Millersville takes pride in its rich history as a teacher preparation institution. Our Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education (B.S.E.) students put their rigorous education in literature, linguistics, education, writing and media studies into practice in our year-long professional development school.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Millersville University’s Professional Development School (PDS) sets Millersville apart from many other teaching programs. The PDS provides a full-year internship experience that immerses future teachers in a secondary-school setting. This senior-year apprenticeship with a master teacher allows English B.S.E. students to shift their focus from learning about teaching to becoming career-ready teachers prepared to be on their own in the classroom.

• In their senior year, B.S.E’s take five classes in which their work focuses on improving their classroom environments.
• B.S.E.s intern in a regional partner school district, where they engage in a two-semester, co-teaching experience with a mentor teacher.
• Students assigned to each school system are grouped into a cohort so that they have an active support system within the school and in classes.
• Student teachers are carefully matched with mentor teachers who are specially selected. Throughout their senior year, Millersville B.S.E. students work in a nurturing environment with their mentor teachers to transition into full-time teachers.
• Every B.S.E. student receives an iPad to use throughout the year to develop technological expertise. Students practice integrating technology effectively in their PDS classrooms.
• MU teaching faculty visit classrooms to observe 12 to 15 times during the year to assess the teaching intern’s experiences with their mentor teachers, students and school.

The seamless integration between theoretical aspects in the classroom and practical implementation in the field empowers student teachers to apply their learning to ground their future practice.

Become an English Teacher

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SECONDARY EDUCATION

Combine your interests in English and teaching with this four-year program, which offers both content knowledge in English and extensive teacher training in our award-winning Professional Development School.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates enjoy careers in public and private secondary school teaching, often in the same schools where they did their PDS assignments.
CERTIFICATION IN ENGLISH

Students who have undergraduate degrees can become certified English teachers by completing Millersville’s post-baccalaureate certification program. Apply through the College of Graduate Studies and Adult Learning.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

• The Snapper, our student-run newspaper, offers opportunities for future journalists to get experience writing, editing and laying out copy.
• The Creative Writers’ Guild provides students with a supportive environment, an outlet and an audience for their creative writing in any genre.
• English Club members host literary readings of poetry and short works of fiction, screen films, attend plays and participate in cultural events.
• Film Club provides a venue for discussion about cinema and media to help future teachers analyze the impact of media.
• The George Street Press, Millersville’s literary magazine, provides future teachers experience in publishing community works of literature and art.

CONTACTS

Dr. Kim McCollum-Clark, Associate Professor of English Education, Chair, English & World Languages
Dr. Sarah Brooks, Professional Development School Coordinator
Dr. Tim Mahoney, Chair of Educational Foundations

TEACHING IN LANCASTER

In 2015, GoodCall ranked Lancaster the best place in the United States to be a teacher. GoodCall considered factors like average teacher salaries, available teaching jobs, cost of living, number of teaching jobs per capita, and amenities.

OPTIONAL CONCENTRATIONS

• Comparative Literature facilitates the study of literature from an international and global perspective, and increases sensitivity and awareness of cultural diversity that our geocultural circumstances increasingly demand.
• English as a Second Language allows secondary-education students to pursue concentrated study in teaching English as a second language.
• Linguistics enables students to pursue their interests in language study by exploring all major branches of linguistics – descriptive (theoretical), historical/comparative and applied.
• Journalism offers both instruction in theoretical principles as well as practice in the various elements of journalism, including editing and journalistic specializations.
• Film Studies enables students to develop skills and knowledge in film history, aesthetics, terminology, methods of analysis, theory and social impact/interactions.
• Writing Studies offers students intensive experiences with both writing in different contexts and analyzing the histories and theories that ground composition in its many forms.

FACULTY

Faculty members in the B.S.E. program have specialties in literature, film, linguistics, writing studies, education, special education and English as a Second Language. This diversity of faculty expertise ensures students are prepared for the evolving needs of teaching.

“In 2016, the National Council of Teachers of English fully recognized Millersville’s BSE program.
In 2014, the program won the National Association of Professional Development Schools/NAPDS Exemplary Professional Development School Achievement Award.”

Zachary Richardson ’17