Prospective Students --- Frequently Asked Questions

Why do I have two majors (Education with content major)?
The New Jersey State Department of Education requires all education students to also major in the arts, humanities, social sciences, mathematics, sciences or technology disciplines. (For Elementary majors, this can be liberal arts, science, dual-content or interdisciplinary academic major or 60 semester hours in liberal arts, science.)

What are the content (subject) areas I can take together with my Education major?
Anthropology, Art, Biology, Chemistry, Chemistry/Physical Science, English, Health/Physical Education, History, History/Political Science, Political Science, Mathematics, Music and Spanish

Do I need to decide on my content major when I enter Monmouth as a Freshman?
No. As a Freshman, it is important to select Education as your major. If unsure of content, choose that which you are leaning toward. You can change the content major at a later time, but need to declare Education major early to make sure you register for all Education requirements.

What are Education endorsements?
Endorsements are additional certification to the four year Education programs, enhancing your career knowledge and job marketability. Endorsements are:
- For Elementary majors: P-3; Middle School in math, science, social studies, or English; English as a Second Language (ESL); Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TSD); and Supplemental Instruction in Reading and Mathematics K-8.
- For Secondary and K-12 majors: TSD and ESL.

What grade levels will I be certified to teach?
Based on the program you select:
- P-3: Preschool to 3rd grade;
- Elementary: Kindergarten to 5th grade;
- Middle school, 5th to 8th grade in content area;
- Secondary: 9th to 12th grade in content major (if departmentalized district, 5-12 grade);
- K-12 (art, music, or foreign language majors): Kindergarten to 12th in content major.

If I add Special Education to my program, what am I certified to teach?
Special Education certification provides direct instruction in the areas of the instructional certification and may provide inclusive and support services at all levels.

How does the advising work if I have two majors?
Freshmen are advised by the First Year at Monmouth Office, with one advisor dedicated to a student and his/her first year experience. Beginning Sophomore year, Education students have two advisors: one in Education and one in their selected content major.

What courses do I take as a Freshman?
Your first year courses include your general education requirements. As an Education major, you also have to take certain courses that are prerequisites for upcoming Education courses.

**When will I take my first Education course with field experience?**
The first Education course is taken first semester of your sophomore year.

**What is Field Experience?**
Field experience is instructional and observational time allocated to experiences in diverse school districts throughout your education program. Field experiences provide opportunity to learn and expand your knowledge in real-life academic environments.

**Why is there a minimum GPA requirement of 2.75?**
It is a Monmouth University requirement and State of New Jersey requirement.

**What if my GPA falls below 2.75?**
Depending on the GPA, you will be granted a probationary semester or will have to change your major to your content area. Each circumstance is taken on an individual review/basis.

**Can I finish my program in four years?**
Most B.A. and B.S. programs are designed to be taken in four years. Additional credits and/or time may be necessary if one or more endorsements are added.

**What is the five-year program for the bachelor and master degrees?**
The five-year sequence allows students to complete their B.A./B.S. degree in four years with teaching certification, followed by a fifth year (including at least one summer) to complete their selected M.Ed. or M.S.Ed. This program is open to those students who qualify based on their application information.

**Who do I contact regarding the Five-Year Programs and requirements?**
Contact Undergraduate Admissions regarding the programs offered and qualifications.

**What majors and graduate programs are available for the Five-Year Programs?**
Information is available online at [http://www.monmouth.edu/admission/undergraduate/fiveyearprograms.asp](http://www.monmouth.edu/admission/undergraduate/fiveyearprograms.asp). Generally, five year course sequence includes the four year program in Anthropology, English or History followed by a master’s program for ESL, TSD, Reading Specialist or P-3 (Elementary only). In September of 2010, we plan on offering selected five-year sequences in Math and Spanish as well.

**When and where do I student teach?**
Student teaching is in the last semester of your academic program (second semester of senior year). The Certification, Field Placements, and School Partnership Office places most students in diverse settings within Monmouth, Middlesex or Ocean counties.

**Will my certification allow me to teach in other states?**
Many states have reciprocity with New Jersey’s State Certification. To find out about specific states, contact (or go online) and review the State’s requirements and reciprocity rules. Our Credential Officer can also provide further information reciprocity.

**Are there student organizations and honor societies?**
Yes, there are several: Kappa Delta Pi (KDP); International Reading Association (IRA); Council for Exceptional Children (CEC); Phi Delta Delta Kappa (PDK) International Jersey Shore,
Chapter #1360; Alpha Upsilon Alpha Honor Society (International Reading Association Honor Society).