Special Resources

The Education Department at Albright College is housed in Harry V. Masters Hall. The current teaching facilities in this building include eight classrooms, two lab classrooms, one seminar room (dedicated to the Education Department), and a curriculum library and workspace.

Adjacent to Masters Hall is the Center for Computing and Mathematics which has four computer labs that are available to graduate students. There are three additional computer labs in various academic buildings. These are also available to graduate students.

The F. Wilbur Gingrich Library currently subscribes to 740 print serials, and thousands more online. The library has over 240,000 volumes in the collection and supports both library research and educational technology for the campus. The library is open 94 hours a week to support an in-depth liberal arts curriculum. In addition to a number of individual databases, the library currently subscribes to four major database vendors (FirstSearch, Ebsco, ProQuest and Lexis-Nexis) who provide many third party databases that are available to students. Some of the more prominent ones include: ERIC, Education Abstracts, PsycLit, Dissertations Abstracts, WilsonSelect, Electronic Collections Online, and Periodical Abstracts Research II.

The library provides electronic access to many of the journals in print format and is a subscriber of E*Subscribe (the educational EDRS Abstracts, PsycLit, Medline, Dissertations Abstracts, WilsonSelect, Electronic Collections Online, and Periodical Abstracts Research II). The library is dedicated to the Education Department, and a curriculum library and workspace.

The First Union Theatre and its rehearsal room are available for educational theater classes, and the athletic facilities are available for the adaptive physical education classes. The Child Development Center, a day care center located on and operated by the College, is ideal for case studies with children and for research and development projects.

“Albright’s graduate education program is focused on reflective practice. We want teachers to examine critically the theory which underlies best teaching practice, and to effect positive change in our schools. As we teach undergraduates to ask why, we encourage graduate students to ask why, so that they can provide creative solutions to problems of schools and society.”

– Dr. Sarel Buch, Professor of Education and Graduate Education Program Director

General Information

The graduate program in Education leads to a master of arts or master of science degree and offers four concentrations: General Education (which includes Secondary Education content areas), Elementary Education, Special Education or Early Childhood Education. Candidates can pursue teacher certification in an area while completing the master’s degree. Building upon and continuing Albright’s interdisciplinary liberal arts tradition, the master’s degree includes a liberal arts strand of three courses. The program requires a minimum of 39 credits.

Degree Program Admission

A student files his or her application with the Graduate & Professional Division early during the semester immediately preceding actual enrollment in graduate classes. The student may be granted degree program admission if the student has a strong undergraduate academic record and appears to have potential for successful completion of a graduate program. Degree program admission is based on the following criteria:

• Completion of the baccalaureate degree at a regionally accredited institution of higher education
• An undergraduate cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
• Completion of an application for admission
• Submission of official transcripts
• Two letters of reference
• Submission of official test scores from the Graduate Record Examination General Test or Miller Analogies Test
• Personal interview with the Graduate Education Program Director or the Graduate Admissions Committee

Applicants seeking teacher certification must have met or be qualified to meet the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s state certification requirements for teachers and must have completed the appropriate Praxis examinations or be qualified to complete the examinations during their graduate studies.

Provisional Status

Provisional status allows the student to enroll in graduate courses in order to qualify for admission to a degree program. The student may be granted provisional status if denied admission to the degree program. If the student is assigned provisional status, the student must construct a special study plan of nine to 15 credits approved by the academic advisor. After completing the nine to 15 credits, the student must apply to the dean of the Graduate and Professional Division for a change of status. The student must achieve a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in order to apply for a change of status to degree program admission.

Non-Degree Status

The student may be assigned non-degree status if the student wishes to apply for graduate study but does not wish to work toward a graduate degree. This category usually includes students who wish to take courses for professional development, for transfer to another institution, or for maintaining certification in their field. Applicants for non-degree status are required to verify receipt of a baccalaureate degree.
Curriculum
The program of study includes 12 core credit hours, 15 credit hours in a selected concentration strand (General Education, Elementary Education, Special Education or Early Childhood Education), nine credit hours in liberal arts study, and three to nine credit hours in research and/or internship. The degree program requires a minimum of 39 credits.
Each student will progress through the master’s degree programs at his or her own pace. A full-time student (minimum nine credits per term) will be able to complete the master’s degree in a two year time period. A student taking one or two courses a semester on a part-time basis (maximum six credits per term) can complete the degree in three to four years.

