b>Non-Block</b>	<b>53+</b>	<b>Non-Block</b>	<b>20+</b>
ECED 301	10	EDUC 205	12*
EDUC 205	12*	EDUC 386	10
EDUC 302	10	Nat. Res. 370	6
EDUC 309 (during schedule class)	10	(for specific majors)	
Nat. Res. 370	6		
Health Ed. 280	3		
<b>Fundamentals</b>	<b>10-20</b>	<b>Fundamentals</b>	<b>10-20</b>
EDUC 351	10	EDUC 351	10
EDUC 381	0-10	EDUC 381	0-10
EDUC 331	0	EDUC 331	0
<b>Elementary Methods Block</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Must be completed in SP</b>		Methods	50
EDUC 310			
EDUC 322			
EDUC 323			
EDUC 324			
EDUC 325			
EDUC 383			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>363+</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80+</b>

\*Clinical experiences at UWSP meet human relations requirements mandated by DPI as detailed in Wisconsin Administrative Code PI 34.15 (2a2 and 4c).





## STUDENT TEACHING

**\*\* Clinical Experience IV.** Upon admission to this level, pre-service teachers attend schools daily over the course of a full semester, sharing responsibility for 50% of a full-time teacher's load at most. Student teachers must conduct entire units of instruction in a co-teaching model, during that time, or at least 40 contiguous hours of direct instruction also called lead teaching. This is required for initial certification and must be supervised, documented and evaluated by a university supervisor and a qualified cooperating teacher. Clinical Experience IV is required for initial certification.

### Application Requirements

- ◇ Admission to the Professional Education Program.
- ◇ 2.75 GPA in Professional Education courses and overall GPA, as well as every subject area for which licensure is sought: major, minor or concentration. Some majors require 3.00.
- ◇ Internships require a minimum 3.00 cumulative GPA, a 3.00 GPA in your major and a 3.00 GPA in your minor if you want to teach it.
- ◇ World Language teaching majors - Passing scores on the state mandated ACTFL tests. Passing scores must be received by the SOE Advising, Recruitment & Retention Office no later March 1 for fall student teachers and October 15 for spring student teachers.
- ◇ Completion of all teaching methods and techniques courses, including any required pre-student teaching field experiences.
- ◇ Written approval from designated administrators for each program area for which licensure is sought, as well as the Undergraduate Advising Coordinator.
- ◇ Criminal Background check to be conducted through UWSP Protective Services.

An application for student teaching may be obtained in the Office of Field Experiences, College of Professional Studies, Room 464. Applications for fall placement will be accepted through the middle of the preceding February and applications for spring placement through the end of September. There will be deadlines posted for each term; late applications may not be accepted. Mandatory student teaching meetings will run within the first two weeks of the semester prior to the semester you plan on student teaching or interning and again during finals week the semester prior to the semester you plan on student teaching or interning.

Intern applications are solicited once a year but may be taken anytime.

Answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ) about student teaching can be found online.  
<http://www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/fieldExp/default.aspx>.

**The Handbook for Student Teaching  
describes the steps and  
responsibilities involved in your  
student or intern teaching  
experience, as well as application for  
teacher certification.**

It is available on the UWSP Office of  
Field Experience Home Page at:  
[www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/fieldExp](http://www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/fieldExp)

## Student Teaching

The student teaching experience is coordinated through the School of Education Office of Field Experiences. (Additional fees required.)

Student teaching is completed during a student's final semester in the program.

### When do I apply for student teaching?

Applications for student teaching are taken by the Office of Field Experiences (OFE) at a meeting held in the first month of the semester preceding the one when you plan to student teach. You will be expected to give us three school districts, in order of preference, that would work for you during student teaching.

Watch for announced dates and places. In the meantime, you are welcome to stop by the Office of Field Experiences with your questions.

### What locations can I request for my student teaching?

**Traditional Student Teaching:** The Office of Field Experiences website has a map with the most up-to-date student teaching "zones." <https://www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/fieldExp/Students.aspx>

**Student Teaching Abroad:** In conjunction with Educators Abroad, some student teaching assignments may be overseas, which also entail additional fees. Such requests will be considered only in conjunction with a quarter of student teaching in Wisconsin. Students interested in a placement abroad should consult the Director of Field Experiences well in advance of their student teaching experience.

**Institute for Urban Education:** UWSP also places teacher candidates with the UW-System Institute for Urban Education. This program makes placements in urban settings in Wisconsin; participants are supported in a collaborative seminar. Interest in such a placement should be expressed early in the application process by meeting with the Director of Field Experiences.

