Thinking about teaching?

What does the USM offer for teacher education?

USM students have the opportunity to pursue one of the following content areas:

- Art (grades K-12)
- Early Childhood (birth - age 5)
- Elementary (K-8)
- English (grades 7-12)
- English as a Second Language (K-12)
- Mathematics (grades 7-12)
- Music (grades K-12)
- Life Science (biology)(7-12)
- Physical Science (physics/chemistry) (7-12)
- Social Studies (history) (7-12)
- Special Education (K-8, 7-12)
- World Language (French, Latin, Spanish) (K-12)

How does undergraduate teacher education work at USM?

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 the major 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 students’ undergraduate career at USM, students will have a bachelor degree, major, and teacher certification in a content area attached to their major.

What advantages do teacher education students have at USM?

Extensive Classroom Experience
- Students are in K-12 school class rooms early and often throughout their program, beginning the second semester of the freshman year.
- All students complete at least a one-year internship in two different placement settings.
- Classroom placements work in tandem with teacher preparation courses.
- Classroom placements are located in partner schools.
- Students receive more total classroom experience in diverse settings than graduates of other four-year teacher education programs.

Supportive Group Learning
- Faculty strive to create a community of learners.
- Internship is cohort-based

Superior Liberal Arts Preparation
- Students major in the liberal arts with extensive preparation in the content areas of elementary, middle, and high school where they intend to teach
- Students complete more courses in the content areas they will teach than graduates of four-year teacher education programs

Master’s Level Pathways
Students who complete their undergraduate certification at USM are eligible for master’s pathways designed for them in:
- Special Education (certificate with master’s degree)
- English as a Second Language (certificate and master’s degree)
- Applied Literacy (master’s degree)
What types of financial support are available for students?

Education students at the undergraduate level may be eligible for federal financial aid, teacher loan forgiveness programs and scholarships. There are special programs and scholarships available for students majoring in the STEM disciplines and pursuing teacher certification.

What resources and services will USM offer me as a future teacher?

Students pursuing teacher education are required to have multiple field experiences including student teaching. Students also have the opportunity to participate in a number of workshops and ongoing services that include job preparedness in the field of teaching, how to network, and what principals look for when they hire teachers.