INTRODUCTION TO TEACHER EDUCATION

TEACHER PREPARATION UNIT DEPARTMENTS

The UCO Teacher Preparation unit includes all faculty and programs within the College of Education and Professional Studies that prepare teachers, specialists, and administrators as well as all secondary and PK-12 programs affiliated with particular content areas in UCO’s other undergraduate colleges. Below are the UCO departments involved in the preparation of educators.

Department of Advanced Professional and Special Services

The Department of Advanced Professional and the Special Services Departments merged in June, 2011 and now offers services in preparation for undergraduate and graduate Teacher Candidates seeking professional careers in the areas of Educational Leadership, Guidance and Counseling, and Library Media Specialist, Reading, Speech/Language Pathology, and Special Education. Special Education offers undergraduate and graduate programs preparing Teacher Candidates to work with students who have special learning needs. The first undergraduate program is a B.S. Ed. in Special Education with two options: Mild-Moderate Disabilities and Severe-Profound/Multiple Disabilities. The second undergraduate program is a B.S. in Speech-Language Pathology that prepares Teacher Candidates for graduate work in that area. Continuing at the graduate level, the department offers degrees in Special Education, Speech-Language Pathology, and Reading. All programs are approved at the state level; the Speech-Language Pathology Program is nationally accredited by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Contact information: 974-5714; Chambers Library (LIB) 162.

M.Ed. programs include Guidance and Counseling, Instructional (Library) Media Education, and School Leadership. These programs prepare experienced teachers already holding teacher certification for the following professional roles: elementary school principal, secondary school principal, PK-12 library media specialist, and school guidance counselors. All programs are aligned with national standards and are approved by the state. Contact information: 974-5437; Chambers Library (LIB) 149.

Department of Art

The Department of Art supports the art education program offering Teacher Candidates a curriculum leading to certification for teaching art (PK-12) in public school systems. The core of the program is centered upon mastering a variety of studio art disciplines and is reinforced with professional experiences in art history, criticism and philosophy/aesthetics. Additional coursework comprises one of the most comprehensive and respected teacher education programs in the South/Southwest. The program is approved by the state and meets all state competencies. Contact information: 974-5201; Art (A & D) 101B
Department of Biology

The Department of Biology coordinates all Science Education majors. At UCO, Teacher Candidates may select from five options in the science field: Biology, Chemistry, General Science, Physical Science, and Physics. All options share a common science core and additional hours of specialty courses in the area of study. This combination provides a basic background in science and an in-depth understanding of the option field. The Science Education program is aligned with the National Science Teacher Association (NSTA) standards and state competencies. Contact information: 974-5775; Howell Hall (HOH) 200.

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction offers programs of study leading to the B.S. Ed. degree in Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education. These programs provide high quality preparation for the teaching profession and are aligned with state and national standards. The M.Ed. Bilingual/English as a Second Language program provides practicing teachers an opportunity to fulfill credential requirements in this area while completing any teacher certification program. M.Ed. degrees in Early Childhood and Elementary Education are also available. Contact information: 974-5721; Chambers Library (LIB) 145

Department of English

The Department of English offers the B.A. Ed. in English Education degree preparing Teacher Candidates to teach secondary English in high schools and middle schools. Following National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE) standards, the program offers a firm foundation in literature studies as well as courses in advanced composition. Electives in English, speech, journalism, and library media complete the program. Contact information: 974-5892; Liberal Arts (LAR) 101A

Department of History and Geography

The Department of History and Geography supports programs leading to B.A. Ed. degrees in Social Studies Education. Many history majors, perhaps the majority, choose teaching for their careers based on the knowledge that there is no more satisfactory career than to study history and to pass the knowledge on to their own students. These two programs prepare Teacher Candidates to teach not only U.S. and Oklahoma history, but also related subjects such as government, economics, and geography. The programs comply with National Council for the Social Studies
(NCSS) standards and all state competencies for teacher educators. Contact information: 974-5277; Liberal Arts (LA) 202D

**Department of Kinesiology and Health Studies**

The Department of Kinesiology and Health Studies prepares teachers of Physical Education and Health at the undergraduate level. Graduate course work in Kinesiology and Health Studies is available to support the Masters of Education - General and the Master of Education - Secondary. The faculty and staff are actively involved in the health, physical education, recreation, dance, fitness, and athletic professions through membership and service to appropriate professional organizations at the district, state, and national levels. The program aligns with both state and national standards (NASPE). Contact information: 974-5230; Wantland

**Department of Mathematics and Statistics**

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics offers the B.S. Ed. in Mathematics Education program, one which includes 40 semester hours in mathematics. This program, aligned with standards set forth by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), provides a good breadth of mathematical competence for the secondary mathematics teacher. Contact information: 974-5012; Math and Computer Science (MCS) 106

**Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures**

The Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures offers programs leading to a B.A. Ed. for those interested in teaching French, German or Spanish. The PK-12 certification requires 40 hours of preparation in the particular language (8 at the elementary and 32 at intermediate and upper levels) as well as the professional teacher education sequence. Because of Oklahoma’s increasingly diverse population, foreign language teachers are in high demand, and the program’s graduates enjoy successful careers both in the state and beyond. The program is approved at the state level. Contact information: 974-5647; Thatcher Hall (THH) 206

**School of Music**

The School of Music provides preparation for teacher certification in both Instrumental and Vocal Music Education. Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) and meeting all state competencies, the department produces graduates who are highly sought after to coordinate and teach in PK-12 music program across the state. Contact information: 974-5004; Music (MUS) 133
Department of Educational Sciences, Foundations, and Research

The Department of Educational Sciences, Foundations, and Research reaffirm its historical and continuing commitment to high quality training and education for teachers. PTE provides the professional teacher education classes required for graduation or certification for all departments that have education components. ESFR also offers a M.Ed. in Secondary Education. Contact information: 974-5431; Center for Transformational Learning 206.

Department of Psychology

The Department of Psychology offers advanced certificate programs for educators in school psychology. The school psychology program complies with Oklahoma certification guidelines and incorporates standards of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). The school psychology program is one of two programs in the state of Oklahoma recognized by NASP. The program adheres to the scientist-practitioner model that assumes that the effective practice of school psychology is based on knowledge gained from established methods of scientific inquiry. The school of psychometry certificate program also complies with Oklahoma certification guidelines and prepares practitioners to perform and interpret advanced testing in PK-12 settings. Teacher Candidates may complete the preparation for school psychologist certificates only. Contact information: 974-5707; Education (EDU) 221.

Department of Theatre, Dance and Media Arts

The Department of Theatre, Dance and Media Arts offers the Theatre/Communication Education program leading to secondary certification. Adhering to state competencies, the BFA ED program prepares Teacher Candidates to teach in and direct speech/drama/debate programs in schools by providing a solid foundation of all aspects of theatre and communication in historical, social and cultural contexts as well as experiential learning opportunities. Contact information: 974-2507; Communication Building (COM) 207M.