

4. CURRICULUM CONTRACT:



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**Undergraduate Degree Program – B.S., Middle School Science (Reference #734, 774 EPSB #2426)
Leading to Initial Teacher Certification Rank III in Middle School Science Education, Grades 5-9**

Admission Requirements:

To be admitted into this program, candidates must meet all minimal criteria described on the “Transition Points” page under “Transition Point 1: Admission to Education Preparation Programs.”

Science/Math Education Component—37 hours		Required Introductory Science Courses – 15 hours*	
SMED 101 – Step 1	1 hr.	ASTR 104 Astronomy of the Solar System OR ASTR 106 Astronomy of the Stellar System	3 hrs
SMED 102 – Step 2	2 hrs.	BIOL 122/123 – Biol Conc Evol Div Ecol & Lab	3/1 hrs.
SMED 310 – Knowing & Learning	3 hrs.	GEOL 111/113 The Earth OR GEOL 112/114 Earth History	3/1 hrs
SMED 320 – Classroom Interactions	3 hrs.	PHYS 201 College Physics I OR PHYS 231/232 College Physics and Biophysics I	4 hrs.
SPED 330 – Diversity in Learning	3 hrs.		
SMED 340 – Perspectives	3 hrs.	Science Research Core* SMED 360 satisfies requirements for both the SMED and MSS Majors	
SMED 360 – Research Methods	3 hrs.	SMED 360 Research Methods	3 hrs.*
SMED 470 – Project-based Instruction	3 hrs.		
LTCY 421 – Reading for Middle/Second	3 hrs.	Upper Level Science Courses	12 hrs.
SMED 489 – Student Teaching Seminar	3 hrs.	Three of the five following courses	9 hrs.
SEC 490 – Student Teaching	10 hrs	ASTR 405 – Astronomy for Teachers (3 hrs.)	
Colonnade Plan Component—39 hours		BIOL 303 – Life Sciences for Middle Grades Teachers (3 hrs.)	
See WKU catalog website for guidance in selecting appropriate coursework to meet WKU’s Colonnade Plan requirements.		CHEM 470 – Chemistry/Middle School (3 hrs.)	
		GEOL 305 – Earth Systems Science for Teachers (3 hrs.)	
		PHYS 410 – Physics for Teachers (3 hrs.)	
		One restricted elective from the list:	min 3 hrs.
		BIOL 319/322 Molecular and Cell Biology (4 hrs.)	
		BIOL 325 Insect Biodiversity (3 hrs.)	
		BIOL 326 Ornithology (3 hrs.)	
		BIOL 327 Genetics (4 hrs.)	
		BIOL 334 Animal Behavior (3 hrs.)	
		BIOL 348 Plant Taxonomy (3 hrs.)	
		GEOG 471 Natural Resource Mgmt (3 hrs.)	
		GEOL 408 Structural Geology (4 hrs.)	
		GEOL 310 Global Hydrology (3 hrs.)	
		GEOL 311 Oceanography (3 hrs.)	
		GEOL 325 Intro Minerals and Rocks (3 hrs.)	
		GEOL 380 Intro Field Techniques (3 hrs.)	
		GEOL 405 Paleontology 4 hrs.)	
		SMED 300 Middle Grade Science Skills (3 hrs.)	

	SMED 400 Applying Middle Grade Science Across Disciplines (3 hrs.)	
	Total	30 - 31 hrs
	*Supporting Courses Also Required	11-13 hrs.
	MATH 117 Trigonometry (3 hrs.) OR MATH 136 Calculus I (4 hrs.)	
	BIOL 120/121 Biological Concepts: Cells, Metabolism, and Genetics (3/1 hrs.)	
	CHEM 105/106 Fund of General Chemistry (3/1 hrs.) OR CHEM 120/121 College Chemistry I (4/1 hrs.)	
	Electives to Achieve 120 hours	1-3 hrs.
	Grand total hours	120 hrs.

Mid-Point Assessment Requirements:

To be admitted into the Student Teaching Semester, candidates must meet all minimal criteria described under “Transition Point 2: Admission to Final Clinical Experience.”

Program Completion Requirements:

1. To complete a teacher preparation program, candidates must meet all minimal criteria described under “Transition Point 3: Program Exit.”
2. Note that additional requirements (described below) must be met in order to be recommended for initial certification.
3. Rules and regulations governing the completion of this program of study have been described above and on the next page. By your signature, you are acknowledging that you understand and accept responsibility for meeting these requirements.

Delineation of EPP-Wide Transition Points – Initial Preparation Program

Transition Point 1: Admission to Education Preparation Programs				
Data Reviewed	Minimal Criteria	Review Cycle	Reviewed By	Approved By
Unit Level Data:	Admission to Teacher Education			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cumulative GPA • CASE test scores • Application to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 3 faculty recommendations – Physical (including TB test) – KY criminal background check – Signed KY Code of Ethics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.75+ average or above • Minimum CASE scores required as defined by current state guidelines (demonstrates Critical Thinking and Communication Skills) • 3 positive faculty recommendations (demonstrates their dispositions for teaching indicating their creativity and collaboration skills) • Passing physical • Passing background checks 	Each Month	Office of Teacher Services	Professional Education Council
Transition Point 2: Admission to Final Clinical Experience				
Data Reviewed	Minimal Criteria	Review Cycle	Reviewed By	
Unit Level Data	Successful application to Student Teaching			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPAs and at least 90+ hours completed (including 75% of content courses) • Completion of required field hours • Completion of Key Assessments • Dispositions scores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.75+ GPA (overall, major, minor, and professional education courses); C or higher in all professional education courses • At least 200 hours documented based on requirements of 16 KAR 5:040 • 2+ holistic score; 2+ per KTS measured • All dispositions average “At Standard” (3+) 	Each Semester	Office of Teacher Services	Professional Education Council
Transition Point 3: Program Exit				
Data Reviewed	Minimal Criteria	Review Cycle	Reviewed By	
Unit Level Data:	Program Exit			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate student teaching • Teacher Work Sample scores • Dispositions scores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C or Higher • 2+ holistic score; 2+ per KTS measured • All scores "At Standard" (3+) 	Each Semester	Office of Teacher Services	Certification Officer
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To be recommended for initial certification, an applicant must document:

Completion of an approved educator preparation program in each desired certification area; Passing score(s) on the appropriate PRAXIS II and PLT exam(s) or other assessments required for each desired certification area; Achievement of at least a 2.75 GPA overall, in each major and minor, and in professional education courses; Attainment of at least a "C" in all professional education courses, including student teaching.

Remediation Opportunities:

TP 1: Candidates may continue to submit Faculty Recommendations until three are positive.

TP 2: Candidates may request additional instruction from faculty and may resubmit Key Assessments in order to improve their scores.

TP 3: Candidates may request additional instruction from faculty and may resubmit the Teacher Work Sample Key Assessment in order to improve their score. Candidates may repeat student teaching.

EPSB Disclaimer: Teacher certification requirements are subject to change. Before registering for the test(s), please refer to the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) website at www.epsb.ky.gov for current requirements or contact the EPSB at 502-564-4606 or toll free 888-598-7667.

By signing below, the candidate ensures that he or she has been advised of, understands, and agrees to adhere to all program requirements, including assessment requirements, of the program.

Candidate Name (printed):

Education Advisor's Signature/Date:

Signature

Date

Candidate Signature/Date:

Specialization Advisor's Signature/Date (if needed):

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

****END OF CURRICULUM CONTRACT****