The middle school education program at Saint Louis University aims to develop reflective practitioners educated in the liberal tradition and committed to service, inquiry and value-centered teaching. It also seeks to prepare future teachers who have leadership qualities including risk-taking, civic responsibility and ethical character.

The middle school education program is for students who want to concentrate in-depth or in specific subjects such as language arts, math, science or social studies. Teaching in the middle school setting requires special skills. The late childhood and early teenage years are exciting and challenging, and education professionals will need to be there to help students in their development.

To be accepted into the teacher certification program, students must have: a 2.75 cumulative GPA, a 3.0 GPA in professional education and in their content area, a passing score in MoGEA and completed the MEP. In addition, students must pass the content area test in the chosen field, complete a program portfolio and complete the MoPTA.

The department has instituted the “block” concept into the teacher education program. The first block addresses issues related to classroom observation, studying learning theory and examining schools as a social system, and human growth and development. Block two examines diversity, learning and teaching styles, and exceptionality. The remaining blocks include methods of teaching various subject matter areas and levels and developing learning activities. The culmination of the program is the professional semester block. During this semester the student will spend the greatest amount of time teaching in a public or private school setting.

In addition to the School of Education core, the following courses are required for all education majors:

+ EDI 2940/3940/4940: Portfolio Development
+ EDI 4210: Instructional Technology
+ EDSP 4310: Education of the Exceptional Individual
+ EDF 3820: Multicultural Issues in the Classroom
+ EDF 4240: Growth, Development and Learning
+ EDI 3001: English Language Learners in the Mainstream Classroom

Additional courses required for students pursuing a B.A. in middle school education include:

+ EDF 2030: Foundations of Middle School
+ EDI 3000: Foundations of Literacy and Language Arts
+ EDI 3200: Reading and Writing in Content Fields
+ Middle school curriculum methods in English (EDI 3500), math (EDI 3520), science (EDI 3510) or social studies (EDI 3540)
+ Practicum in teaching middle school English (EDI 3505), math (EDI 3525), science (EDI 3515) or Social Studies (EDI 3545)
+ EDSP 4250: Behavior Management Middle/Secondary
+ EDI 4260: Middle School Curriculum and Instruction
+ EDI 4420: Assessing Classroom Performance
+ EDSP 4480: Teaching Methods for Inclusive Classrooms
+ EDI 4830: Student Teaching; Middle School
+ EDI 4870: Professional Development Seminar

Middle school education majors will also need to choose at least one area of concentration (language arts, math, science or social science) of 21 hours and at least 12 hours in one of the other areas of concentration. Additional courses will be taken pertaining to the chosen concentration(s).
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Freshman: All applications are thoroughly and carefully reviewed. Solid academic performance in college preparatory course work is a primary criterion in reviewing a freshman applicant's file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student's ability to meet the University's academic requirements and to qualify the student for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be approaching graduation from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer: Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours (or 30 quarter hours) of college credit. Those having completed 24 hours or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from previously attended college(s). In reviewing a transfer applicant's file, the office of admission holistically examines the student's academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student's ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University.

WHY CHOOSE THIS PROGRAM?

+ Students enter into a tight-knit community of faculty and peers committed to innovative learning, diversity and the intellectual ideas of the Jesuit tradition.
+ Students will be prepared to practice "Cura Personalis" — care for the whole person — and work for social justice in their communities.
+ Students will graduate from our programs prepared to collaborate with families, build classroom communities, have high expectations for all students and advocate for social change.

Benefits of this program also include fieldwork and career opportunities. Practica, classroom observations and student teaching are integrated in the education and public service curriculum experience at Saint Louis University. Throughout the program, students will spend a significant amount of time in local public or private schools. The faculty at Saint Louis University arranges placement in schools. Mutual satisfaction of the student, University and school districts is the goal of such placements.

Most graduates elect to pursue a career in teaching, but many choose to continue their studies in one of our graduate programs before entering the work force.

Career options in middle school education include:
+ Arts and education program coordinator
+ Educational outreach professional
+ Teacher, fifth–eighth grade
+ Private tutor
+ Nonprofit specialist

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:
+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.