



BA in Elementary Education/American Studies Dual Major Course Description Sheet

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The College of Professional & Continuing Education (CPCE) at Rowan University offers the Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education/American Studies dual major at Cumberland County College (CuCC). This program is ideal for those who enjoy working with children and want to make a lasting impact on their lives. Every semester with teacher professional education coursework includes a field experience--time in real classrooms working with real teachers and students. During these skill-enhancing sessions students will assist and observe tenured teachers under supervision by their Rowan professors. These experiences culminate with student teaching/clinical practice.

All students will also combine their studies in elementary education with a dual major in American Studies. This is an interdisciplinary program that draws its coursework from different humanities departments including English, Geography, History, Political Science, and Sociology. Students in this program will graduate with a BA in Elementary Education and a BA in American Studies and will also be eligible for NJ State teacher certification to teach Kindergarten through Grade 5.

Course of Study

The BA in Elementary Education/American Studies degree requires a total of 130 s.h. (Please note that the total number of credits needed in order to meet all program/certification requirements may actually be greater than the 130 required credits depending on an individual's transfer credit).

The program offered through CPCE is only for those who already possess at least 60 college credits or their Associate's degree (if transferring from Cumberland County College). Therefore, the CPCE program is a degree completion program that provides students with 81 of the 130 required program credits.

A quick outline of required credits is below:

- o 42 credits (15 courses) in Elementary Education -which will be offered by CPCE as outlined in this document
- o 39 credits (13 courses) in the dual major – American Studies-which will be offered by CPCE as outlined in this document
- o Any additional credits determined necessary for the individual student according to the official Rowan transfer credit evaluation performed by the Academic Advisor

81 credits being offered through CPCE

Elementary Education Courses 42 s.h.

MTH01.115: 3 s.h. Contemporary Mathematics
MTH01.201: 3 s.h. Structures of Mathematics
SPED08.130: 3 s.h. Human Exceptionality
EDUC 01.270: 3 s.h. Teaching in Learning Communities I
EDUC 01.272: 3 s.h. Teaching in Learning Communities II
SMED 33.420: 1 s.h. Educational Technology
READ 30.280: 3 s.h. Teaching Literacy
ELEM 02.319: 4 s.h. Curriculum and Assessment in the Elementary Classroom
SPED 08.318: 2 s.h. Differentiated Instruction in the Inclusive Classroom
ELEM 02.336: 2 s.h. Mathematics Pedagogy for Elementary Teachers
ELEM 02.338: 1 s.h. Practicum in Mathematics and Literacy
READ 30.351: 2 s.h. Differentiated Literacy Instruction
ELEM 02.448: 10 s.h. Clinical Practice in Elementary Education
ELEM 02.445: 1 s.h. Elementary Education Clinical Seminar
SECD 03.350: 1 s.h. Teaching Students of Linguistic and Cultural Diversity

American Studies Courses 39 s.h. (Three courses are listed below. 10 electives to be selected/provided by CPCE.)

ARHS 03.210: 3 s.h. History of American Art
AMST 13.201: 3 s.h. Introduction to American Studies
AMST 13.402: 3 s.h. Senior Seminar in American Studies (W/I)

Program Exit

Program exit includes successful completion of all required coursework. Students in this program will graduate with a BA in Elementary Education and a BA in American Studies and will also be eligible for NJ State teacher certification to teach Kindergarten through Grade 5.

Making the Decision to Enter the Program

The offsite program allows students to earn their BA degree in a convenient, familiar location. The full-time status allows the student to complete the dual major/certification requirements in a timely manner.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR EDUCATION COURSES

MATH 01115: 3 s.h. Contemporary Mathematics

This course is designed to develop an appreciation of what mathematics is and how it is used today. Topics covered include: statistics and probability; graphs, trees and algorithms; geometrical perspectives including transformations, symmetry, and similarity; and the mathematics of social choice. Students are expected to have completed equivalents of Basic Algebra I and Basic Skills Reading.

MATH 01.201: 3 s.h. Structures of Mathematics

This course concerns the development of number systems and algebraic structures, including the natural numbers, the integers, rational numbers, real and complex numbers. Concrete examples of selected algebraic structures such as modular arithmetic and matrices are also included. Students will be required to reason mathematically, solve problems, and communicate mathematics effectively at different levels of formality, using a variety of representations of mathematical concepts and procedures. Use of calculators is required. (Students are expected to have completed an equivalent of Intermediate Algebra.)

SPED 08.130: 3 s.h. Human Exceptionality

This general education course is designed to develop students' awareness and understanding of the nature and needs of individuals with exceptionalities. It provides a lifespan perspective that will assist students in better understanding and, hopefully, accepting and advocating for individuals with disabilities. A field component is required.

