

# Bachelor of Arts in English - Teacher Education

# College of Arts and Sciences

## **FACT**

In Illinois secondary schools in districts with enrollments between 3,000 and 5,999 students, the salary range for beginning teachers with bachelor's degrees is \$40,032 to \$47,694.

*Source: Illinois Teacher Salary Study 2008 – 09, Illinois State Board of Education*

## **Letter Perfect**

English teachers guide their students into the world of words to explore the joys and struggles of life and humanity.

## **Outstanding Preparation**

At Governors State University, the undergraduate major in English with a teacher education concentration prepares you to teach 21st century language proficiency on the secondary school level. You can also obtain a license for teaching middle school. In addition to a strong academic background, you gain the knowledge you will need to be a teacher who can discuss both classic and modern literature, and pass on a love of language – and writing skills – to a new generation of learners.

Teacher Education at GSU is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and approved by the Illinois State Board of Education. It has also been recognized by the National Council of Teachers of English.

To be recommended for an Illinois State Board of Education teaching license, you must present evidence of having passed the Basic Skills, Subject-Matter Knowledge, and Assessment of Professional Teaching examinations of the Illinois Certification Testing System. You must complete a student teaching requirement in English and must meet other requirements for licensure through approved programs in the Teacher Education and Certification section of the GSU catalog.

## **Unlimited Opportunity**

GSU offers a superior educational opportunity and professional quality programs at an affordable tuition rate. GSU's outstanding faculty and real-world curriculum prepare graduates to meet the demands of the future.

## **Faculty Advisors:**

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## Teacher Licensure

This program is approved by the Illinois State Board of Education and leads to the Initial Secondary License in English. To be recommended for licensure by Governors State University, students must complete at least 42 hours in general education and 84 hours in required courses. General education courses may include both lower and upper-division courses, resulting in a completed program of 123 credit-hours. Students must earn a grade of "B" or better in EDUC - 499: Student Teaching: English.

Students who major in English with a concentration in Secondary Education may obtain an endorsement that prepares them for teaching in the middle school. Students wishing to pursue this endorsement must take three hours in the psychology of early adolescent development, three hours in curriculum instruction and three hours of methods related to the middle school. Students should contact their advisor for specific course requirements.

To be recommended for an Illinois State Board of Education teaching license, the student must present evidence of having passed the Basic Skills, Subject-Matter Knowledge, and Assessment of Professional Teaching examinations of the Illinois Licensure Testing System.

Students must meet other requirements for licensure through approved programs listed in the Licensure of Teachers and Other School Professionals section in the catalog.

## Admission to English Teacher Education

In addition to meeting all university admissions requirements for undergraduate students, applicants must meet the following requirements to continue in the program:

1. have a cumulative average G.P.A. of 2.75 or higher in all lower division courses applied to the degree program;
2. submit a word-processed essay not to exceed 300 words explaining why the applicant wishes to be a teacher;
3. submit evidence of having passed the Test of Academic Proficiency (formerly Basic Skills) of the Illinois Licensure Testing System;
4. submit scores from the ETS Proficiency Profile;
5. complete EDUC - 2310 Foundations of Education (3), (or equivalent) with a grade of "B" or better; and
6. attend Secondary Education Orientation.

Some schools and/or school districts require criminal background checks in advance of any field experience undertaken by teacher preparation candidates in school settings. Candidates may be required to comply with these requirements. Consult with your advisor for information concerning the related GSU policies and procedures.

## Student Progress

The faculty monitors and evaluates student progress continually. The section, Licensure of Teachers and Other School Professionals, in this catalog provides a general description of the standards used to evaluate student progress. A more detailed statement of the standards and processes followed by the secondary education faculty is available in the Secondary Education Undergraduate Student Handbook.

## Student Handbook

The Student Handbook Undergraduate Degrees in Secondary Education referred to in the catalog is available online.

