

## Education

The Graduate Education Program is designed to prepare students as educators who will be spiritually, academically, professionally, and cross culturally equipped to provide quality educational Christian service around the world.

### Objectives

Upon completion of this program the student will be expected to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of advanced strategies in content related to curriculum and administration.
2. Design and implement instruction, assessment, and administrative practices in the educational setting.
3. Demonstrate the ability to create and evaluate positive, productive classroom environments utilizing formal and informal settings and appropriate classroom management strategies.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of professional roles and responsibilities in public and private education.
5. Develop an advanced understanding for teaching students of diverse cultures.

### Prerequisites

The following prerequisites or their equivalents must be met for acceptance into the graduate Education programs:

1. Students must achieve a minimum score of 400 on the verbal and 3.0 on the analytical writing section on the General Test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). This requirement is expected to be met before enrollment into any graduate level course. However, under special circumstances with approval from the Dean of the Graduate School, a student may enroll for one semester taking no more than 12 graduate hours prior to fulfilling the requirement of the GRE. No student will be allowed to enroll for a second semester without fulfilling the GRE requirement. All transfer students are required to meet the GRE requirement before enrollment. (Students who are graduates of Southwestern with a 2.5 G.P.A. will be conditionally admitted to the Harrison School of Graduate Studies without taking the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). After completing twelve hours of graduate work with G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher, the student would then be accepted into the graduate school.)

### STATE EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

Students on degrees with a certification track are eligible to apply for state certification and must be formally accepted into the Teacher Education Program, which is separate from admittance into the Graduate Education Program. Certification eligibility is reserved for students who meet admissions requirements, make application to, and are approved into the Teacher Education Program. Students must also successfully complete their academic program, all state exams, as well as fulfill the required 75 hours of field experience and student teaching. (See Student Teaching Requirements.)

Only students completing all program stipulations will be recommended for state certification.

Please see the Education Certification Officer for a complete list of Teacher Education Program requirements.

**The candidate is responsible for initiating the application to the Teacher Education Program.**

Applications are available in the Teacher Education office or on the Education website at [www.sagu.edu](http://www.sagu.edu). All applications must be accompanied by:

1. A recent photo.
2. A statement of purpose – a one-page, double-spaced essay describing reasons for desiring a profession in the teaching field.
3. Two recommendation forms completed by individuals who can verify moral character and child/youth related experience or other work experience. The Education Committee will not accept recommendations from relatives, SAGU faculty members, or fellow students. Recommendation forms are available on the SAGU Education Department website or in the Teacher Education Office.
4. Recommendation from the University's Counselor, based on results of the Taylor-Johnson Temperament Analysis (TJTA). The purpose for taking the TJTA is to identify strengths possessed by the potential teacher. If the TJTA indicates areas that may need strengthening, the student may be required to complete further counseling prior to admission to the Education program. The Counseling Office administers the TJTA, and the results are sent to the Certification Officer upon completion.

Along with the application, eligibility for the program requires the candidate to:

1. Take the THEA (formerly the TASP) and meet a minimum score of 260 in Reading, 220 in Math, and 220 in Writing. Registration bulletins for taking the THEA are available in the Teacher Education office. Internet registration is also available at [www.thea.nesinc.com](http://www.thea.nesinc.com). Passing standards are subject to change as the State Board of Education changes minimum standards.
2. Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.75.
3. Gain approval of the Teacher Education Committee.
4. Meet such standards as may be implemented by law in the State of Texas at any time during the student's matriculation.

Once the application packet is complete, the Teacher Education Committee will review the applicant's file. The Committee reserves the right to request an interview as part of the application process. The Committee will vote and make a determination of acceptance or denial. Applicants will be notified by mail of the Committee's decision. Any applicant who is denied acceptance will be given a clear statement of reasons for denial. Denial of admittance, for any reason, may be appealed in writing to the Teacher Education Committee.

