



College of Education

The mission of the College of Education at TCU is to prepare exemplary leaders for diverse educational settings and related fields who are reflective, ethical, innovative and committed to all learners. As professionals and active citizens in the community, the college strives to create a humane and just society in which all individuals can develop their full potential. The College of Education is governed by an ethical code that documents its obligations to students, colleagues and the community. This code includes rationality and objectivity in professional judgments and actions, civility and caring in interactions with others, and encouragement of diverse views on issues of significance to society.

Consistent with the above values, the college's core beliefs incorporate a connection between a strong foundational knowledge base with professional practice. Professionals in education study and expand the knowledge base of effective practice and ground their practice in theory and research acquiring expertise through activities in diverse, field-based settings, which are exemplars of practice. They also promote high student achievement and a passion for learning by:

- Mastering content knowledge and effective pedagogical skills;
- Using multiple strategies, resources and technologies to plan, implement and assess instruction and document effectiveness with students; and
- Synthesizing knowledge from relevant, academically diverse perspectives and a variety of theoretical orientations and approaches.

In addition, educational professionals provide service and leadership in diverse settings, ranging from local to global communities; seek to improve professional settings and society; and collaborate with representatives from various groups within and outside the educational community.



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College of Education

Education Centers, Institutes and Laboratory Schools

Center for Public Education

The Center for Urban Education considers education a civil and human right, a public good, and both a process and a goal. Through education young people develop opportunities and civic competence. Many of society's problems (poverty, disenfranchisement, discrimination) manifest themselves in public schools. In the past these issues were most present in urban school settings, but they are now also found in suburban and rural areas. TCU's Center for Public Education seeks to understand the complexity of public education at the system level and build connections with individual schools. Initiatives include:

- Aspiring Teacher's Program. Recruits high school students from underrepresented groups into the teaching profession.
- Anti-bullying and anti-bias workshop for TCU student teachers.
- College Advising Corps. Seeks to increase the number of low-income, first-generation and underrepresented Texas high school students earning a degree in the TCU College of Education.

Andrews Institute of Mathematics & Science Education

The mission of the **Andrews Institute** is to provide an environment for innovation and change in mathematics and science education through creative research and teaching by faculty and students. Vital to the mission is cutting-edge research focused on the teaching and learning of mathematics and science education. Also of great importance is the outreach to the community as seen in events and joint ventures with community partners.

Goals:

- Enhance the educational experience of TCU students who will become effective and ethical educators in the field of mathematics and/or science education;
- Conduct research that addresses issues of teaching and learning mathematics or science and contribute to development of evidence-based practices in mathematics and science education;
- Sponsor and participate in community outreach to enhance the experience of students and their families in school and community-based activities in mathematics and science;
- Engage in advocacy to promote the development and delivery of exceptional programs in mathematics and science education.



College of Education

Education Centers, Institutes and Laboratory Schools

Alice Neeley Special Education Research and Service Institute

The Alice Neeley Special Education Research and Service (ANSERS) Institute provides an environment for innovation and change in special education through exemplary teaching, creative research, and community outreach. The ANSERS Institute works in conjunction with the TCU laboratory schools – Starpoint and KinderFrogs – to create and coordinate activities, programs and research in special education.

The mission of the ANSERS Institute is to transform the quality of life and learning for students with disabilities and their families through evidence-based research and practice.

The ANSERS Institute's mission is carried out through the following four goals:

- Enhance the educational experience of TCU students who will become effective and ethical educators in the field of special education.
- Conduct research that will better meet the needs of children with disabilities and contribute to development of evidence-based practices in special education.
- Sponsor and participate in community outreach to enhance the inclusion of children and youth with disabilities and their families in school and community-based activities.
- Engage in advocacy activities to support and promote the development and delivery of exceptional services to children with disabilities.



College of Education

Education Centers, Institutes and Laboratory Schools

Starpoint and KinderFrogs Schools

The Laboratory Schools, Starpoint and KinderFrogs, in the College of Education at Texas Christian University provide opportunities for TCU students in the fields of education, kinesiology, nursing, speech and language, and child development to engage in teaching, research and applied practice. The overarching goal of the Laboratory Schools is to provide an innovative learning environment for children with learning challenges and to inform the field of special education through research and innovative practices.

Starpoint School is an individualized academic program for children ages 6 to 12 with learning differences, which is committed to the ideal that all children can learn. Through innovative programming, children learn to compensate for their learning difficulties, build on their own strengths, develop a positive attitude about school and learning, and perform to the best of their capabilities as life-long learners.

KinderFrogs is a family-focused, early-intervention program that provides a developmentally appropriate educational environment for children with Down syndrome and other developmental delays. Through innovative programming, KinderFrogs School prepares children for success and independence in inclusive school and community settings.



