Undergraduate Teacher Certification at USM!

More than 130 years ago, the Gorham Normal School, opened for the purpose of meeting a teacher shortage, provided education to aspiring teachers. Today, as USM, we are continuing that mission. The USM School of Education and Human Development, in partnership with colleges throughout the university, offer students the opportunity to earn a teaching certificate while concurrently pursuing their specific major and academic goals. If you have a passion about working with children and young adults, are a team player and love working in groups, are adaptable and flexible, can work well under pressure, have strong written and verbal communication skills, are committed to diversity, and plan to be a lifelong learner... teacher certification may be for you!

Want to Explore Teaching?

There are courses if you want to learn more about teaching. The following are offered each semester.

- EDU 100 Exploring Teaching as a Profession
- EYE 108 Culture, Identity, and Education

Upcoming Information Sessions

Monday, November 16 @ 3pm in 301C Bailey Hall, Gorham Campus
Wednesday, December 16 @ 10am in 301C Bailey Hall, Gorham Campus

How It Works

USM undergraduate students pursue their major through a college, and then choose the content area for their teaching based on the major. The colleges that offer this teacher education option are Lewiston-Auburn; Management and Human Service; Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; and Science, Technology and Health.

In addition to completing their major and core, students also take the courses defined by their content area. This includes introduction to education, teaching methods, and student teaching. Students identify early in their major if they also want to pursue teacher certification. At the end of the student’s undergraduate career at USM, he or she will have a bachelor’s degree, major, and teacher certification in a content area related to their major.

Students choose a major and associated certification area. To view the undergraduate teacher certification options please visit: https://usm.maine.edu/teacher-certification/teacher-certification-areas

Benefits of Teacher Certification at USM

- Not only are we state approved but also nationally accredited.
- Pre-internship courses include field placements so students receive experience working with children and are fully prepared when placed in a school for their student teaching/internship.
- Students are fully immersed in the art of educating along with content knowledge so they are fully prepared to teach after graduation.
- Students receive multiple supports from faculty and staff to ensure success in their academic pursuits.
- Students graduate with a bachelors in their major and are able to pursue other career options if they decide to not teach. Because students are completing a major, they will have strong content knowledge and be highly qualified to teach in that content area.

Want to Know More?

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Resources

Teacher Certification - https://usm.maine.edu/teacher-certification  
Office of Educator Preparation - https://usm.maine.edu/educatorpreparation  
Advising Website: https://usm.maine.edu/advising

Any suggestions for future topics, please contact Janis Albright: janisa@maine.edu