

November 30, 2022

To: Academic Senate

From: Carolyn Mitten, Department Chair, Education

Re: Proposal for an Education Minor

The Education Department proposes a 22-unit Education Minor for students majoring in disciplines outside of the Liberal Studies major. The Education Department houses both the Liberal Studies major and the Westmont Teaching Credential Program. Our Teaching Credential Program offers pathways for 4th or 5th year students to pursue a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential (elementary education) or a Single Subject Teaching Credential (secondary education). The Liberal Studies major prepares students specifically for elementary education and most students pursue a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential.

The Education Department also offers options to pursue a California Single Subject Teaching Credential in ten disciplines (History/Social Science, Art, English, Spanish, Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Music and Kinesiology). Students majoring in these disciplines are currently required to take six of the seven courses listed below as pre or corequisites courses for application and acceptance into the Westmont Teaching Credential Program.

Westmont students typically “fit these courses into their schedules” when time allows as either fast track students pursuing a degree and credential in four years OR as students pursuing the Credential Program in a fifth year post bachelor’s degree. Additionally, Westmont students may choose to pursue these pre or corequisite courses during the summer leading up to the start of the Credential Program. *It is important to note that these courses are state approved/required courses for the Teaching Credential Program.*

As the Education Department strives to grow enrollment in the Teaching Credential Program, we feel strongly that a minor will give Westmont students academic recognition and the opportunity to name the rigor, knowledge, skills and expertise in the required courses as they choose to apply for Westmont’s Teaching Credential Program or another education program. With a national, state and local teacher shortage, a minor becomes a viable option to elevate the program and serve as a recruiting tool for students exploring the profession of teaching.

Additionally, the Education Department feels a minor will be attractive to Sociology, Psychology, Communication Studies and other majors. Students can pursue a credential with these degrees and with passage of the CSETs, or state examinations, in the discipline they choose.

Proposed Minor Course Requirements:

Courses	22 units
ED 101 Explorations in Teaching (Secondary)	4 units
ED 161 Technology in the Classroom (Secondary)	2 units
ED 105 Cultural Diversity	4 units

ENG 106 Language Acquisition	4 units
KNS 156 Health in the Classroom	2 units
ED 130 - Special Education in the Classroom	2 units
Department approved elective upper division course in Sociology or Psychology or Communication Studies.	4 units

*It is important to note that a minor would not apply to Liberal Studies or Music Education majors.