

M.A. IN TEACHING

Teaching (Initial License) Programs M.A., License

The M.A. in Teaching and the Teaching License programs are designed for college graduates who aspire to teach at the elementary, middle and/or secondary levels. The programs are a student-centered, standards-driven collaboration among students, college professors, and local school districts. In collaboration with school districts, students will have opportunities to continually apply their new knowledge and learning in a school environment. Students in the program will complete the coursework required to apply for a Minnesota teaching license in one of the following areas:

- Business (5–12)
- Chemistry (9–12)
- Communication Arts and Literature (5–12)
- English as a Second Language–ESL (K–12)
- General Science (5–8)
- Life Science (9–12)
- Mathematics (5–12)
- Physics (9–12)
- Social Studies (5–12)
- Visual Arts (K–12)
- World Languages and Cultures (K–12)
 - Spanish

Ideal candidates are those individuals with an earned baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution in a field other than education. The program is intended for adult students who:

- Embody considerable life experience;
- Possess established values, beliefs, and opinions;
- Relate new knowledge to previously learned information and experience;
- Come to the classroom with a well-developed mindset;
- Tend to be self-directed; and
- Seek immediate application of classroom theory.

Prospective teachers across the United States are being educated into the profession through a standards-based approach. The state of Minnesota currently requires that all teacher candidates show evidence of meeting the Minnesota Standards of Effective Practice (MNSEP), which includes subject matter standards. The standards recognize that content knowledge is wedded to pedagogical understanding. Coursework in the M.A. in Teaching program is also structured to develop an understanding of Minnesota Academic Standards, which have been implemented in Minnesota's public schools. Bethel's M.A. in Teaching program is structured to assist students in meeting both the MNSEP and the standards created by Bethel University and the Bethel Department of Education. The M.A. in Teaching holds Minnesota accreditation with the Professional Education Licensing Standards Board (PELSB).

If PELSB changes any content standards or education standards after a student is admitted into a Bethel education program, the student is responsible to find, complete, and pay for appropriate classes to meet the standard(s) either at Bethel or another college/university.

Program Outcomes

1. Candidates will plan standards-based instruction aligned with the discipline and grade levels of their licensure area.
2. Candidates will apply appropriate evidence-based instructional strategies that engage students in learning.
3. Candidates will select or design a variety of assessments (e.g. standardized, formative, summative) that inform instructional practice and/or measure student performance.
4. Candidates will differentiate instruction for students with various learning needs using a variety of culturally responsive and developmentally appropriate strategies and/or methods and appropriate educational technologies.
5. Candidates will practice professional dispositions that allow them to appropriately engage in a variety of educational contexts (e.g. schools, other teachers, students, administrators, families, communities).
6. Students will integrate Christian perspectives, personal values and/or ethics with the professional practice of teaching.
7. Students will demonstrate the ability to research, write and orally defend a master's thesis on an educational topic.

Program Design

- Courses are offered sequentially throughout the calendar year, including the summer months.
- Courses are generally taken one at a time.

Delivery format:

Courses are offered in a combination of online classes and face-to-face classes. Face-to-face classes are held various week nights and Saturdays. Consult a calendar of class sessions for the schedule.

Admission Requirements

The Teaching License program will consider applicants who:

- Meet the general requirements (<http://catalog.bethel.edu/graduate/admission/admission-requirements/>) for admission to the Graduate School.
- Submit an official transcript (U.S. schools) or NACES or AICE evaluation (international schools) showing an earned baccalaureate degree and official transcripts or NACES or AICE evaluations from all graduate schools attended. Applicants must also submit an official transcript or NACES or AICE evaluation from any school that shows completion of required program prerequisites and content area coursework.
- Have earned a baccalaureate degree or higher from a regionally accredited (or internationally recognized as equivalent) institution.
- Have earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale on the highest degree completed.
- Submit two professional *Admission References*.
- Submit a written *Statement of Purpose*.
- Submit a current resume.
- Interview with enrollment counselor or program director.
- Students applying for initial licensure (TEAG) and add-on teaching licenses (TEAQ) in Graduate School World Languages and Cultures: Spanish must demonstrate Intermediate-High oral proficiency in Spanish as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures (ACTFL). They will demonstrate oral proficiency by taking an official ACTFL OPIc test and passing with Intermediate-High level proficiency. Students are responsible for paying for the exam and the costs of sending an official copy of the exam results to Bethel University.

Accepted students will be eligible to begin the program once they have three or fewer (four or fewer for business education) content area requirements remaining from the State of Minnesota Content Standards as determined by a transcript evaluation at Bethel.

Students who have not achieved the minimum GPA, grade standards, or other assessment criteria may still apply to be considered for provisional acceptance. See Admission Categories.

Degree Requirements

M.A. in Teaching

The required curriculum for the M.A. in Teaching comprises a 37 semester credit sequence of courses. For course sequence, request a program calendar from the Graduate School.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------|
| EDUC 614 | Locating Resources for Educational Research * | 1 |
| EDUC 627 | Historical and Contemporary Issues in K-12 Education | 3 |
| EDUC 634 | Psychology of Student Learning | 3 |
| EDUC 641 | General Methods of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment | 4 |
| EDUC 643 | Field Experiences in School-based Settings | 3 |
| EDUC 669 | Equity in Diverse School Contexts | 3 |
| EDUC 665 | Teaching Content Area Literacy * | 3 |
| Select one of the following | | 4 |
| EDUC 659 | Social Studies 5-12 Teaching Methods * | |
| EDUC 671 | Mathematics 5-12 Teaching Methods * | |
| EDUC 672 | Science 5-12 Teaching Methods * | |
| EDUC 674 | Visual Arts K-12 Teaching Methods * | |
| EDUC 678 | ESL K-12 Teaching Methods * | |
| EDUC 679 | Communication Arts and Literature 5-12 Teaching Methods * | |
| EDUC 689 | Business 5-12 Teaching Methods * | |
| EDUC 753 | Teacher Candidate Seminar | 3 |
| EDUC 755 | Preparing the Thesis/Collaborative Research Project * | 1 |
| EDUC 778 | Student Teaching Placement I * | 5 |
| EDUC 781 | Student Teaching II ‡ and * | 1 |
| EDUC 790 | Writing the Thesis/Collaborative Research Project * | 3 |
| Total Credits | | 36-37 |

* Course must be taken for credit at Bethel

‡ EDUC 781 is only required for MA Teaching students who want a K-12 license or an add-on license. 5-12 licenses do not need to take EDUC 781.