

Teaching Assistant

Degree Awarded: Certificate

Meeting the educational requirements for permanent NYSED Teaching Assistant Certification

Recommended Course Sequence

Program Requirements	Credits
ENG 101 Freshman English 1	3
PSY 101 General Psychology 1	3
PSY 221 Child Psychology	3
EDU 103 Intro to Early Childhood/ Childhood Education++>	3
COM 101 Foundations of Communication	3
EDU 107 Mandated Training	1
_____ Restricted Elective	3
_____ Restricted Elective	3
_____ Restricted Elective	3
Total: 25	

Restricted Elective Options

This program has been developed to include options matching the New York State Teaching Certifications.

Option 1: For students who do not wish to follow a particular grade range.

_____	SUNY General Education course*	3
_____	SUNY General Education course*	3
_____	SUNY General Education course*	3

Option 2: Birth to 2nd Grades (Choose 3)

EDU 201	Observation and Assessment++	3
MAT 111	Foundations of Elementary School Mathematics	3
GEO 101	Elements of Physical Geography	3
HIS _____	SUNY GenEd (Category 4, 5, or 6)	3

Option 3: 1st to 6th Grades (Choose 3)

GEO 101	Elements of Physical Geography	3
MAT 111	Foundations of Elementary School Math	3
_____	SUNY General Ed. Course*	3
_____	SUNY General Ed. Course*	3

Option 4: 7th to 12th Grades

EDU 103	Omit	
PSY 222	Psychology of Adolescence (Replaces PSY 221)	3
GEO 101	Elements of Physical Geography	3
_____	SUNY General Education course*	3
_____	SUNY General Education course*	3
_____	SUNY General Education course*	3

++Local daytime observations beyond college classroom are required.
Students will be placed according to their employment/school needs.

* Each elective must be chosen from the following SUNY General Education categories: Mathematics (GE1), Natural Sciences (GE2), American History (GE4), Western Civilization (GE5), Other World Civilizations (GE6), Humanities (GE7), Arts (GE8), or Foreign Languages (GE9), with at least ONE from either Category 4, 5, or 6.
Do not take more than one elective from the same category.

> Evidence of completion of fingerprinting through NYS Department of Education is required.

Program Description

The Teaching Assistant certificate program is designed to prepare teacher assistants and paraprofessionals at all public school levels. Students will develop career skills in preparation for New York State Teacher Assistant Licensure and Certification. They will be introduced to career aptitudes and skills necessary for educational and behavioral assistance in New York State classrooms from preschool to high school. The program will supply a basic educational foundation comprised of at least three SUNY General Education topics and at least one area of liberal arts and sciences, as well as specific educational courses which meet Federal and/or New York State requirements for Teaching Assistants. Educational courses may include Introduction to Education, Mandated Training, and Foundations of Elementary School Mathematics. All courses are applicable toward an associate's degree AND the Jointly Registered Teacher Education Program (JRTEP).

Admission Criteria

Admission to this program requires that students be high school graduates or have high school equivalency diplomas (GEDs). If students are not high school graduates, they may be eligible for admission to the College's 24 Credit Hour Program. If students are home schooled, they may be eligible for admission. (See pages 7 through 13 for more details on the admission process for all applicants.)

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Certification Requirements

Federal Requirements under NCLB

- Currently employed TAs are “grandfathered” if they have a Continuing Certificate AND are tenured.
- Currently employed TAs with a Continuing Certificate who are NOT tenured (Provisional Status) have until January 2006 to fulfill the NCLB requirements: passing grade on the NYSATAS exam OR complete two (2) years of college (48 credits) or earn an Associate’s Degree.
- All TAs hired after January 2002 must have a high school diploma AND a passing grade on the NYSATAS exam OR have completed two years of college (48 credits) OR earn an Associate’s degree. This requirement must be met immediately if hired to work in a Title I or school-wide program.

New York State Requirements

- Currently employed TAs are “grandfathered” if they have a Continuing Certificate, unless they choose to apply for a Level I, II or III Certificate under the new requirements. (In order to be “grandfathered,” a TA must have obtained a Continuing Certificate by February 2004.)
- All TAs hired after February 2004 must pass the NYSATAS exam AND complete 18 credits of college coursework within three years AND complete 75 hours of professional development every five years.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- exhibit critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- acquire a broad base knowledge in at least one area of liberal arts and sciences, and at least three SUNY General Education topics.
- understand the fundamentals of child development theories and their classroom applications.
- demonstrate relevant, creative, developmentally appropriate teaching techniques.
- communicate effectively in oral and written forms.

Career Opportunities

Entry-level teaching assistant or paraprofessional in:

- birth to second grade
- first to sixth grade
- seventh to twelfth grade

Transfer Opportunities

All of the courses in the Teaching Assistant Certificate are applicable toward an Associate in Arts and Associate in Sciences degree AND the Jointly Registered Teacher Education Program.

Contact Information

Education
Department Chair
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Admissions Office
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