

Murray State University
Department of Biology
BA – Biology/Secondary Certification (Grades 8-12)

Student	M#	Advisor			
UNIVERSITY STUDIES FOR B.A. DEGREE (46 HOURS)					
Oral and Written Communication (7 Hours)			Hours	Semester	Grade
ENG 105	Critical Reading, Writing, and Inquiry		4		
COM 161	Introduction to Public Speaking		3		
Scientific Inquiry, Methodologies, and Quantitative Skills (15 Hours)					
CHE 201	General College Chemistry		5		
CHE 202	General Chemistry		5		
MAT 150	Algebra and Trigonometry		5		
World's Historical, Literary, and Philosophical Traditions (6 Hours)					
CIV 201 or 202	World Civilization I or II		3		
HUM 211	The Western Humanities Tradition		3		
Global Awareness, Cultural Diversity, and the World's Artistic Traditions (3 Hours)					
	Approved University Studies		3		
Social and Self-Awareness and Responsible Citizenship (6 Hours)					
Elective	BIO 308 recommended		3		
EDP 260	Psychology of Human Development		3		
University Studies Approved Electives (9 Hours)					
PHY 130/131	General Physics I		4		
EDU 103	Issues and Practices of American Education		3		
	Approved University Studies Elective		3		
Secondary Certification Courses (32 hours)					
EDU 303	Strategies of Teaching		3		
EDU 403	Structures and Foundations of Education		2		
EDU 405	Evaluation and Measurement in Education ¹		3		
SEC 420	Practicum in Secondary Schools ¹		3		
SEC 422	Extended Practicum ²		4		
SEC 421	Student Teaching in the Secondary School		14		
	<small>*Writing-Intensive Course</small>				
SED 300	Educating Students with Disabilities		3		
Required Major Courses (38 hours)					
BIO 099	Transitions		1		
BIO 115	Cellular Basis of Life		3		
BIO 216	Biological Inquiry and Analysis		4		
BIO 221	Animal Form and Function		4		
BIO 222	Plant Form and Function		4		
BIO 300	Microbiology		4		
BIO 320	Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy		5		
BIO 322	Animal Physiology		4		
BIO 330	Principles of Ecology		4		
BIO 333	Genetics		4		
BIO 499	Senior Biology Seminar		1		
Chemistry Co-Requirements for Biology Major (11-12 hours)					
CHE 312	Organic Chemistry I w/Laboratory		5		
CHE 320	Organic Chemistry II		3		
<i>Student takes three Chemistry classes above or the three Chemistry classes below.</i>					
CHE 210	Brief Organic Chemistry		3		
CHE 215	Brief Chemistry Laboratory		1		
CHE 330	Basic Biochemistry		3		
Physics Co-Requirements for Biology Major					
PHY 132/133	General Physics II with Laboratory		5		
Required Minor (3-21 hours)					
			3		
			3		
			3		
			3		
			3		

Total Curriculum Requirements – 130-149 hours

¹SEC 420 and EDU 405 must be taken together and two semesters before student teaching.

²SEC 422 must be taken one semester before student teaching.

IMPORTANT: Upon completion of 60 undergraduate credit hours (junior status), students enrolled or desiring enrollment in education coursework beyond 12 hours credit MUST be admitted to the Teacher Education Program. Students must be admitted to Teacher Education prior to enrollment in upper level teacher education courses.

Note: Continuous assessment procedures are used to document and systematically monitor student progress through each program in order to determine the degree to which students have internalized and can demonstrate proficiency with the Kentucky Teacher Standards. The eligibility portfolio is formally assessed during the student teaching semester. For additional information and requirements, each student should see his/her advisor.

Teacher certification requirements are subject to change. Before registering for the test(s), please refer to the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) website at www.kyepsb.net for current requirements or contact the Division of Internship and Assessment at 502-564-4606 or 888-598-7667.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE REQUIREMENTS:

Grade point averages are reviewed during three checkpoints: admission to teacher education (see Requirements for Admission to Teacher Education), admission to student teaching (requires a 2.75 average overall; a 2.75 average in content area; a 2.75 average in professional education) and at the time of completion/graduation (2.75 overall).

**REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO TEACHER EDUCATION AND STUDENT TEACHING
AT MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY Rev. (9/2015)**

Teacher Education

To be admitted to teacher education, students must:

1. Attend an admission to teacher education orientation.
2. Earn passing scores on the Core Academic Skills for Educators (CASE) test with these subject scores – Reading 156, Writing 162, and Mathematics 150. Request ETS to send scores to Teacher Education Services electronically by using this code, R1494. If any of the PPST subject areas were passed prior to September 1, 2014, use these PPST scores - Reading 176, Writing 174, and Math 174. GRE (Graduate Records Exam) scores may be used for Graduate Students only with a minimum passing score of 150 in verbal, 143 in quantitative, and 4.0 in analytical writing.
3. Earn an overall undergraduate GPA of > 2.75 on a 4.0 scale at the point of admission. This 2.75 minimum GPA remains a requirement throughout the teacher certification program.
4. Complete a minimum of 24 credit hours with a GPA > 2.75 to include the following coursework:
 - a. ENG 101, 102, 104 or 105 with a “B” or higher
 - b. MAT 117 (or higher level math) with a “B” or higher
 - c. COM 161 or HON 165 with a “B” or higher
 - d. EDU 103 with a “B” or higher (or AED 380 or EDU 104 or CTE 200 or MSU 123 or ELE 605 [graduate students])
5. Participate in the admission to teacher education interview and receive their academic advisor’s recommendation to continue the program.
6. Review the Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Personnel. Sign the
 - a. Declaration of Eligibility (pink sheet) affirming a commitment to uphold the code and
 - b. acknowledging awareness of information required for state certification. If answers given on the Declaration of Eligibility change during the time of participation in the teacher education program, the Director of Teacher Education Services must be notified immediately.

These requirements must be documented in Recruiter. CASE or GRE scores must be sent to MSU (R1494) via ETS. Admission will only be granted following a successful review by Teacher Education Services.

NOTE: Students who have not been admitted to Teacher Education will not be eligible to enroll in upper level courses that specify admission to teacher education as a prerequisite.

Student Teaching

To be admitted to student teaching, students must have

- 1) been granted admission to Teacher Education;
- 2) filed a formal application in Teacher Education Services two semesters prior to the term in which student teaching is desired (Applications are distributed at scheduled student teaching orientations only.);
- 3) earned and maintained GPA > 2.75 in major/areas, professional education, and overall;
- 4) demonstrated teaching ability in field and clinical situations;
- 5) documented completion of 200 or more field hours and components (beginning 9/1/2013);
- 6) senior, post-bac, or graduate status and have completed all major courses and specialty areas;
- 7) been admitted to Teacher Education;
- 8) completed all required professional teacher education courses (EDU 103, EDP 260,
- 9) EDU 303, SED 300 and EDU 403, etc. – see specific requirements by major or area) with a GPA > 2.75 GPA;
- 10) filed a valid and current medical examination, which includes a TB risk assessment (to begin student teaching within six months of exam);
- 11) obtained a criminal records background check; and
- 12) supplied TES with any other required information (transcripts, course substitution forms, etc.).

General Requirements for Kentucky Certification

Graduates who wish to be recommended by MSU for an initial Kentucky teaching certificate must have

- 1) successfully completed an approved teacher education program including student teaching;
- 2) filed an application for certification (CA-1) with Teacher Education Services at MSU;
- 3) obtained at least minimal scores required on PRAXIS specialty area tests and the appropriate Principles of Learning and Teaching Test (PLT);
- 4) completed all applicable **computer literacy and applications** requirements;
- 5) earned a bachelor's degree;
- 6) mailed a copy of criminal record check to EPSB; and
- 7) sent official transcript to EPSB.

In addition, in Kentucky, full certification requires the completion of the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program. To be recommended for certification in other states, all Kentucky requirements must be met.

NOTE: Requirements for teacher certification are established by the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board (KEPSB). Students are cautioned that changes in these requirements may occur after publication of the current Murray State University *Bulletin*. For the most current information, students should check with an advisor in one of the departments in the College of Education.

Student _____ Advisor _____

Date _____ Date _____