

Education Practitioner

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree

Graduates may pursue either of two possibilities. First, some students major in Education Practitioner in order to custom tailor a plan of study at Middlesex County College for transfer to a four-year college or university. Second, some students want to take practical and applied courses that prepare them to work immediately after this degree. Indeed, some majors actually work in the field while completing degree requirements. People already employed in educational settings often receive salary or position upgrades when they complete this degree.

For the student who desires to transfer as an Education major or to go to work immediately in an education-related setting, the Education Practitioner is the right choice. Students should tell their advisor which career path in education they wish to follow, so they can be directed to the proper elective choices. (**Note:** Some receiving institutions prefer an A.A. degree).

■ Can students find employment without completing their four-year degree?

Students are eligible for a substitute-teaching license after completion of their 60th credit. Many graduates have worked as paraprofessionals in a wide variety of educational settings (both public and private) as they continue their education at a four-year institution.

Whether students choose the transfer or the early employment track, this degree can help obtain CDA certification obtained through the Council for Professional Recognition in Washington, D.C. or "Group Teacher Approval" obtained through the State of New Jersey Department of Human Services - Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS). (**Note:** Advisor consultation is recommended. If the student selects applied courses for the approved electives rather than transfer-oriented courses, some of the applied courses may not be transferable).

■ What will students learn if they study Education Practitioner?

They will have a strong core of general education courses and practical experiences in teaching/learning field settings. Supervision is done by cooperating school personnel as well as by the college supervisor. Students may select to work in early childhood, special education, elementary education or high school level field placements.

■ Are there any requirements students must satisfy before taking courses in the major?

The student's performance on the College's placement test determines placement in developmental courses. Consultation with the department chairperson about math and science choices is strongly recommended. Often, in addition to the education major, the student's desired future second major at the transfer institution allows the advisor or chairperson to assist him or her with selecting the appropriate math and science courses.

Many schools require a police background check along with fingerprinting of those who work in educational settings. Middlesex students must comply with the policies that are in effect at their field placement. Students will not be able to graduate or to complete their Education Field Placement requirement unless they comply. Obtaining the appropriate background check, before the field work course and as the placement site requires, is the student's responsibility.

■ How long will it take to complete this degree?

Once students complete developmental coursework (if needed), the degree can be completed in two years of full-time study. They can shorten the amount of time by taking courses in the summer and winter sessions.

■ Can students complete all requirements by enrolling in evening classes?

Almost all classes are offered at least one time each year during the evening sessions. Some courses are offered in one semester but not in the next. Students studying on a part-time basis should contact the department chairperson or an advisor to plan when they should take their courses.

■ Questions?

Contact: Dr. Steven Barnhart, department chair, at 732.906.2590 SBarnhart@middlesexcc.edu, or Academic Advising, at 732.906.2596 Advisor@middlesexcc.edu.

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Below are required courses and recommended course groupings and sequences for program completion. Courses may have prerequisite and corequisite requirements. Check course descriptions for additional details.

Students who desire to take any courses out of sequence are permitted to do so as long as they have completed the prerequisites (if any) for the desired courses.

Courses	Credits	Requisites / Comments
Semester I		
ENG 121 English Composition I	3	Passing score on the College's placement test or a grade of "C" or better in ENG 010.
PSY 123 Introduction to Psychology	3	
HED 150 Contemporary Health Issues	3	
SPE 121 Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3	
MAT ___ Mathematics Elective I	3-4	Appropriate score on the College's placement test to start any of the following Math sequences: MAT 101-MAT 102, MAT 129-MAT 131, MAT 131-MAT 132 or higher levels.
Semester II		
ENG 122 English Composition II	3	A grade of "C" or better in ENG 121
OR		
ENG 125 English Composition II: Writing About Literature	3	
PSY 223 Child Psychology	3	PSY 123
HUM ___ General Education Humanities Elective (GE HUM)	3	Students are advised to pick a humanities elective based on upper division receiving institution's requirements. Often recommended: World Literature I or II (ENG 225 or ENG 226).
ART ___ Art Elective	3	Students are advised to pick an art elective based on upper division receiving institution's requirements. Often recommended: ART 105, ART 109, ART 145, ART 201, ART 123, ART 124.
MAT ___ Mathematics Elective II	3-4	Appropriate score on the College's placement test to finish any of the following Math sequences: MAT 101-MAT 102, MAT 129-MAT 131, MAT 131-MAT 132 or higher.
Semester III		
BIO ___ General Education Biology Elective	3-4	Choices are: BIO 103, or all 4 credit Biology courses with the GE MST designation. Note: Most 4 credit biology courses are best for transfer.
MUS 140 Music Fundamentals	3	Music 131 may be substituted on its acceptance by transfer institution and with chairperson's permission.
PSY 226 Educational Psychology: Classroom Applications	3	PSY 123 PSY 226 is a prerequisite for EDU 280, Education Field Experience.
SOC 121 Introduction to Sociology	3	
___ ___ Elective 1	3	Students are advised to pick an approved elective based on transfer institution's requirements. Often recommended: History course (Consult advisor).
Semester IV		
___ ___ Elective 2	3	Students are advised to pick an approved elective based on transfer institution's requirements. Often recommended: 4 credit lab science (Not usually a Biology course – Consider SCI 155 or SCI 220 or consult advisor for additional choices).
EDU 280 Education Field Experience	3	PSY 226 & PSY 122 or PSY 125 Students are required to work in an educational setting for 90 hours.
ENG 212 Children's Literature	3	ENG 121
___ ___ Elective 3	3	This elective is chosen with an advisor. Transfer institutions often require a course in the second major in a subject area (e. g.: English or history). The second major is different from the education major.
___ ___ Elective 4	3	See message in Elective 3
___ ___ Elective 5	3	See message in Elective 3
Total Credits: 63-66		

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