Education

The Juniata Advantage

- **Experience:** Enter local classrooms early, observe, and assist the teacher. At Juniata, you will have multiple opportunities to get classroom experience before student teaching. You are also encouraged to study abroad, explore new interests, and study environmental science at the Juniata College Raystown Field Station.

- **Preparation:** Being prepared for the 21st century means every education student at Juniata learns how to differentiate instruction for diverse learners in a variety of educational settings, by studying special education. You will benefit from a semester-long, pre-student teaching experience that is linked to your student teaching placement. Interested students can also immerse themselves in a variety of technology classes including Digital Storytelling, Social Media, or Human Computer Interaction. These preparations result in robust mentoring and long-term success.

- **Variety:** Choose from one of 13 different certification areas or create your Program of Emphasis highlighting education studies and another field of interest like child-life, environmental studies, or human development.

Juniata’s Outcomes

About 85 percent of education students who have graduated from Juniata in the last three years are either employed as teachers or in an education-related profession. Several others are attending graduate school. Juniata educators are usually teaching shortly after graduating.

Our Recent Graduates

- Blake Colaianne ’11 teaches science in the Dallastown Area School District in Dallastown, Pa.; won the 2012 Pennsylvania Science Teachers Association William B. McIlwaine Science Teaching Award; and completed a master’s degree in education and earth sciences from Penn State University in 2014.

- Kortney Showers ’15 is currently teaching second grade at Union County School District in Monroe, N.C.

- Rachel Smith ’14 is employed as an elementary behavior/learning support teacher in the Baltimore County School District.

- Kevin Snyder ’14 is currently teaching math at Butler Area School District in Butler, Pa.

- Megan Vanaman ’15 has accepted a Fulbright Fellowship to teach English in the Czech Republic.

“Juniata offers opportunities to study education that you cannot find elsewhere, like in-school practicums every year, and one-to-one instruction from amazing, experienced professors. Plus, when I saw the early childhood education center, my heart was sold.”

—Carissa Flook ’17

PREK-4 AND SPECIAL EDUCATION PREK-8

A Sampling of Courses

Adolescent Development
Child Development*
Children’s Literature
Curriculum and Methods in Early Childhood Education*
Differentiated Instruction*
Educational Technology
Families and Teachers*
General Secondary Methods*
Introduction to Students with Exceptionalities
Language and the Brain*
Music Movement and Art
Reading Clinic*
Science Methods*
Sign Language I, II, and III

*Accompanied by a field experience
An Education POE Story

The Education Department at Juniata is accredited by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to offer certification programs in PreK-4th grade, dual PreK-4th grade, special education (PreK-8th grade), and the following secondary content areas: English, General Science, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Earth & Space Science, Social Studies Education, and Environmental Education (K-12).

World Language Education: World language (grades K-12) certification candidates study abroad for an entire academic year. Concentrations include French, German, and Spanish.

For all areas of certification, carefully planned field experiences provide opportunities to develop teaching skills and apply concepts. All field experiences are supervised by full-time faculty. Students studying preK-4 and special education/preK-8 work with professionals at the Juniata College Early Childhood Education Center, local elementary schools, and other community agencies. Secondary education certification candidates gain hands-on experience in local public middle schools and high schools. Many education students study abroad in the United Kingdom, Europe, New Zealand, Mexico, and Ecuador.

Experience, diversification, and specialization—these are the hallmarks of the Juniata education department. They’re just a few of the secrets to the success of Juniata education graduates who are shaping education in their communities and beyond. But don’t just take our word for it.

“Every year we have the opportunity to work directly with children, either on campus or in the public schools,” says Natalya Sizdakhani ’18. “That was the main reason I decided to pursue teacher education at Juniata College.”

Faculty

At Juniata, 93 percent of faculty hold the highest degree in their field. In the education department, 100 percent of faculty have earned doctorates, and they serve, first and foremost, as professors. The education department faculty includes award-winning teachers who are active in professional organizations and serve as leaders in their field. They are committed to teaching excellence.

Education Department Chair and Professor of Conflict Resolution: Celia Cook-Huffman, B.A., Manchester College, M.A., University of Notre Dame, Ph.D., Syracuse University.

Student Opportunities

Juniata Instructors of the Future: Join Juniata’s education club, affectionately known as “JIF,” and become involved in community outreach, support, and resource development.

Early Childhood Education Center: Participate in a dynamic, accredited on-campus preschool and work with children with special needs who are enrolled in the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit’s Early Intervention Program.

Environmental Science Internship: Teach environmental stewardship at Raystown Lake through the departments of education and earth and environmental sciences.

Undergraduate Research: Conduct research in a topic of your choosing with the guidance of a faculty member. Then, present at conferences—like Juniata’s Liberal Arts Symposium, the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research. Recent Examples: Leah Jans ’15, “Literacy Acquisition in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students;” Kortney Showers ’15, “Utilizing Technology in the Literacy Classroom.”