

Minor with Teacher Certification

Minor Details

- Requires a **2.5 UH GPA** to declare the minor.
- Students need to be **declared in a specific major** to declare this minor. [List of majors.](#)
- It is recommended to **begin this minor three semesters before graduation** when most major coursework is completed. *(Recommended when students have less than 8 major courses left)*
- The courses stated under each semester are meant to be taken together and are hidden.

When you are ready to begin the minor, schedule an appointment in the semester before you plan to begin the minor to receive information about the process and initial requirements- see below. *It is highly recommended to schedule an appointment when enrollment opens for an upcoming semester to allow enough time for the review process. This ensures a seat in the program before the courses fill up.*

***Review the checklist below to decide if you are ready to begin the education minor with certification:**

- ✓ My major is listed as an option for the education minor with certification
- ✓ I have met with my major advisor to confirm that I have less than 8 core/major courses left before graduation.
- ✓ My cumulative GPA is at least a 2.5

If you checked off all of the above, you are ready to meet with an Education minor advisor to discuss the process of beginning the education minor with certification!

Schedule an advising appointment for the Education Minor using Navigate.

Requirements and components for the minor will be explained during this appointment, for an overview see below.

Initial requirements:

- **Teacher Education Application**
Students submit an application to the Teacher Education Program. Acceptance is based on meeting the following: a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA and 2.5 content GPA.
- **Interview**
Students submit an interview along with the Teacher Education application. *(Additional details about the interview will be provided at the time of applying.)*

Application Process/Acceptance into the Teacher Education Program:

- You will receive information about the formal admissions timeline with the application instructions.
- Once review is finalized, students who qualify receive the hidden course sections for the first semester (Pre-Teaching).
- Emails are sent to the cougarnet email. Always check this email and junk/spam folders.
- **Read all emails carefully.** Emails will provide deadline information, next steps, hidden course codes, special instructions, etc.

Program Structure

Pre-Teaching Semester

- First semester: Composed of foundational educational courses.
- Students enroll in the Pre-Teaching education minor courses using the hidden course codes provided by the Teacher Education program once they are formally admitted into the program.
- **Pre-Teaching Orientation** is a mandatory orientation that takes place the week prior or first week of the semester and provides vital information including the required **writing assessment, student teaching semesters, certification, and other important components of the program.**
- Information about this orientation will be provided once enrolled in the courses for the Pre-Teaching semester.
- **Fieldwork** is a required component for this minor. Students complete a certain number of hours in the field (refer to minor degree plan for number of hours required). Fieldwork is explained in detail during the Pre-Teaching orientation
** (Previous/current employment in a school does not qualify towards these hours. Hours are regulated by TEA)*

Student Teaching 1 & 2 Semester

- Second & Third semesters: Capstone of the program, immersing candidates in teaching.
- Students enroll in the Student Teaching 1 & 2 education minor courses using the hidden course codes provided by the Teacher Education program. **Hidden course codes are provided to students at the end of each semester for the upcoming semester.*
- **Student Teaching Orientation** takes place at the end of the Pre-Teaching semester.
- **Fieldwork (Field Experiences)** consists of 3 days a week in a school as a Student Teacher. Requires you to be immersed in the profession of teaching at your target certification area and grade range. You will be placed in a classroom assigned to a cooperating teacher for two full semesters, and will be engaged in planning, teaching, and assessing lessons for small and large groups of students, preparing materials, meeting with other teachers or parents, completing practice teaching requirements assigned by your courses, and otherwise assisting the cooperating teacher in ways that provide experience with the complex work of teaching. In addition, you will spend significant time developing the ability to reflect on what you are learning by documenting your learning in various ways.

Minor with Teacher Certification Toolkit

- **Certification:** The College of Education's Teacher Education Program guides students through certification process. Students will receive information about certification during the Pre-Teaching orientation and throughout the Student Teaching semesters.
 - To learn more about certification visit the [COE Certification](#) website.

Content-Specific Courses

- Some education courses for minor students are specific to each certification area. **Note that this means some courses will have different numbers depending on subject/content area.*
- **Always enroll in courses that are specific to your certification/content area** (e.g., History students will enroll in the specific History courses, Art students, etc.)

Receiving Hidden Course Codes as a Minor Student

- Once accepted into the program and enrolled in the first semester (Pre-Teaching), students receive the course codes at the end of each semester for the upcoming semester (for Student Teaching 1 & Student Teaching 2).

Degree Plan

Since degree plans change periodically, students will follow the degree plan in place at the time in which they signed an official degree plan.

Sample of degree plan: [Education Minor with Certification Degree Plan](#)

- **Keep a current and updated minor degree plan to track your progress.**
- Preferably one provided by an advisor. Please request one if you do not have one.
- This degree plan is a guide to complete the minor and shows you which courses/how many hours are needed to complete the minor.
- Review this plan prior to meeting with an advisor for each advising appointment.
- Use this plan to cross-check courses when enrolling, especially with hidden section numbers.

FAQs

Q: How many more classes do I need to complete my minor/graduate?

A: 1.) Review your updated minor degree plan to determine that you have taken every course for each semester. You need to complete all courses in every semester for Pre-Teaching, Student Teaching 1, & Student Teaching 2.
2.) Run Your [Advisement Report](#) to determine how many classes are counting towards your minor.
3.) Schedule an advising appointment with an education minor advisor for confirmation after you have reviewed and run your advising report.

Q: Do I need to take all the courses that the Teacher Education program provided me?

A: Yes, unless you have already taken a course (e.g., EDUC 2301, ENGL 4319) you must take all courses. Always refer to your current minor degree plan to verify that you are enrolled in all required hours for each of the three semesters for the minor plan.

Q: Can you provide me with the hidden codes for Student Teaching 1 or Student Teaching 2?

A: The Teacher Education Program will provide the hidden course codes for courses needed for Student Teaching 1 and Student Teaching 2.

Q: I do not want to pursue the Minor in Education with teacher certification anymore and want to drop it.

A: ***Students who only completed Pre-Teaching:** Email your minor advisor, the process is quite simple.
*** Students currently in Student Teaching:** Reach out to your current student teaching professor to address your concerns. If it is ultimately decided that you will not pursue the minor, email your minor advisor to complete the process of exiting the program and dropping the minor.

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