College of Education

College of Education Degrees

The College of Education offers the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Education degree with majors in:

Early Childhood Education (Grades EC-6)

- Generalist EC-6 with ESL Option
- Generalist EC-6 with Special Education Option
- Generalist EC-6 with Bilingual Option

Middle School Education (Grades 4-8)

- Middle School Language and Literacy
- Middle School Mathematics
- Middle School Science
- Middle School Social Studies

Secondary Education (Grades 7-12)

- Secondary School Language and Literacy
- Secondary School Life Science
- Secondary School Physical Science (Grades 6-12)
- Secondary School Social Studies

Courses are also offered for those students wishing to prepare for teaching English as a Second Language (ESL). See [English as a Second Language Supplemental Certificate](#).



College of Education

College of Education Degrees

Program Changes

Programs listed in this catalog reflect current State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) and Texas Education Agency (TEA) standards. Minor changes may be made in these programs to meet additional certification standards adopted by SBEC/TEA.

Honors College

Education majors who plan to pursue Departmental Honors must be members of the Honors College and should enroll in [EDUC 30003](#) : Honors Tutorial during their junior year and [EDUC 40003](#) : Honors Research Paper during the fall or spring semester of their senior year. With permission from an adviser, [EDUC 30003](#) : Honors Tutorial may substitute for [EDUC 30123](#) : Educational Psychology.



College of Education

Education Major, Double Major or Minor Declaration

Students may declare a major, double major or minor in education, but to be admitted into the Teacher Education Program, all majors and minors must meet the following criteria:

- TCU students must have a 2.75 or better GPA.
- Transfer students must bring a 3.0 or better GPA to declare an education major and have a 2.75 or better GPA on 12 hours of coursework at TCU to be admitted to the College of Education.
- Entering freshmen have no specific requirements to declare an education major but must have a 2.75 or better GPA to be admitted to the college.
- All education majors and minors must maintain high professional standards and acceptable academic performance (a minimum 2.75 GPA overall and a “C” or better in all content areas and education coursework).

Pass/No-Credit Policy

The University Pass/No-Credit (P/NC) Policy states that students may take up to two courses (8 hours maximum) on a P/NC basis. No course applied to the student's major, minor or associated requirements may be taken on the P/NC basis. Courses offered with only the P/NC option will not count toward this limit on the number of P/NC hours. *Students in the College of Education may not take any education course required for teacher certification or in the student's teaching content area on the P/NC basis, with the exceptions of student teaching and the professional practice seminar.*

Teacher Education Program Admission

- Students who plan to declare a major or minor in education or who plan to earn a teaching certificate must formally apply for admission to the Teacher Education Program. They must meet, or will meet during the semester in which they apply, the minimum criteria. However, meeting only the minimum criteria does not ensure admission to the program. According to the criteria, students must:
- Complete a least 54 semester hours of coursework.
- Attain a minimum overall 2.75 GPA on a minimum of 12 semester hours of coursework at TCU.
- Complete the ethics training module required by the Texas Education Agency.



College of Education

Education Major, Double Major or Minor Declaration

- Complete a course in the following areas of study: speech communication (OC) and [EDUC 20003](#) (Critical Investigation: Teaching and Learning) with a grade of “C” or better.
- Complete 12 hours of content area coursework or 15 hours if the certification sought is math or science at or above grade seven.
- Achieve a grade of “C” or better in all content areas* and education courses taken prior to admission.
- Attach a current (within one year) criminal record check.
- Attach FERPA Agreement.
- Demonstrate high professional, ethical, and relational standards of behavior, appropriate emotional control, and communication (oral, written, and technological) with adults, children, and fellow students.
- Attain required scores on *one* of the following: THEA (TASP), SAT or ACT. These scores must not be older than five years.

THEA	SAT	ACT
Reading – 260	Critical Reading – 500	Reading – 19
Mathematics – 230	Mathematics – 500	Mathematics – 19
Writing – 220	Writing – 500	
	Composite – 1570	Composite 23

*content area for EC-6 certification includes history, government, mathematics, English, lab sciences, geography, fine arts and speech.



College of Education

Education Major, Double Major or Minor Declaration

Students applying for admission to the Teacher Education Program should do so by March 1 for fall admission and Oct. 1 for the spring. Late applications will be considered on a space-available basis. Eligibility to apply does not ensure admission to the program. The Admissions Committee will consider minimum criteria, as well as student performance (professional attitude, demeanor, abilities and preparation) and space in the program.

Any exception to these admission standards must be approved by the program faculty and the College of Education dean and/or designee.

