



# WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## GRADUATE STUDIES FACT SHEET

### SECONDARY EDUCATION

#### PROGRAM OF STUDY

The master of education in secondary education is designed to strengthen one's professional knowledge and skills. Practicing teachers can increase their knowledge base of effective teaching. Courses are taught by full-time faculty who hold doctorates, write in their fields of expertise, present papers, and conduct workshops and seminars at local, state, and national meetings. The College of Education is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Middle States Association.

The Department of Professional and Secondary Education also offers a nondegree program for those who are post-baccalaureate students seeking secondary (middle school and high school) certification in biology, chemistry, earth/space science, English, French, German, Latin, mathematics, physics, and Spanish.

Students can begin as graduate certification students and later apply some of these certification courses toward a master's degree in secondary education.

#### THE CURRICULUM

The M.Ed. program requires a minimum of 36 semester hours.

##### I. Required Courses (9 semester hours)

- EDF 500 Methods and Materials of Research in Education
- EDF 510 Educational Foundations
- EDP 550 Advanced Educational Psychology

##### II. Area of Concentration (12 semester hours)

Students select a minimum of 12 semester hours from within the Department of

Professional and Secondary Education.

##### III. Electives (15 semester hours)

With the approval of the graduate coordinator, students can select electives from the Department of Professional and Secondary Education, from other departments in the College of Education or in the student's teaching field, or a combination of both.

##### IV. Comprehensive Examination

Students must perform satisfactorily on a written comprehensive examination, which is given once a semester.

#### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should submit the following materials to the Office of Graduate Studies and Extended Education:

- Completed graduate application, including goals statement (apply online at [www.wcupa.edu/grad](http://www.wcupa.edu/grad))
- Official academic transcript(s) from all colleges and universities attended, demonstrating a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better, and a GPA of at least 3.0 in the major discipline
- Scores from either the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT)
- Two letters of recommendation
- Copy of one's teaching certification

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Write: Office of Graduate Studies and Extended Education  
McKelvie Hall  
102 West Rosedale Avenue  
West Chester University  
West Chester, PA 19383

Call: 610-436-2943

Fax: 610-436-2763

E-mail: [gradstudy@wcupa.edu](mailto:gradstudy@wcupa.edu)

Web: [www.wcupa.edu/grad](http://www.wcupa.edu/grad)

Visit: [www.facebook.com/wcugrad](http://www.facebook.com/wcugrad)

*Or contact the department:*

Write: Dr. David L. Bolton, Graduate Coordinator  
Department of Professional and Secondary Education  
201 Recitation Hall  
West Chester University  
West Chester, PA 19383

E-mail: [dbolton@wcupa.edu](mailto:dbolton@wcupa.edu)

Web: [www.wcupa.edu/\\_academics/coed/departments/profsecedu](http://www.wcupa.edu/_academics/coed/departments/profsecedu)

The Graduate Catalog is available online at [www.wcupa.edu/\\_information/official.documents/graduate.catalog/](http://www.wcupa.edu/_information/official.documents/graduate.catalog/).

#### ABOUT GRADUATE STUDIES

West Chester University offers high-quality graduate degrees in more than 70 disciplines or areas of study, as well as certificate and certification programs. The graduate studies program has grown remarkably since its introduction in 1960. West Chester University's program is the largest within the 14 institutions in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education enrolling more than 2,100 graduate students.

Programs can be taken on a part-time basis, and most of the graduate classes are scheduled during late afternoons and evenings for the benefit of in-service teachers and other employed persons.

#### ABOUT WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY

A regional, public institution, West Chester University of Pennsylvania offers high-quality undergraduate and graduate degrees, as well as certification and certificate

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programs, in more than 100 subject areas. As the second largest member of the 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 15,400 graduate and undergraduate students, as well as 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, West Chester University is just 25 miles west of Philadelphia and 17 miles north of Wilmington, Del. The campus is convenient to major cultural institutions, recreational activities, and commercial businesses, many of which provide internship opportunities for WCU's students.

