

SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Secondary Education program prepares students to become exemplary high school teachers who excel at helping students learn and grow in our increasingly global world. Combining field experience and student teaching, the program offers deep subject matter knowledge and the real-world experience needed to succeed in today's schools. A degree in Secondary Education gives you the foundation to become a secondary school teacher in mathematics, biology, chemistry, general science, English, history/social studies, or world languages, including French, German, Spanish, Italian, and Latin.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Learn and Do More at RWU

With a focus on experiential learning at RWU education, Secondary Education majors:

Complete a Teaching Placement

The best place to learn how to teach is inside a high school classroom. During each of their four years, Secondary Education students spend an extensive amount of time working with high school students and learning from practicing teachers. In your final year, you will teach your own class. At RWU, you will graduate with more than the required number of practicum hours for the state of Rhode Island, as well as many other state credential programs.



- + Do you have a deep fascination with a subject area that you love to share with others?
- + Do you have a passion for social justice and equity?
- + Are you interested in working with individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds?

CAREER OUTLOOK

RWU Secondary Education graduates land teaching positions in private, charter, and public schools. Some examples include:

Rhode Island:

- Bristol Public Schools
- Pawtucket Public Schools
- Providence Public Schools



Out-of-State

- Arizona
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Florida
- Maine
- Massachusetts
- Maryland

International

- Japan
- Switzerland
- South Korea

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

 *My classes had a large emphasis on multicultural education and teaching diverse learners. If I had not known how essential that was, I would have had a more difficult time transitioning into teaching and getting more comfortable with my students.* 

Tyler Roberts '20,
Physical Science/Chemistry Teacher,
Mt. Hope High School in Bristol, R.I.
Majors: Secondary Education and Biology

Study Abroad

Secondary Education majors are encouraged to spend a semester abroad, as they are likely to be working in culturally diverse settings. Being immersed in a new culture and language will prepare you to teach in a global classroom.

Learn from Guest Speakers

The program hosts guest speakers each semester to discuss global issues directly affecting today's youth. Lectures on immigration, global warming, and race prepare education majors to teach in the current climate.

Fellowships

Secondary Education majors take advantage of the Hassenfeld Student Leadership Fellowship Program, which funds opportunities for community projects and research, both locally and globally.

Faculty

As a Secondary Education major, your professors become lifelong mentors. Small class sizes allow faculty to get to know students' interests, skills, and goals. RWU faculty have many years of teaching experience and are available for guidance both in and outside the classroom. During your senior year, education faculty will mentor you throughout the job-seeking process or as you apply to graduate school.

Resources

You will graduate ahead of the game by taking advantage of unique career development resources. The program is constantly adjusting to the changing teaching requirements for licensure.

- Secondary Education majors can also become certified to teach middle school if they have taken 21 credits in math, history, English, or science and an additional three courses in middle school teaching. The courses are offered at RWU as an add-on certificate program.
- Juniors and seniors can take the Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) course to meet the Massachusetts requirement.
- All students will graduate having met the 24-week teaching practicum requirement in Rhode Island.
- The program provides professional preparation such as mock interviews and resume-writing workshops, so students graduate confident in their abilities to apply for jobs or graduate school.

CURRICULUM

All Secondary Education majors take two courses in Level 1: Exploring the Profession, and five courses in Level II: Preparing to Teach. Majors also take three content knowledge courses in their area of certification: mathematics, science, English, social studies, foreign language, or dance. In Level III, you complete your teaching practicum and Performing in the Classroom coursework.

Licensure

All teacher education programs at RWU are approved by the Rhode Island Department of Education. Under the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) agreement, our graduates are eligible for certification in 47 states. Testing requirements vary for each state.

Special Education 4 + 1 Program

As an undergraduate Elementary Education or Secondary Education major, you may apply to take two additional courses and earn six graduate credits during your senior year. If in good standing, you may continue on in one additional year of full-time study in the Master of Arts in Special Education Program. You will complete the remaining eight (for Elementary Special Education candidates) or nine (for Secondary Special Education candidates) as a matriculated graduate student. Candidates interested in this program must apply during their undergraduate junior year for conditional acceptance.

Last Updated: July 2021

**ALL OF OUR
SECONDARY
EDUCATION
STUDENTS
DOUBLE MAJOR
IN A DISCIPLINE
RELATED TO
THEIR AREA OF
CERTIFICATION.**