Prior to admission to the College of Education, students may take [EDUC 20003](#) Critical Investigation: Teaching and Learning; EDUC/MS/SE 30113 Digital Literacy, Learning and Citizenship in Education; [EDUC 30143](#) Child and Adolescent Development; [EDEC 30103](#) Introduction to Early Childhood Education; and [EDUC 30013](#) Professional Roles and Responsibilities. Students may not register for any other education courses until admitted to the College of Education.

Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA)

Students who do not have the required scores on the ACT or SAT must take the Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA) examination prior to admission to the Teacher Education Program. The test consists of three sections: reading, writing and mathematics, which may be taken together or at separate test administrations. Students are encouraged to take the THEA as early as possible, preferably during their freshman year. Information about the THEA may be obtained in the College of Education or at www.thea.nesinc.com.

Criminal Record Search

In accordance with Texas Senate Bill 9 and at the request of the State Board of Educator Certification, the College of Education has established procedures for annual criminal background checks for all education majors and minors. The College of Education requires a criminal background check prior to admission, field experiences and student teaching.



College of Education

Education Major, Double Major or Minor Declaration

Liability Insurance

As students enter public and private schools for observations, tutoring, after-school programs and student teaching, it is important to be covered by liability insurance. Under Texas law, both the student intern and teacher can be held responsible for a child's injury. Liability insurance is offered at low cost to teachers-in-training who belong to a teacher organization such as the TCU chapter of the Texas Student Education Association (TSTA-NEA), which covers liability insurance, costs of defending claims and some attorney fees. Other teacher organizations in the state — ATPE, UEA, AFT — offer similar coverage.

Teacher Education Program Retention

Students must maintain acceptable academic performance (a minimum 2.75 GPA overall and a grade of “C” or better in content area and education courses), as well as high professional standards in order to advance in the program and to student teaching. The College of Education is dedicated to identifying and intervening to assist students who demonstrate difficulties maintaining these standards.

Any faculty member who has a concern with a student's performance and/or professionalism may initiate the Academic Performance and Professionalism Warning (APPW) process.

1. First, the faculty member fills out the APPW form describing the concerns and indicating potential solutions.
2. A conference between the student and two faculty members is required. The parties discuss the student's understanding of the problem and agree on a course of action. The APPW contract is signed by the student and faculty members. If the student fails to respond or attend a conference, the faculty will complete the form and notify the student via certified mail.
3. The completed form is submitted to the associate dean, the student and the Office of Campus Life.
4. Any student receiving three notices through this process may be considered for dismissal from the College of Education. Except in an unusually severe situation, just one notice will not result in dismissal. These notices do not become part of a student's permanent academic record.



College of Education

Education Major, Double Major or Minor Declaration

Student Teaching Admission

Any student who wishes to be considered for admission to student teaching must meet the following requirements:

- Completion of all content area and education coursework with a minimum 2.75 GPA and no grade lower than a “C”;
- A minimum overall TCU GPA of 2.75;
- Completion of the modules required by the Texas Education Agency regarding recognizing/intervening/referral services for emotional-behavioral concerns of students;
- Successful completion of Senior Seminar EDEC/EDMS/[EDSE 30001](#): Professional Practice Seminar.
- Demonstration of high professional, ethical and relational standards of behavior, appropriate emotional control, and communication (oral, written and technological) with adults, children and fellow students.

Applications for student teaching are due by May 1 for fall student teaching and October 1 for spring student teaching. The Admissions Committee will consider minimum criteria, as well as student performance (professional attitude, demeanor, abilities and preparation). Any exception to these student teaching standards must be approved by the program faculty and the College of Education dean and/or designee.

Accelerated Master's Option

The Accelerated Option is for high achieving undergraduate students enrolled in TCU’s College of Education. This option is available only to TCU undergraduates obtaining a baccalaureate degree and teacher certification in early childhood (EC-6), middle school or secondary education. The Accelerated Option allows outstanding students to complete a bachelor’s degree with the Master of Education (M.Ed.) in five years. Students are eligible to apply for admission to the graduate program during the semester they complete 90 hours of undergraduate coursework. To be considered for admission to the Accelerated Option, students must submit a graduate program application packet. Only candidates demonstrating superior undergraduate academic performance and having strong recommendations are considered for admission.



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Education Major, Double Major or Minor Declaration

Students intending to pursue an Accelerated Option should make their plans known as early as possible to their faculty advisor and mentor in the College of Education to ensure proper advising. If admitted to the Accelerated Program, students complete up to 12 semester hours of the M.Ed. program during the fourth year of undergraduate study. Candidates must work with their advisors to determine how the courses they will apply to the undergraduate degree.

