

## TEACHER EDUCATION: MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION (GRADES 5-9) B.S.ED.

The mission of the Middle Level Education program is to prepare and support critically conscious middle level educators who are leaders and advocates for social justice and who center developmentally and culturally responsive practices in their work with youth. The program provides a minimum of four supervised school-based experiences within reasonable commuting distance whereby university students engage with a diverse range of middle level educators and students.

Students who satisfactorily complete the program earn a minimum of 120 credits of study across four areas: General Education, Content Concentration, Professional Studies, and Fieldwork. This design ensures that each student achieves a balance of academic and professional preparation to meet the expectations and challenges associated with teaching at any level. During the students’ first year, advisors guide them in devising an eight-semester plan that is balanced across the four areas of study described below:

### GENERAL EDUCATION (CATAMOUNT CORE)

Students earn credits in liberal arts and sciences from an array of disciplines such as: English, mathematics, social science, history, political science, humanities, and art. Most of these courses are generally completed during the first three to four semesters and, since students sometimes transfer from one program to another, these credits easily transfer to other degree programs in the College of Education and Social Services as well as other colleges within the university.

### PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Courses that concentrate on the professional work of teaching span all four years. These studies are grounded in theory, research and policies associated with the very best practices in middle level education. Courses on young adolescent learning and development, learning theory, special education, and teaching culturally and linguistically diverse students are taken in the first two years as pre-professional requirements. These courses include a minimum of one field placement within a middle school. More heavily school-based courses in curriculum, pedagogy, assessment, team organization, literacy, mathematics, and evaluation and assessment are taken the last two years.

### DUAL CONTENT CONCENTRATION AREAS

Students in Middle Level Education complete two Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) content areas (English, mathematics, social studies, science). The students must work closely with their advisor to determine the two content areas and sequence of courses.

### FIELDWORK

The faculty is committed to providing students as many school-based experience as possible and deemed practical during a four-year course of study. Four courses (EDML 1890, EDML 2890, EDML 3990, EDML 4890) include school-based based experiences and, while

taking these courses, students will enjoy working with teachers on up to four different teaching teams. Emphasis is placed on high levels of integration between campus-based learning and field experience to ensure that students are sufficiently oriented and prepared for the real work of exemplary middle level schools.

The Middle Level Education program is designed to prepare teachers to create curriculum and learning environments that are responsive to the needs of students in grades 5-9. As such, all our courses center on teaching that is specific to young adolescents. In keeping with the middle school model, great emphasis is placed on concepts such as collaborative teaming, interdisciplinary teaching, challenging and relevant curriculum, student voice, and teaching for equity.

Finally, like all teacher education students at UVM, participants in this program use authentic assessment to demonstrate their growth over time in relation to specific teaching skills. Over the course of their program of study, students will curate samples of their professional work, reflect on their learning, and ultimately create an evidence-based portfolio in their senior year. Students will refine this portfolio of work in conjunction with their student teaching experience and ultimately submit it for review as part of the licensure process.

## REQUIREMENTS MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION

All students must meet the Degree and University Requirements.

All students must meet the Catamount Core Curriculum Requirements.

All students must meet the College Requirements.

| Requirement Description                  |  | Credits |
|--|--|---------|
| <b>PRE-PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS</b>     |  |         |
| EDSP 1050                                | Iss Aff Persons W/Disabil                                  | 3       |
| EDML 2890                                | Teachers & Teaching Process                                | 3       |
| EDML 1890                                | Foundations of Middle Level Ed                             | 3       |
| EDFS 1020                                | School and Society   | 3       |
| or EDFS 3030                             | Soc, Hst & Phil Found of Educ                              |         |
| ECLD 1560                                | Lang Policy Issues,Race&Sch                                | 3       |
| Demonstration of core competencies       |  |         |
| <b>PROFESSIONAL COURSEWORK</b>           |  |         |
| Choose one of the following two courses: |  | 3       |
| EDML 3890                                | Mid Level Teaching Practicum I                             |         |
| EDML 3990                                | Special Topics (Place-Based Teaching in the Middle Grades) |         |
| EDSC 2570                                | Intro to Teaching Math                                     | 3       |