Core Courses (12 Credits)
- EDU 510 Statistics and Research Design
- EDU 515 Advanced Human Development/Learning Theory
- EDU 520 Curriculum Development
- EDU 525 Current Trends and Issues in Historical Perspective

General Education Concentration Strand (15 credits)
- EDU 610 Educational Technology
- EDU 612 School Law
- EDU 614 Art Connections
- EDU 616 Philosophy of Education
- EDU 620 Current Trends and Issues in Historical Perspective

Elementary Education Concentration Strand (15 credits)
- EDU 620 Foundations of Teaching Reading
- EDU 622 Elementary School Mathematics Programs
- EDU 624 Elementary School Science Programs
- EDU 626 Elementary School Social Science Programs
- EDU 628 Elementary School Language Arts Programs

Special Education Concentration Strand (15 Credits)
- EDU 630 Neuropsychological Impairments and Learning Disabilities Module
- EDU 632 Emotional and Social Disabilities Module
- EDU 634 Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Module
- EDU 636 Special Education Law

Early Childhood Education Concentration Strand (13 Credits)
- EDU 640 Foundations of Early Childhood Education
- EDU 642 Early Childhood Teaching Methods
- EDU 644 Early Childhood Classroom Management
- EDU 646 Early Childhood – Parent Education
- EDU 648 Assessment and Measurement in Early Childhood Education

Liberal Arts Strand (9 credits)
Three graduate level courses in liberal arts study Examples:
- SCI 510 Science Education for the Modern World
- HIS 520 The Early Modern City: Dreams and Reality
- ENG 530 Reading/Reading Rabbit: Fiction of J. D. Updike with Special Emphasis on Works Rooted in Berks County, Pennsylvania

Capstone Project – for certification candidates (9 credits)
- EDU 700 Research Project and Seminar
- EDU 702 Student Internship
- EDU 704 Student Internship

Capstone Project – for non-certification candidates (7 credits)
- EDU 700 Research Project
- EDU 710 Thesis

Master’s Degree Requirements
In order to graduate from Albright College with a master’s degree, the student must meet all of the following requirements:
- Admission to degree program and degree candidacy
- Completion of the entire program of study, including at least 12 core credit hours, 15 concentration credit hours, and nine credit hours in liberal arts study, and successful completion of a research paper, project, or thesis (three credit hours)
- A minimum grade point average of 3.0
- Completion of coursework within six years
- Submission of an Application for Graduation and payment of all tuition fees and other financial obligations to Albright College

Transfer Credit
A maximum of nine credit hours from regionally accredited institutions, with a grade of B or better, may be accepted for transfer if the courses are appropriate to the plan of study. Grades from courses transferred are not computed into the student’s Albright College grade point average. Transfer credit may not be given for graduate level courses completed in fulfilling baccalaureate degree requirements.

Faculty
Sarel Fuchs, Professor of Education and Classical Languages, Graduate Education program Director; Ph.D. Johns Hopkins University
Persida Himmele, Assistant Professor of Education, Ph.D. School of Intercultural Studies at Biola University
Karen Jogan, Professor of Spanish, Ph.D. Temple University
L. Susan Seidenstricker, Assistant Professor of Education, Ed.D. University of Maryland
Rodney Warfield, Professor of Education, Director of Summer Start, Executive Director of the Child Development Center, Ed.D. Temple University
Joseph Yarworth, Lecturer in Education, Ph.D. University of Connecticut

“The Albright master’s degree recognizes the value of the liberal arts while emphasizing the importance of research. Our goal is to prepare teachers to be leaders in their profession.”
- Dr. Ronald G. Green, Dean of the Graduate & Professional Division.