International Student Teaching Opportunities

Students in the College of Education can participate in the many Study Abroad programs at TCU as well as experience student teaching abroad in places like Belgium, Denmark, England, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and The Netherlands.

Certification

To obtain Texas teacher certification at TCU, students must complete the Teacher Education Program in the College of Education and achieve a bachelor's degree. Students who are seeking certification must take the state TExES proficiency exam at least once by midterm of the semester in which the students plans to graduate. Students must also successfully complete the appropriate state certification exams for the content area and grade level they wish to teach. After graduation the student will be recommended to the state of Texas for teacher certification by TCU upon completion of the following requirements:

- Conferred bachelor's degree;
- Successful completion of the Teacher Education Program, including the student teaching experience;
- Passing scores on the required state certification exams; and
- Final GPA of 2.75 with “C “or better in education and content area coursework.



College of Education

Education Major, Double Major or Minor Declaration

Texas Examination of Educator Standards (TExES)

All Teacher Education Program candidates applying for Texas certification after graduation must pass proficiency tests (TExES) in their respective field of certification or supplemental area and must pass a professional development test. Students who fail to take the appropriate TExES within three years of program completion must present documentation of completion of TExES review or additional coursework prior to receiving permission to test.

To be eligible to take the TExES certification exam, students must pass the practice representative exams, which are offered during the Professional Practice Seminar. Students who do not pass the practice exams must present evidence of test preparation before the exam will be re-administered. A student who receives no credit in the Professional Practice Seminar is not considered a program completer and will not be released to take the TExES.

Title II

Teacher preparation programs at institutions of higher learning are required to report the pass rates of their program graduates on the exams that qualify them for certification in their state. The most recent, complete Institutional Report for TITLE II is available on the College of Education website.

Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

All individuals seeking Texas teaching certification with a major in Spanish, French, or German must take the Languages other than English (LOTE) state exam along with the EC-12PPR.

Education Major Transfer Work Credit

- After enrolling at TCU:
- All education majors must receive prior written approval from their academic adviser and the associate dean before taking courses at another institution. Coursework taken without prior written approval may not be applied to a degree.



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Education Major, Double Major or Minor Declaration

- No more than 12 total semester hours, except those earned in an approved study abroad program, may be transferred from other schools.
- No credit may be transferred from a community college once 54 cumulative semester hours have been earned.
- Transcripts of coursework taken elsewhere must reach the Office of the Registrar within 30 days of completion of the coursework.

College of Education Career Services Center

The Career Services Center maintains contact with public and private schools seeking teachers, school counselors, administrators and other types of educational personnel. Registration with the center entitles students to file a summary of their academic records together with requested recommendations from teachers and others acquainted with their qualifications. Former students may use the center in seeking positions. The center provides on-campus interviews with school districts in Texas, as well as outside the state. More than 95 school districts conduct interviews on campus each year.

Education Student Organizations

The College of Education sponsors student organizations for the purpose of promoting professional goals and interests, as well as providing recreation and fellowship among members. An international honor society in education, Kappa Delta Pi, invites to membership juniors, seniors, graduate students and classroom teachers who possess high scholarship ability. TCU's chapter of the Texas Student Education Association provides students with associate membership in the National Education Association and the Texas State Teachers Association (TSEA). TSEA provides students with the opportunity to meet and discuss professional concerns and goals with experienced teachers in the profession. The Council for Exceptional Children pre-professional organization is open to all students interested in special education.



College of Education

Education Majors, Minors and Certificates

- Early Childhood Education, BS
- Middle School Education, BS – Mathematics, Science or Social Studies
- Middle School Education, BS – Language and Literacy
- Secondary Education, BS – Life Science, Physical Science or Social Studies
- Secondary Education, BS – Language and Literacy



College of Education

Educational Studies

Educational Studies

Students who major in a content area outside the College of Education (mathematics, history, French, German, Spanish, business administration, computer science, dance, journalism, communication, biology, English, chemistry or mathematics/physics) may obtain a major in educational studies (see [College of Education admission requirements](#)). Completion of the educational studies major meets the requirements for teacher certification.

- Educational Studies, B.S. in Biology
- Educational Studies, B.S. in Chemistry
- Educational Studies, B.S. in Mathematics
- Educational Studies, B.S. in Mathematics/Physics
- Educational Studies, B.S. in History
- Educational Studies, B.S. in Languages Other Than English (LOTE)
- Educational Studies, B.S. in Business Administration, Computer Science, Theatre, Dan Journalism or Communication
- Educational Studies, B.S. in English
- Educational Studies Minor
- All Level Teacher Certification
- English as a Second Language Supplemental Certificate