From time to time, the state of Texas in compliance with No Child Left Behind (NCLB) will amend its requirements for certification. While the SAGU Teacher Education Department does everything necessary to prevent major alterations to a student's degree, it must ultimately comply with state requirements. Therefore, the Teacher Education Department reserves the right to alter degrees and certification requirements as they are compelled by the Federal and State governments.

### Student Teaching Requirements

A student seeking state certification through the Post-Baccalaureate Program will be required to complete one of the following:

1. Enrollment in appropriate Student Teaching course and successfully complete twelve consecutive weeks of full days in an accredited school.
2. Employment by an accredited school as a teacher of record under a one year probationary certificate in the area and level for which certification is sought. Students who have worked as teacher assistants or resource teachers are not eligible for a waiver of Student Teaching. Two years experience in an accredited school as a teacher of record the area and level for which certification is sought.
3. Two years experience in an accredited school as a teacher of record in the area and level for which certification is sought.

Due to the added responsibilities during student teaching, graduate students are discouraged from taking more than three graduate hours during their student teaching practicum. Students who wish to take over three graduate hours of course work while student teaching will need the approval of the Graduate Education Chair.

## Middle and Secondary Education

The Masters of Education in Middle and Secondary Education is designed to give students the spiritual, academic, professional and cross-cultural resources to be leaders in middle and secondary education classrooms around the world.

### Objectives

Upon completion of the program, the student will be expected to:

1. Understand the learning processes of adolescents and be able to effectively develop and teach curricula in culturally diverse and differentiated learning environments.
2. Design and implement a classroom management plan so as to effectively manage their classrooms and provide a safe learning environment for students.
3. Understand the various issues surrounding curriculum, instruction and assessment including reading skills, technology, lesson planning, and standardized tests.
4. Understand and apply knowledge related to the physical, cognitive, social, spiritual, and emotionally development of adolescents and how this affects their learning processes.

## EDUCATION

### Middle and Secondary Education

#### Professional Component: 18 Hours

- EDP 5813 Technology in Educational Settings
- EDU 5113 Research Literature and Technology
- EDU 5243 Differentiated Learning Strategies
- EDU 5613 Teaching Students of Diverse Cultures
- EDU 5713 Studies in Classroom Management
- EDU 5743 Advanced Strategies in Learning

#### Resource Area Component: 12 Hours

12 hours from the following:

- EDP 5123 Advanced Studies in Teaching English as a Second Language
- EDU 5213 Language Arts Curriculum
- EDU 5313 Mathematics Curriculum
- EDU 5413 Social Studies Curriculum
- EDU 5513 Science Curriculum
- EDU 5733 Advanced Strategies in Reading
- EDU 5923 Instructional Leadership in Curriculum and Assessment

**TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS 30**

### Prerequisites

Before formal admittance into Graduate Education program, students will be required to fulfill the knowledge base in areas of adolescent development, educational foundations, and educational psychology. Students who do not have a sufficient background in education either through course work or experience will be required to take the following courses as the education department deems necessary:

- EDU 2253 Foundations of Education
- HDV 2313 Adolescent Growth and Development
- PSY 3353 Psychology of Education

In addition, it is expected that applicant demonstrate competency in the content area for which they are seeking certification. Applicants will need to contact the Education Certification Officer for information regarding this. The Teacher Education Department reserves the right to refuse admittance to Teacher Education Certification program for students who do not pass the TExES content exam.

### Additional Requirement

Students who have not completed twenty-four hours of Bible/Theology at the undergraduate level will be required to take THE 5223 Christian Worldview in a Pluralistic Society. Any student who has not taken a course in hermeneutics must take BIB 5123 Biblical Hermeneutics.

Students must apply for graduation and successfully pass the Graduate Comprehensive Examinations prior to being approved for graduation from the Registrar's office. Application for graduation must be made by the end of late registration in the semester in which the student anticipates to graduate. In order to qualify for a specific graduation date, graduating students must have all program and course requirements completed. Contact the Graduate Studies office and Registrar's office for more information.

### Teaching Certificate

Students who are seeking state certification need to contact the Certification Officer for more information.