|  |                                |    |
|--|--------------------------------|----|
| EDML 3220  | Social Justice Education       | 3  |
| EDML 3270  | Inquiry Middle Grades Sci & SS | 3  |
| EDML 3600  | Teaching Young Adolescents     | 6  |
| EDML 3700  | Middle School Org & Pedagogy   | 3  |
| EDML 3770  | Young Adolescent ELA Methods   | 3  |
| EDML 4860  | Internship Support Seminar     | 3  |
| EDML 4890  | Mid Lev Teaching Practicum II  | 3  |
| EDML 4991  | Student Teaching: Internship   | 12 |
| Qualifying score on a state-approved content assessment or commensurate assessment approved by another US state or territory |                                |    |

### CONCENTRATION AREAS

Students must complete two of the following four areas of concentration.

#### English Language Arts Concentration

| Requirement Description                         |                                | Credits |
|---|--------------------------------|---------|
| Select 2 courses from the following options     |                                | 6       |
| ENGL 1001                                       | Written Expression             |         |
| ENGL 1002                                       | Topics In: Written Expression  |         |
| ENGL 1740                                       | The Art of the Essay           |         |
| ENGL 1702                                       | Topics in Intro Writing: Arts  |         |
| ENGL 1730                                       | Intro to Creative Writing      |         |
| ENGL 2700                                       | Topics in Writing              |         |
| ENGL 2740                                       | Writing Creative Nonfiction    |         |
| ENGL 2760                                       | Writing Poetry                 |         |
| Choose 1 course from each of the following sets |                                |         |
| Multicultural Literature                        |                                | 3       |
| EDLT 5360                                       | Culturally Responsive Lit      |         |
| ENGL 1210                                       | Topics in Race & Ethnic in Lit |         |
| ENGL 2210                                       | Topics in Race & Ethnic in Lit |         |
| ENGL 2223                                       | Topics in 20C AfAm Lit&Culture |         |
| Survey Literature Courses                       |                                | 3       |
| ENGL 1114                                       | British Literature II          |         |
| ENGL 1122                                       | American Literature I          |         |
| ENGL 1124                                       | American Literature II         |         |
| Structure of the English Language Courses       |                                | 3       |

|                                     |                               |   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| LING 1500                           | Introduction to Linguistics   |   |
| LING 1400                           | Structure of English Language |   |
| An elective from ENGS, LING or WLIT |                               | 3 |

#### Math Concentration

| Requirement Description |                             | Credits |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| MATH 1111               | Elementary School Math      | 3       |
| MATH 2111               | Algebra for Educators       | 3       |
| MATH 2180               | Geometry for Educators      | 3       |
| MATH 1212               | Fundamentals of Calculus I  | 3       |
| MATH 2001               | Development of Mathematics  | 3       |
| STAT 1410               | Basic Statistical Methods 1 | 3       |
| EDSC 3570               | Tchg Math in Sec Schls      | 3       |

#### Science Concentration

| Requirement Description |                             | Credits |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| BIOL 1400               | Principles of Biology 1     | 4       |
| or BCOR 1400            | Exploring Biology 1         |         |
| BIOL 1450               | Principles of Biology 2     | 4       |
| or BCOR 1450            | Exploring Biology 2         |         |
| CHEM 1100               | Outline: General Chem w/lab | 4       |
| or CHEM 1400            | General Chemistry 1         |         |
| GEOL 1400               | Environmental Geology       | 4       |
| PHYS 1400               | Elementary Physics I        | 4       |
| ASTR 1405               | Exploring the Cosmos        | 3       |

#### Social Studies Concentration

| Requirement Description |                                | Credits |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| POLS 1300               | US Political System            | 3       |
| GEOG 1760               | Global Environments & Cultures | 3       |
| HST 1310                | Global History to 1500         | 3       |
| or HST 1315             | Global History since 1500      |         |
| HST 1610                | US History to 1865             | 3       |
| HST 1650                | Topics in Race & US History    | 3       |
| ECON 1400               | Principles of Macroeconomics   | 3       |
| or ECON 1450            | Principles of Microeconomics   |         |