

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION



Mission of the Institute

The Institute for Educational Excellence and Entrepreneurship (3E Institute) identifies, supports, and mentors entrepreneurial educators who collaborate with colleagues, parents, businesses, and the community to meet the needs of all students. The certificate courses, developed and supported through the institute, stimulate the individual's vision and purpose essential to life-long accomplishment, integrity, and commitment to teaching. It immerses educators in innovation, problem-based learning, collaboration, leadership, 21st century skills, and real-world experiences that teacher participants learn, model, and incorporate into curricular projects. They may elect to participate in externships with local business, industry, and/or laboratories.

Program of Study

The entrepreneurial education certificate program is based on the following premises:

- Education must connect to the world outside the classroom to stay relevant.
- Teachers and students must learn how to interact and compete in an environment of global interaction and competition.
- Students need to learn how to be flexible and adaptable to change, as well as use critical thinking.
- Entrepreneurial educators are change agents and model incremental change strategies for their students.
- Collaboration and partnering are vital 21st century skills.
- 21st century educators measure and document the impact and change in their students' achievement.

Career Opportunities

Educators seeking effective, challenging, and innovative ways to engage their students, as well as those who intend to develop as 21st century teacher-leaders, will find this program highly relevant.

The program addresses educators' professional needs at various career stages:

- Seasoned educators who look for new inspiration, perspective, and an energy boost
- Second-career educators seeking pedagogical grounding and mentoring
- Educators in early career who may be pursuing a master's degree and envision a role as teacher-leader.

The courses taken for the entrepreneurial education certificate can also be used toward the focus of inquiry credits needed for the master of education degree should a student apply for that program at a later time, be accepted, and finish all requirements within the six-year time period allowed for degree completion.

Curriculum

This certificate is interdisciplinary in nature, with participation from

1. College of Education
 - Department of Early and Middle Grades Education
 - Department of Professional and Secondary Studies
2. College of Arts and Sciences
 - Department of Mathematics

The interdisciplinary approach also is reflected through faculty participation from the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, and College of Health Sciences as guest lecturers on special topics during the courses.

Program Offered

This is an 18-semester-hour certificate program (six courses). At this time, all courses carry three graduate credits. All required courses are offered primarily during the summer, with electives offered as listed in the graduate course schedule.

I. Required Courses (12 semester hours)

EDE 563 Teacher as Leader (3)

EEE 500 Entrepreneurial Educator (3)

Plus choose two from the following:

EEE 501 Emerging Science and Technology (3)

EEE 503 Applied Learning Seminar (3)

EEE 504 The 21st Century Educator Externship (3)

MAT 595 Topics in Mathematics Education:
Quantitative Literacy (3)

II. Electives (6 semester hours)

Two elective courses (3 semester hours each) taken under advisement

Admission Requirements

Applicants must have a baccalaureate degree from a college or university accredited in the United States or its equivalent from a school in another country.

For More Information

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About West Chester University

A comprehensive, public institution, West Chester University offers high-quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs in more than 100 subject areas, as well as certification programs. As the second largest member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, West Chester offers a full and rewarding educational experience as well as reasonable tuition.

With a rich heritage dating back to the 19th century, West Chester University was founded in 1871 as West Chester Normal School for the purpose of training teachers for the Commonwealth's newly established public schools. In 1960, West Chester State Teachers College expanded its programs to include liberal arts and graduate degrees and, as a result, dropped "Teachers" from its name. In 1983, West Chester State College became one of the 14 institutions in the State System of Higher Education. Along with its university status, the school acquired a new system of governance and the opportunity to expand its degree programs.

Today, more than 14,500 graduate and undergraduate students, along with 1,500 faculty and staff, study and work on the 406-acre campus. Situated in the Borough of West Chester, the campus is a picturesque mix of Gothic, Victorian, and modern architecture with pleasant, tree-shaded walks.

Strategically located at the center of the mid-Atlantic corridor between New York City and Washington, D.C., West Chester is just 35 miles west of Philadelphia and 17 miles north of Wilmington.

