

Early, Middle and Exceptional Education



The Department of Early, Middle and Exceptional Education at Millersville University is dedicated to providing exemplary programs for undergraduate students in education, connecting content and pedagogy with authentic experiences in diverse school settings and upholding high standards for professional and civic conduct.

DEGREES/CONCENTRATIONS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION (B.S.E.)

Provides in-depth preparation for a professional career in education. Licensure programs are available in the following areas:

- 1. PreK – Grade 4 Early Childhood Education** – Prepares teacher candidates to use research-based methods of instruction with young children. Licensure exam must be passed.
- 2. PreK – Grade 8 Special Education & PreK – Grade 4 Early Childhood Education (dual major)** – Prepares teacher candidates to work in inclusive classrooms as regular education and special education teachers, and to work with individuals with multiple and severe disabilities in specialized settings. Licensure exams must be passed.
- 3. Grade 4 – Grade 8 Middle Level Education** – Prepares teacher candidates to teach English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies in inclusive classrooms. Teacher candidates select one content area as a major focus of study and the other three as minor foci. Teacher licensure is earned in all four content areas if each licensure exam is passed.

MINOR

Integrative STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) Education Methods – Offered in conjunction with the Department of Applied Engineering, Safety and Technology. Leads to additional endorsement on initial teaching license. It is the first STEM program in early childhood education to be endorsed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

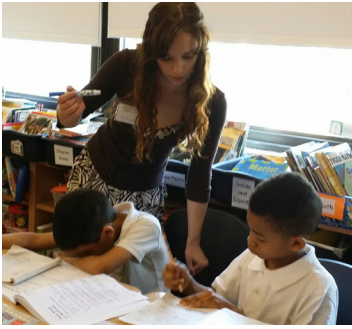
Kappa Delta Pi (KDP) is an international honor society in education. The organization is founded under the principles of knowledge, duty and power. Teacher candidates inducted into the organization have the chance to engage in professional development, biannual conferences and local literacy initiatives.

Best Buddies is a nonprofit organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Members of MU Best Buddies engage in many scheduled social events every semester. We are proud of the one-to-one friendships that we have formed.

The Early Childhood Organization (ECHO) is a student organization that advocates for early childhood education, supports the continuous professional development of peers and provides services to the local community. This group provides professional development experiences for students, raises funds for local charities, provides service to local nonprofit organizations and hosts social events for its members.

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) provides its members with opportunities for professional development and community service with students with disabilities. It also provides significant opportunities for mentoring through its Saturday Recreation Program in the community.

The Collegiate Middle Level Association (CMLA) strives to unite and bring together Middle Level Education majors of all concentrations. The CMLA provides an encouraging and positive atmosphere for all Middle Level Education majors to grow professionally and personally.



FACILITIES

The Department of Early, Middle and Exceptional Education at Millersville University is housed in Stayer Hall.

RESOURCES

Susan A. Walker Children's Literature Center

Conveniently located in Stayer Hall, room 118, the Susan A. Walker Children's Literature Center houses a collection of over 10,000 children's books available for students to borrow on a short-term basis. These books include picture books and novels in a wide variety of genres.

Digital Learning Studio

The Digital Learning Studio, located in Stayer Hall, room 210, offers technology support for faculty and students. There is a variety of technology available for use, such as audio recorders, video cameras and digital cameras. The Digital Learning Studio is open for advice, technology help and resources for projects.

Curriculum Resources

Located on the third floor of the recently renovated McNairy Library is a collection of curriculum resources for all students. These current and frequently updated resources include teacher manuals, student resource books, learning center kits and collections of leveled readers.

FACULTY

The faculty has garnered over 180 years of teaching experience in PreK to Grade 12 schools throughout the nation and is nationally and internationally renowned, sharing instructional approaches in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East and Europe. The faculty engages undergraduates in educational research and grant writing, and helps them to present findings at local, state and national conferences.

OPPORTUNITIES

Internships through Aaron's Acres and Behavior by Design offer firsthand experience with individuals with severe and multiple disabilities. Aaron's Acres is a nonprofit organization that provides year-round recreational programs to children and young adults, ages 5-21, with developmental disabilities. Behavior by Design (BxD) is an organization that provides direct care and behavioral training for individuals with autism and similar exceptionalities.

Millersville's internships provide teacher candidates with the opportunity to work alongside professionals in this challenging, yet rewarding field.

The Professional Development School (PDS) permits teacher candidates, upon completion of a successful application process, to work in the same classroom the semester before student teaching and during student teaching. Teacher candidates are trained in the "co-teaching" model of instruction and learn to collaborate with professionals in the school. Principals say these candidates interview for their first teaching position like they have "completed" their first year of teaching.

GRADUATES

Graduates of our programs are prepared for careers as lead teachers in early learning centers, kindergartens and grades 1-8 in urban, suburban and rural communities. Teacher candidates develop solid content knowledge and skills in educational assessment, lesson planning and instructional delivery. They learn how to work with children of all abilities and backgrounds.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



Alex Jinks (2018)

Early Childhood Education major

- Integrative STEM Education Methods minor
- Inducted into Kappa Delta Pi International Education Honor Society
- Transfer student from Franklin & Marshall College

Breighana Guy (2012) autistic support teacher at New Holland Elementary School

- Participated in Aaron's Acres internship at Millersville University
- Millersville University Honors College, thesis "The Dynamics of Families with Children with Disabilities"
- Participated in the Millersville University Professional Development School (PDS): "The PDS program allowed me to interview and start my first year of teaching with far more knowledge, expertise and confidence than I may have had through traditional student teaching."

