

MATHEMATICS MINOR

Mathematics holds a vital place in elementary and middle grades curricula. In terms of time devoted to instruction, it ranks second only to the language arts; in terms of utility, understanding mathematics is essential for later success in secondary school mathematics, science, and technology courses. Consequently, school districts prefer to hire prospective teachers with proven ability to teach early and middle grades mathematics.

Minor Program

West Chester University provides all of its early and middle grades education majors with a good foundation in mathematics content and pedagogy. Beyond this, the Department of Mathematics also offers you, as education majors, the opportunity to complete a minor in middle grades mathematics (4-8) designed to give you the additional preparation in mathematics, mathematics education, and technology you need to become mathematics lead teachers, district specialists, middle school mathematics teachers, or simply better mathematics teachers.

As middle grades education majors, you must complete the following mathematics content courses as part of the general education requirements:

MAT 101 Mathematics for Teachers of Children I (3 semester hours)

MAT 102 Mathematics for Teachers of Children II (3 semester hours) PREREQ: MAT 101

In addition, you must take the following methods courses as part of your specialized preparation for teaching in the middle grades:

MAT 351 Methods for Teaching Children Mathematics I (3 semester hours) PREREQ: MAT 101-102

MAT 352 Methods for Teaching Children Mathematics II (3 semester hours) PREREQ: MAT 351

Required Courses

The minor consists of the above four courses as well as the three listed below, totaling 21 semester hours. You

can find descriptions of these courses in the current Undergraduate Catalog.

MAT 121 Statistics I (3 semester hours) [no prerequisites]

MAT 312 Algebra for Teachers in Grades 4-8 (3 semester hours) PREREQ: MAT 102

MAT 313 Geometry for Teachers in Grades 4-8 (3 semester hours) PREREQ: MAT 102

Related Student Activities

The Department of Mathematics also sponsors the Mathematics Club, which is open to all students in the College of Education who are interested in finding out more about the teaching and learning of mathematics.

For More Information

You can obtain further information about this program from the contact person below.

Patricia Gysling, Coordinator

Department of Mathematics

25 University Avenue, Room 118

West Chester University

West Chester, PA 19383

E-mail: pgysling@wcupa.edu

Office: 610-436-3465

Department: 610-436-2440

Department fax: 610-738-0578

Web page: http://wcupa.edu/_academics/sch_cas.mat/

Undergraduate Catalog: http://wcupa.edu/_information/official.documents/undergrad.catalog/

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 and certificate programs. As one of the

UNDERGRADUATE FACT SHEET

largest members 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 15,400 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 25 miles west of Philadelphia and 17 miles north of Wilmington.

Information on Admission

Office of Admissions

Emil H. Messikomer Hall, 100 West Rosedale Ave.
West Chester University, West Chester, PA 19383
610-436-3411 • Toll-free: 1-877-315-2165

E-mail: ugadmiss@wcupa.edu

WCU home page: www.wcupa.edu

Facebook: www.facebook.com/wcupa