**Bush Alaska:** UWSP students have an option to spend half of their student teaching experience in rural, bush Alaska. Students will be placed in the Lower Kuskokwim School District (LKSD) and will be provided with a round-trip airline ticket and housing. For more information on LKSD: <http://www.lksd.org/>

**Internships:** Internships are assignments in which student teachers are given temporary certification from the WI DPI and partial contracts from the sponsoring school district. Students are paid a stipend for this experience.

### What do I need to know as I plan ahead for my semester of student teaching?

Teacher candidates should be aware that the semester of student teaching follows the calendar of the host school district. This means that you will start before the UWSP semester and/or extend beyond it, depending upon the semester of your experience. Wisconsin school district calendars typically require teachers to report during the last week in August. The end of the school year is usually in early June. Teacher candidates must be in attendance for all teacher workdays. Vacation days also follow the host school district calendar. Do not plan personal events that cause conflicts with this requirement.

### Additional Questions?

More frequently asked questions can be found online: <https://www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/fieldExp/Students.aspx>

School of Education  
Office of Field Experiences  
464 College of Professional Studies  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

715-346-2449 (phone)  
[Field.Experiences.Office@uwsp.edu](mailto:Field.Experiences.Office@uwsp.edu)

Office hours  
9-12:30 a.m. and 1:30-4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

## **Professional Dispositions of UWSP Teacher Candidates**

### **Statement of Dispositions**

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) School of Education (SOE) faculty, staff, and school-based partners believe that well prepared teacher candidates understand and effectively demonstrate the knowledge, skills and dispositions of the teaching profession. According to the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (2008, p. 89-90), professional dispositions are defined as:

*professional attitudes, values, and beliefs demonstrated through both verbal and non-verbal behaviors as educators interact with students, families, colleagues, and communities. These positive behaviors support student learning and development.*

We have the responsibility of assessing future educators' application of knowledge, skills, and dispositions in coursework and school settings to ensure effectiveness in their teaching. Candidates are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the highest degree of professionalism. It is important for candidates to recognize when their own dispositions may need to be modified and develop plans to do so.

Effective educators come from diverse backgrounds, and have varied opinions, interests, abilities, and personalities. However, we believe that some effective educator qualities are common to all good educators. These qualities include: adapting to social, cultural, economic and demographic patterns; skillfully using technology and other educational tools to promote teaching and learning; and acting in caring, fair, professional, respectful and responsible ways.

Therefore, all UWSP professional education candidates are assessed on and expected to show growth in the following dispositions throughout their teacher preparation program (see Figure 1):

1. Inclusive Excellence
2. Responsibility for Self and the Fostering of Collaborative Relationships
3. Reflectivity about Teaching, Learning, and Interactions
4. Creativity and Critical Thinking in Teaching, Learning and Problem Solving
5. Perseverance for Excellence
6. Professionalism in Teaching, Learning and Interactions



## Process for Implementation

1. When students declare their intent to teach, they receive the UWSP SOE Undergraduate Advising Guide. The **Professional Dispositions Policy** is included in this guide.
2. Upon admission to the Professional Education Program (PEP), students read and sign the **Dispositions Statement of Understanding**, indicating their agreement to work with and demonstrate these dispositions as teacher candidates. This document (along with other application materials) is maintained in the student's file in the Academic and Career Advising Center.
3. Throughout the PEP, teacher candidates have opportunities to connect with and reflect upon professional dispositions. Faculty and staff encourage students' cultivation of professional dispositions in the context of course work, practicum experiences and other professional activity. A documented self-assessment of professional dispositions occurs at these points in the PEP: introductory courses, fundamentals block courses, methods courses, application to student teach and throughout student teaching.
4. When the professional (faculty, staff, or school-based partner) observes significant and/or repeated discrepancies between dispositions demonstrated by the teacher candidate and those required by the profession, the following steps are initiated:

Step 1 The professional meets with the teacher candidate to discuss the behaviors or actions they have observed. During the meeting, the Step 1 Form is completed to document a growth plan which will be monitored for successful implementation.

Step 2 In the event the teacher candidate is not successfully implementing the growth plan, the professional and at least two other professionals meet with the teacher candidate and an advocate, if so desired. During the meeting, the Step 2 Form is completed to document an agreed upon intervention plan. In severe cases, a decision may be made to move immediately to Step 3.

Step 3 The professional and at least two other professionals (including the Associate Dean of the SOE) meet with the teacher candidate to recommend removal from the PEP (Step 3 Form).



Figure 1  
Adopted 11/29/10