EDUC 01270: 3 s.h. Teaching in Learning Communities I

This course for teacher candidates in undergraduate teacher certification programs provides an introduction to the elements of successful, caring learning communities and will serve as a foundation for Teaching in Learning Communities II and future education courses. Teacher candidates will learn about, observe, participate in, and reflect on various aspects of learning communities and types of collaborative teaching and learning. They will begin their understanding of the interactions between and among curriculum, planning, instructional approaches, assessment, culture, diversity, and management within a learning community environment. Field visits will provide the opportunity for teacher candidates to begin to make the connection between the content of the course and its application in elementary classrooms.

EDUC 01272: 3 s.h. Teaching in Learning Communities II

Corequisite: READ 30280 Prerequisite: EDUC 01270

This course provides in depth examination and practice of instructional planning and assessment in a caring learning community. Candidates study viable learning community approaches where content-rich, research-based, and culturally responsive teaching and democratic and inclusive practices are used in caring learning environments. Candidates develop skills in objective, lesson, unit, and assessment design. A field component is required.

SMED 33.420: 1 s.h. Educational Technology

This laboratory course focuses on the use of educational technology in support of student learning, and integration of technology into the K-12 curriculum. Strategies to incorporate technology and the World Wide Web into the school curriculum will be explored. Each student will develop an electronic portfolio to demonstrate their growth over time and record evidence of their teaching competencies.

READ 30.280: 3 s.h. Teaching Literacy

**Prerequisites: READ 30120 and EDUC 01272 or PHED 35286 or EDUC 01282 or EDUC 01284*

A basic understanding of the reading process and its relationship to the other language arts is the focus of this course. Topics pertaining to reading/writing instruction in grades K-12, ranging from emergent literacy to comprehension of narrative and expository discourse are covered. There is an emphasis on strategies for developing phonemic awareness, word recognition skills, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension through various instructional settings and across all curricular areas. The importance of literature-enrichment activities and making curricular connections is highlighted. Field component is required.

ELEM 02319: 4 s.h. Curriculum Assessment in Elementary Classroom

Corequisites: SPED 08316 Prerequisites: EDUC 01272

This course examines the use of established elementary education content standards in science, social studies, health, and the arts and how interdisciplinary, thematic units of inquiry facilitate meeting those standards. Current research about the way children learn effective teaching is stressed. Students apply research on the way children learn and effectively in science, social studies, health, and the arts, as well as instructional knowledge and skills they are developing related to inquiry-based instruction, assessment, and differentiating that instruction for elementary students. Building on school district materials and mandates, teacher candidates plan, teach, and assess in interdisciplinary unit of inquiry, which reflects candidates understanding of appropriate content and pedagogy in science, social studies, health, and the arts for the grade and student in the classroom. Teacher candidates will also review, administer as appropriate, and reflect on results of varied assessments of student learning that are typically used in that classroom. The course includes a field experience, and assignments are coordinated with a concurrent course on differentiating instruction.

SPED 08.318: 2 s.h. Differentiated Instruction in the Inclusive Classroom

This Junior Level (300) course will focus on how the diverse needs of individuals with educational disabilities/differences can be met within the general education classroom environment. Emphasis will be on developing communication/collaboration, instructional and assessment strategies that will assist the classroom teacher in diversifying instruction to meet individual needs. A field component is required.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR EDUCATION COURSES Continued

ELEM 02.336: 2 s.h. Mathematics Pedagogy for Elementary Teachers

Corequisites: ELEM 02338 and READ 30351 Prerequisites: ELEM 02317 and ELEM 02318 and SPED 08316

This course in mathematics pedagogy for the elementary education candidate focuses on the knowledge and skills essential for teaching mathematics. Utilizing current research findings about how students develop mathematical concepts and processes, candidates will develop an understanding of teaching and learning mathematics at the elementary level. Teacher candidates will develop a repertoire of instructional strategies and will develop and analyze effective mathematics lessons. A field component is required.

ELEM 02.338: 1 s.h. Practicum in Mathematics and Literacy

*Requires field experience

Corequisites: ELEM 02336 and READ 30351 Prerequisites: ELEM 02317 and ELEM 02318

This field experience course provides an opportunity for candidates in the Elementary Education Specialization to practice their developing instructional skills once a week in a K-5 classroom setting. Candidates will work with partners in assigned classrooms to assist with literacy and mathematics instruction and to take the lead in developing and teaching lessons in literacy and mathematics.

READ 30.351: 2 s.h. Differentiated Literacy Instruction

Corequisites: ELEM 02338

This course prepares teacher candidates to provide differentiated literacy instruction in diverse classrooms with a wide range of developmental levels, instructional needs, interests, and backgrounds. Teacher candidates will learn how to select, administer, and analyze various assessment tools to inform instruction. Field experience is required.

