

FIVE-YEAR TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM (B.A./B.S. AND M.S.T.)

The Fordham University Graduate School of Education (GSE) offers a 5-Year Integrated Teacher Education Track for students enrolled in one of the undergraduate colleges of the University. Programs are offered at the Lincoln Center campus. The 5-Year Track provides an opportunity for students to complete a B.A./B.S. and a 30 credit Master of Science in Teaching (M.S.T.) degree in Early Childhood Education, Childhood Education, or Adolescence Education (biology, chemistry, physics, earth science, mathematics, English, or social studies), or TESOL (Teaching English to Students of Other Languages). Dual certification and extensions may also be pursued in early childhood special education, childhood special education, early childhood/childhood education, bilingual Childhood education, and adolescence special education. Extensions are also offered in middle childhood education, TESOL, special education or bilingual education for additional credits.

Students interested in teaching English to students of other languages may pursue a program in TESOL for grades Pre K-12. There are specific language requirements for this program and consultation with the appropriate program adviser is necessary.

The five-year combined degree track consists of early admission to the GSE, integration of 12 GSE credits during senior year, the completion of a B.A./B.S. degree, and a fifth year as a full-time student completing the additional credits in coursework and two semesters of student teaching. Dual certifications are additional credits and might take longer to pursue. After completion of all program requirements, students receive an M.S.T. degree and are eligible for GSE endorsement for New York State Initial Teacher Certification. New York State Certification is reciprocal with many states.

Early advisement and coordination is an important feature of this track. Please note that any student who does not complete successfully all degree requirements will not be endorsed for New York State Initial Teacher Certification.

Graduate School of Education graduates are highly qualified teachers who respect individuals in a multicultural society, excel in academic disciplines, acquire a broad knowledge base, learn in meaningful contexts, become reflective practitioners, and engage in life-long learning. Fordham is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

To find out more about the track, consult with the GSE advisor. For further information about GSE academic programs, please visit the Graduate School of Education Bulletin.

Program Activities

Field Experience

Once the Declaration of Interest is submitted, the coordinator will permit registration into the 1 credit Field Experience Seminar (CTGE 4200). Sophomores meet twice each semester, juniors meet three times each semester, and seniors meet once monthly. Seminars are held on both campuses except in senior year when they are held at Lincoln Center along with GSE courses. Field experience requires 30 hours per semester through senior year. The field hours are arranged according to the

student's schedule. The field experience helps the student to examine interest in the teaching profession, gain experience working with children on different grade levels, allows education faculty to learn about student's suitability for teaching, and prepares the student for the fifth year student teaching experience.

Student Teaching Orientation

Prior to beginning fall student teaching, an orientation is held for students in all programs who are beginning this experience. Students are provided with extensive information, meet with their field specialists, and receive their school and grade assignment for the fall semester.

Student Teaching

In the 5th year, each student completes a full-time student teaching placement at two different sites in the grade levels of the certification area. Students are placed in schools that have partnerships with the GSE and with cooperating teachers that have more than three years of experience teaching. Each works with a field specialist who serves as a mentor and coach and who observes and evaluates the student in their student teaching placement site. A career adviser works specifically with students throughout the job search process. Field and student teaching placements provide more than 600 hours of comprehensive experience in public schools.

New York State Teacher Certification Exams and Workshops

Students are notified about New York State teaching certification requirements: certification exams, specialized workshops, fingerprinting, and application process. Extensive support is provided to students throughout this process.

Final Project

At the end of the fifth year, students prepare a capstone project as a culminating activity. This includes a theoretical and reflective essay highlighting teaching practice and knowledge gained. Adolescence education programs require the completion of a student work sample.

Admissions

There are two application stages to the Five-Year Integrated Teacher Education Track:

First Stage

- Complete a Declaration of Interest Form and submit to the Five-Year Track coordinator at the Graduate School of Education.
- Plan to seek program advisement about core courses to complete the B.A./B.S. Students should plan so as to be able to integrate 12 GSE credits in senior year. Fordham core must include the courses and content required by NYSED for teacher candidates; some core courses may fulfill more than one NYSED requirement.
- Inform major advisor of decision to apply. Advisor will give permission to register for the one-credit Field Experience Seminar.
- Meet with GSE Five-Year Track coordinator.

Second Stage

- Complete a GSE admissions application and submit all required supplemental information in the spring of the junior year for early admission. The application includes a written personal statement, two letters of reference, a resume, and a copy of all transcripts.

- Provide a letter from the undergraduate adviser indicating that 12 GSE credits will be completed during senior year, including field experience and reflective seminar.
- Maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (B or better).
- Meet the general admissions requirements to the Graduate School of Education and for the specific program to which the Fordham undergraduate student is applying. Specific admissions requirements are listed on each program's page in this Bulletin.

To meet all requirements for the baccalaureate degree and a master's degree, candidates work closely with their Fordham undergraduate advisers and the GSE adviser.

Note: Fordham Juniors who apply to the 5-Year Integrated Track program are not required to submit standardized test scores from the Miller Analogies Test, Graduate Record Examination, or significantly equivalent exam with their application to the program. However, official test scores **MUST** be submitted during the first semester as a fully-matriculated GSE student.

Requirements

New York State Certification Requirements

Students who meet all program requirements, complete the course of study, and meet established field experience competencies are eligible to receive Fordham University's endorsement for New York state initial certification in their program area provided they also have:

- earned a passing score on the relevant New York state teacher examinations; and
- completed workshops in child abuse identification, Dignity for All Students Act (DASA), schools against violence education, drug and alcohol abuse, and health and physical education.

Undergraduate Core and Content Requirements

Teacher preparation for state certification includes requirements for general education and pedagogical core courses, as well as specific content courses related to the grade(s) and subjects the candidate will teach. The requirements differ across certification areas and are complex. They affect the choices that are made to meet the undergraduate core curriculum distribution, as well as selections and scheduling of courses within the major. For example, to meet state certification requirements in the general education core, teacher education candidates need the following liberal arts and science requirements: artistic expression, communication, or written analysis and expression; concepts in history and social sciences; a language other than English; scientific and mathematical processes; and literature. These core/content requirements do not replace Fordham's requirements.

Students must also meet the admissions prerequisites for their chosen master's program. For example, students pursuing adolescence education must have the required 30 credits in specific content areas. More information about the requirements for each certification and major can be obtained from the coordinator of the Five-Year Integrated Track at amoliterno@fordham.edu. It is students' responsibility to meet with their advisers and to ensure they are meeting Fordham undergraduate, GSE, and New York State admissions and completion requirements for their program of choice.