

**Introduction:**

Teaching is a people-oriented field. If you are interested in an education major, you can begin or continue your university studies at UW-Richland. During the first two years of an education degree, students take course work in social sciences, English, mathematics, humanities, natural sciences and public speaking.

Educators help others learn about themselves and their world. Teachers help students understand abstract concepts, solve problems, and develop critical thought processes. The greatest numbers of people in education are in teaching, one of the largest occupations in the United States.

Teaching requires a variety of skills such as organizational, administrative, leadership, record-keeping abilities, research and communication, creativity, and the ability to influence, motivate, and train others. Teachers must continually update their skills to use the latest technologies in the classroom. All 50 states and the District of Columbia require public elementary and secondary school teachers to be certified by state education authorities.

**Career Opportunities:**

An important factor to consider in teaching is the age level of students you desire to work with. If you like working with very young children, "Early Childhood" might interest you. Early Childhood teachers usually teach children in preschool to grade 3. Early Childhood teachers plan play and learning activities that help children learn how to relate to the world around them. If you enjoy older young children, "Elementary Education" might interest you. Elementary Education teachers usually teach children in grades 1 - 8 and instruct one class of children in several subjects. If you enjoy older students, Secondary Education teachers teach junior high or high school students. Secondary Education teachers help students delve more deeply into subjects introduced in elementary school and learn more about the world and about themselves. Teachers in junior high and high schools specialize in a specific subject such as English, Spanish, mathematics, history, or biology, or they may teach a variety of related courses, for example: American history, contemporary American problems, and geography.

In addition, there are specialized fields of education that you may find rewarding. Such areas are: Special Education, Art Education or Music Education. Special Education teachers design and modify instruction to meet a student's special needs. Art and music teachers work at all educational levels.

**Websites you may want to visit:**

American Federation of Teachers  
National Association for the Education of Young Children  
National Education Association  
National Science Teachers Association  
Wisconsin Education Association Council

<http://www.aft.org>  
<http://www.naeyc.org>  
<http://www.nea.org>  
<http://www.nsta.org>  
<http://weac.org>

### Join WEA - the Student Wisconsin Education Association:

An excellent means to explore the field of education is by getting involved with the Student Wisconsin Education Association (WEA) organization at UW-Richland. Student WEA is an organization of college students pursuing careers as educators. Student WEA provides members with opportunities to meet with other education majors and current teachers to explore cutting edge issues in education. It's a pre-professional association that benefits you even after you graduate. For more information, contact Dr. Dennis Carpenter, Office #233 Melvill Hall, or e-mail [dennis.carpenter@uwc.edu](mailto:dennis.carpenter@uwc.edu).

### Suggested course of study for an elementary education major:

University of Wisconsin-Richland can offer you the freshman/sophomore curriculum needed to begin an education major. The four-semester program outlined below is to be used as a guide. Additional information and transfer planning sheets for specific majors and universities are available in the Student Services Office. UW-Richland offers the freshman/sophomore curriculum appropriate to an education major and includes required general education. Consult your *academic advisor* for individualized program planning assistance since transfer campuses vary greatly in their course requirements.

#### First Year

#### Second Year

##### Semester I

English*	3 credits
Math 108/110*	3 credits
Psychology 202 (or Semester 2)	3 credits
Natural Science (Biological & Physical Science required)	4-5 credits
Ped 206 Health	3 credits

##### Semester II

English*	3 credits
Math 130	4 credits
Com 103 Speech	3 credits
Natural Science	4-5 credits
Elective	1 credit

##### Semester III

Psychology 250	3 credits
Biology 107	3 credits
Fine Arts	3 credits
Political Science 104	3 credits
Education 201 Field Experience	3 credits

##### Semester IV

Education 230	3 credits
Literature	3 credits
History 106 or 162**	3 credits
Ethnic Studies	3 credits
Cps 106, 107, 108	3 credits

\*Placement in English and mathematics will be determined on the basis of placement tests. Students completing the requirements for the Associate of Arts & Science Degree must include in their course of study an interdisciplinary studies component.

\*\*History 106 or 162 will be determined on the basis of your transfer campus. Please contact your advisor or Student Services for clarification.

Explore career possibilities by visiting The Resource Center, located in the Student Services area of Melvill Hall. There you'll find career information, self-assessment videos and career assessment testing. Interactive computer programs are available to help you identify your work-related interests, skills and values. Knowing these characteristics can help you discover compatible occupations. The programs also provide information about educational requirements, potential salary, and employment outlooks for occupations in Wisconsin and nationwide.

For more information on majors in the UW System, go to: <http://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/majormania>.

For more information or assistance, contact:

Office of Student Services  
University of Wisconsin - Richland  
1200 Highway 14 West  
Richland Center, WI 53581-1399

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