ELEM 02.448: 10 s.h. Clinical Practice in Elementary Education

*Requires field experience

The clinical practice experience is a supervised, full-time activity conducted in a public elementary classroom. In this course, candidates must demonstrate mastery of subject area content, lesson planning, and use of multiple instructional strategies; ability to assess learner progress, manage all aspects of classroom activity, work collaboratively with all colleagues, administrators, families, and community, and to document evidence of doing all of the above. This is a full-time field-based course taken in the senior year.

ELEM 02.445: 1 s.h. Elementary Education Clinical Seminar

This Capstone Senior Seminar provides elementary education candidates with a supportive atmosphere in which to synthesize the pre-service components of their academic preparation with actual experience, emerging issues in the field of education, and their transition into the profession. Candidates develop a philosophy of teaching; gather and present evidence of their comprehensive knowledge, skills, and dispositions expected in this profession; and demonstrate knowledge of current critical and contemporary issues facing educators and those who hold stake in education. Interviewing skills and a professional portfolio will be developed. An associated field component (Clinical Practice) is required as a co-requisite.

SECD 03.350: 1 s.h. Teaching Students of Linguistic and Cultural Diversity

The issues of inclusion form an integral part of a teacher preparation program. The schooling of all children demands that diversity in multiple forms be addressed in the inclusive classroom, including cultural and linguistic diversity. Knowledge about diversities and the performance of appropriate instructional strategies are emphasized in this course, and attention is directed to the sensitivity needed to assist the learning of students of linguistic and cultural diversity.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR AMERICAN STUDIES COURSES

ARHS 03.210: 3 s.h. History of American Art

This course provides students with an overview of the development of painting, sculpture and architecture in America from colonial times to the 20th century.

AMST 13.201: 3 s.h. Introduction to American Studies

This is an interdisciplinary course intended to introduce the methods and themes central to American Studies. The course describes the typical methods of text, social, historical, and cultural analyses as they apply to the study of American society and culture.

AMST 13.402: 3 s.h. Senior Seminar in American Studies (WI)

Prerequisites: AMST 13201 and ENGL 01112 or AMST 13201 and COMP 01112

This seminar provides the opportunity for students to engage in their own research into American Studies and to significantly advance their own scholarly development in the field. Students interact with their instructor and the other students in the seminar in the development and completion of individual projects. The central theme will vary by semester. Topics may include: ethnicity, popular religion, slavery in North America, World War II at home and abroad.

SAMPLE ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR AMERICAN STUDIES

PHIL 09.240: 3 s.h. Philosophy and Society

This is a basic course in political and social philosophy. Through selected readings from classical and modern philosophers, students gain a better understanding of the philosophical issues which underlie the theory and practice of political and social life.

ENGL 02.327: 3 s.h. Modern American Poetry

This course studies poets as varied as Eliot, Williams, Crane, Stevens, Frost, Rich, Moore, Plath, Brooks, Bly, and Ginsberg. Among our concerns are subject, form, and critical reactions.

PHIL 09.328: 3 s.h. Philosophy and Gender

This course will explore philosophical issues relating to gender as considered by classical, modern and contemporary philosophers. Recent work

by feminist philosophers will be emphasized.

POSC 07.321: 3 s.h. Contemporary World Problems

This course examines selected problems such as terrorism, world population and hunger, regional conflicts and arms control and disarmament.

REL 10.210: 3 s.h. Religion in America (M/G)

This course explores the wide variety of religious movements that have existed and continue to exist in America. Both traditional religions and cults are considered within the context of American culture.

PHIL 09.325: 3 s.h. American Philosophy

This course examines the thought of selected American philosophers from the colonial period to the present. It stresses the distinctive American philosophical movement, Pragmatism, and some of its representative figures such as Charles Sanders Pierce, William James and John Dewey.

POSC 07.400: 3 s.h. American Political Thought

This course studies the development of American political thought from colonial times to the present through major thinkers. Ideas are considered in relation to political events and broader historical movements to which they are connected. This course may not be offered annually.

ENGL 05.301: 3 s.h. American English Grammar

This course emphasizes traditional grammar and seeks to give the student a practical understanding of the structure of contemporary American English grammar. Procedures include lecture, class discussion, and the working out of grammatical problems, including sentence diagramming.

GEOG 06.323: 3 s.h. Geography of New Jersey

A systematic and regional approach to the geography of this, the most densely populated state, this course analyzes the physical environment and cultural milieu in terms of their complex interactions. The course highlights problems of resource utilization and environmental concerns.

POSC 07.230: 3 s.h. Comparative Political Systems

This course presents a comparative analysis of the fundamental law, political institutions, policies and processes and their relationship to political culture in Britain, France, the C.I.S. and a selected Third World country.

BA in Elementary Education/American Studies Contact Information

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(The Academic Advisors provide academic assistance for after initial registration to graduation clearance. Gina Gondos also provides official transfer evaluation for Elementary Education credits and Dianne Ashton also provides official transfer evaluation for American Studies credits.

**Excerpted from the Rowan University Graduate Catalog, 2007-2008 with updates provided by CPCE*

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