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## Admission to Student Teaching

Before enrolling in EDUC - 4999 Student Teaching: Senior Capstone (12), an application for admission to student teaching must be submitted to the director of Field Experiences in the College of Education. The application must be submitted by November 30 for the fall term and January 31 for the spring term preceding the academic year in which the student intends to teach (student teaching is not offered in the summer term). This application for student teaching will certify that the student applying has or will have met the following requirements:

1. completed general education requirements with a G.P.A. of 2.75 or higher;
2. completed professional education course requirements, except student teaching, including 100 clock-hours of field experience with a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher, with a grade of "C" or better in each course and EDUC-4465, ENGL-4570, ENGL-4575, and ENGL-4580 with a grade of "B" or better;
3. must have completed methods courses no more than two years prior to the commencement of student teaching;
4. must have no more than six hours (at the discretion of the advisor) remaining to be completed in the major, with a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher, and completing all courses with a grade of "C" or better;
5. met all state requirements applicable to areas of student teaching assignments as outlined in the "Illinois Program for Evaluation, Supervision, and Recognition of Schools, Part I, Subject G: Staff Qualifications";
6. submit evidence of having passed the English Content Area Examination of the Illinois Licensure Testing System; and
7. receive a positive recommendation from the Secondary Education Student Progress Committee.

## Degree Requirements

Students must meet all university requirements for a bachelor's degree, and in addition, students must complete the general education requirement for teacher licensure Initial Secondary License listed below. Completion of this requirement meets the general education requirement.

In addition, students must:

1. have a cumulative G.P.A. of 2.5 or higher;
2. earn a grade of "C" or better in all general education courses;
3. have a G.P.A. of 2.75 or higher for all general education courses.;
4. have a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher in English courses with a grade of "C" or better in each course;
5. have a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher for EDUC-3440, EDCP-2101, and SPED-2100 with a grade of "C" or better in each course;
6. earn a grade of "B" or better in EDUC-2310, EDUC-4465, ENGL-4100, ENGL-4205, ENGL-4570, ENGL-4575, and ENGL-4580;
7. earn a grade of "B" or better in EDUC - 4999 Student Teaching: Senior Capstone (12);
8. complete a minimum of 100 clock-hours of supervised pre-student teaching experiences;
9. provide evidence of successful completion of Illinois and U.S. Constitution examinations;
10. complete at least one three-hour course in non-western or third world cultures;
11. show evidence of having passed the Assessment of Professional Teaching;
12. meet any additional requirements listed in the Teacher Licensure section of this catalog; and
13. receive a positive recommendation for the Secondary Education Student Progress Committee.

## General Education Requirement for Teacher Licensure, Initial Secondary License, English (42 Hours)

The following courses can be taken at either the lower-division or upper-division level:

- Written Communication (6)
- Oral Communication (3)
- Humanities (English, Foreign Language, History and/or Philosophy) (6)
- Fine Arts (Art, Music, and/or Theater) (3)
- Non-Western/Third World Cultures (3)
- Mathematics (3)
- Biological and Physical Science (including one laboratory course) (7)

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U.S. History (3)  
U.S. Government (3)  
Introduction to Psychology (3)  
Health (2)

## English Core (54 Hours)

The following courses can be taken at either the lower-division or upper-division level:

English Literature I (3)  
English Literature II (3)  
Studies in Mythology (3)  
American Literature I (3)  
American Literature II (3)

The following courses must be taken at the upper-division level:

ENGL - 3099 Literary Criticism (3)  
ENGL - 3330 Studies in Literature (3)  
ENGL - 4100 Advanced Composition (3)  
ENGL - 4205 Modern English Grammar (3)  
ENGL - 4505 Major English Authors (3)  
ENGL - 4515 Major Black Authors (3)  
ENGL - 4510 Major American Authors (3)  
ENGL - 4520 Contemporary Literature (3)  
ENGL - 4550 Shakespeare's Plays (3)  
ENGL - 4600 Rhetorical Theory and Practice (3)

## Professional Education (27 Hours)

The following courses can be taken at either the lower-division or upper-division level:

EDUC - 2310 Foundations of Education (3)  
SPED - 2100 Survey of Students w/ Exceptionalities (3)  
EDCP - 2101 Introduction to Educational Technology (3)

The following courses must be taken at the upper-division level:

EDUC - 3440 Educational Psychology II (3)  
EDUC - 4465 Methods of Teaching English (3)  
ENGL - 4570 Writing Theory & Practice (3)  
ENGL - 4575 Reading Theory & Practice (3)  
ENGL - 4580 Read & Rap: Lit for YA Readers (3)  
EDUC - 4999 Student Teaching: Senior Capstone (12)

**Total - 123 Hours**

2016 – 17 Catalog Year

