Secondary Teacher Preparation Programs at Sonoma State University

This information sheet is for Sonoma State University undergraduate students who wish to become middle school, junior high or high school teachers or who wish to teach a specialized subject such as art, music or physical education at all levels. In California, teachers who specialize in a single area earn a Single Subject Credential. The credential is called a single subject credential because it certifies that the teacher is specially prepared to teach a single discipline or a closely related group of disciplines. Teachers who wish to teach across the entire curriculum, as in elementary schools or other self-contained classrooms, should seek a Multiple Subject Credential for which a separate advising sheet exists.

What major should you choose if you want to be a Middle or High School teacher?

At Sonoma State University, we recommend two options for becoming a secondary school teacher. They are as follows:

**Integrated Program**

- When completing this option, candidates will receive:
  - a. Subject Matter Preparation
  - b. Bachelor’s degree
  - c. Single Subject Credential

  Apply to the Credential Program during sophomore year.

  The Credential Program begins midway through the B.A. program and candidate receives a, b and c simultaneously.

**Subject Matter Preparation Program**

- When completing this option, candidates will receive:
  - a. Subject Matter Preparation
  - b. Bachelor’s degree

  Apply to the Credential Program and to the University as a “postbac” student during Senior year.

  The Credential Program begins after the B.A. is completed or nearly completed.

**Why should you choose one of these options?**

The State of California requires that anyone pursuing a teaching credential meet “subject matter competence”. This means that you must prove to the state that you know the subject area(s) that you will be teaching. When pursuing a Single Subject (Middle/High School) teaching credential, you must meet subject matter competence by EITHER completing a major with one of the options mentioned above OR taking and passing the appropriate subject matter examination for the credential you are pursuing. Completing a major with either option mentioned above will provide you with subject matter competence, will exempt you from taking an exam to prove you know the subject area you will be teaching and will give you a strong background in the subject you wish to teach.

**Which is the better option for you?**

Students who choose the Integrated option mentioned above are those who are certain that a teaching credential is what they want to pursue. Integrated programs are rigorous programs that move a candidate through the B.A. degree and teaching credential within 4 to 41/2 years.

Students who choose the Subject Matter Preparation option mentioned above are those who are seriously considering going into the teaching field. This option focuses on the major and subject matter preparation but does not include any teaching credential coursework. Candidates completing this option will take teaching credential coursework as post baccalaureate students (after the B.A.) and thus obtain their B.A. and teaching credential in 5 years. They may take pre-requisite credential courses as undergraduates for upper division GE credit or as electives.
Below is a list of majors and appropriate advisors. Please note that the majority of these majors meet one or both of the options mentioned on page 1. Contact the major advisors for further information, or if you need help choosing a major, contact Dr. Kelly Estrada (contact information below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Advisor(s)</th>
<th>Program Options</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong> <em>(includes teaching English, Drama, Speech and Journalism)</em></td>
<td>Catherine Kroll&lt;br&gt;Nichols 346, 707-664-2966&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:kroll@sonoma.edu">kroll@sonoma.edu</a>&lt;br&gt;Josefa Pace&lt;br&gt;Nichols 334, 707-664-2504&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:josefa.pace@sonoma.edu">josefa.pace@sonoma.edu</a></td>
<td>Subject Matter Waiver Preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Ben Ford&lt;br&gt;Darwin 114G, 707-664-2472&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:ben.ford@sonoma.edu">ben.ford@sonoma.edu</a></td>
<td>Subject Matter Waiver Preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kinesiology</strong> <em>(to teach Physical Education)</em></td>
<td>Kelly Estrada&lt;br&gt;Stevenson 1078, 707-664-3176&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:estradak@sonoma.edu">estradak@sonoma.edu</a></td>
<td>Subject Matter Preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Music</strong></td>
<td>Andy Collinsworth&lt;br&gt;Green Music Center 2063, 707-664-4154&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:andy.collinsworth@sonoma.edu">andy.collinsworth@sonoma.edu</a></td>
<td>Integrated or Subject Matter Waiver Preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences *</td>
<td>Steve Estes&lt;br&gt;Stevenson 2070D&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:steve.estes@sonoma.edu">steve.estes@sonoma.edu</a></td>
<td>Subject Matter preparation program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Art</strong> *</td>
<td>Stephen Galloway&lt;br&gt;Art 128, 707-664-3046&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:stephen.galloway@sonoma.edu">stephen.galloway@sonoma.edu</a></td>
<td>Subject Matter Preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Languages * <em>(Spanish, French, or German)</em></td>
<td>Robert Train&lt;br&gt;Stevenson 1032, 707-664-2014&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:robert.train@sonoma.edu">robert.train@sonoma.edu</a></td>
<td>Subject Matter Preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science* <em>(Biology, Chemistry, Geology or Physics)</em></td>
<td>Ed Lyons&lt;br&gt;Stevenson 2070D, 707-664-3002&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:lyone@sonoma.edu">lyone@sonoma.edu</a></td>
<td>Subject Matter Preparation</td>
</tr>
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*not approved subject matter preparation programs  
**waiver program discontinued  

Note: While these options are recommended, in order to get your credential any major will do!

If you choose a major other than those listed above (or a major in the Sciences or Social Sciences), you must meet with the appropriate major advisor and prepare to take the appropriate subject matter examination(s).

Follow the steps listed here if you are interested in obtaining a Single Subject Credential:

**Step One: Make a choice between:**

- Integrated program major (see list above)  
- Subject matter preparation major (see list above)

**Step Two: Complete all of the following:**

- Contact subject matter advisor for advice regarding subject matter courses (see list above)  
- Take Single Subject Education prerequisite courses: EDUC 417, EDSS 418  
- Pass CBEST  
- Obtain 45 hours of pre-program field experience working or volunteering in a ms/hs classroom &/or with adolescents
**Step Three:**

Apply to Credential Program your sophomore or senior year (depending on what program you are completing –see page 1 for program descriptions)

Complete Bachelor’s degree (or coursework towards major) and credential prerequisites

Pass appropriate Subject Matter Examinations, if applicable; contact the Credentials Office for details at 707-664-2832

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**Step Four: Begin Credential Program…**

Meet with the education advisor for the Single Subject credential program (see below)

Continue credential (and bachelor’s degree if applicable) coursework

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**School of Education Single Subject Advisor**

At the beginning of the credential program, or if you need help choosing a major, meet with the following advisor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credential Program</th>
<th>Advisor</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Subject</td>
<td>Kelly Estrada</td>
<td>STV 1078</td>
<td>707-664-3176</td>
<td><a href="mailto:estradak@sonoma.edu">estradak@sonoma.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(for undergraduate students needing help choosing a major)

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**School of Education Credentials Office**

For information on applying to the credential program, please contact the Credentials Office, Stevenson1078, 707-664-2832 or www.sonoma.edu/education