

URBAN TEACHING APPRENTICESHIP, MSED

Urban Teaching Apprenticeship Program (UTAP) MSED.

UTAP features a 10-month teaching apprenticeship that provides authentic experiences teaching at the side of experienced classroom mentors. Apprentices have over 800 hours of field time (more than twice the student teaching experience of the average program) to develop research-based practices.

The UTAP apprenticeship **begins in the summer**. Apprentices work in youth-serving summer programs located in the neighborhood where they will teach in the fall. Once schools begin, an experienced mentor shares the classroom with the apprentice, guiding their emerging teaching practice. Apprentices also receive support from instructional coaches who visit the classroom one day per week, and provide feedback to ensure development of targeted teaching skills and dispositions learned during course work.

When our alumni seek employment after graduation, they already have a full year of teaching experience on their resume.

More information: <https://www.gse.upenn.edu/academics/programs/urban-teaching-apprenticeship-teacher-education-masters> (<https://www.gse.upenn.edu/academics/programs/urban-teaching-apprenticeship-teacher-education-masters/>)

Purposeful Mentorship

The **mentored field experiences** are the core of the Urban Teaching Apprenticeship Programs. Carefully selected PreK-12 school settings and classrooms serve as learning sites for apprentices.

Cohort Model

The program is **cohort based**: all apprentices begin and move through the program together, sharing classes and experiences in their schools.

Inquiry & Practitioner Research Skills

An **inquiry stance** is modeled and encouraged; teachers see themselves not only as consumers of research but generators of it, using their own classrooms as sites for ongoing research and self-reflection. In the program, apprentices conduct research in their classrooms and complete a capstone project.

Advocacy and Leadership: Equity in Education

The Master of Science in Education degree and the urban teaching apprenticeship prepare alumni to take on leadership roles, particularly those that position them as advocates for *all* students.

Full Year Apprenticeship

Our students begin apprenticing in a Philadelphia public or charter school on the first day of the school year. Unlike traditional student teaching models, our apprentices experience nearly an entire year in the classroom.

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2025 and later. Students should

consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.

Urban Teaching Apprenticeship M.S.Ed. in Elementary Education with PA Grades PreK-4 Certification

The UTAP PreK-4 certification program of study is comprised of fieldwork, courses, and academic/career workshops within its thematic five-term school year, spanning 10-months. A total of 11 course units are required for graduation.

Apprentice-teachers learn how to address the needs and nuances of the whole child. Our program provides a robust foundation in the four core content areas: Math, Literacy, Science and Social Studies, from the position that high-quality content instruction is key.

A total of 11 course units are required for graduation.

Program of Study

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5901	Radical Reading: Structured Literacy in Context	0.5
EDUC 5015A & EDUC 5015B	Field Seminar: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and Field Seminar: Culturally Responsive Teaching	1
EDUC 5020	Literacy in Elementary/Middle Schools	1
EDUC 5021	Science Methods: Project-Based Learning Approaches	1
EDUC 5023	Social Studies in the Elementary and Middle Schools	1
EDUC 5030	Cultivating Creativity in the K-8 Classroom	0.5
EDUC 5031	Mathematics in the Elementary and Middle Schools	1
EDUC 5040	Differentiating Instruction for Special Education Learners	0.5
EDUC 5041	Differentiating Instruction for English Language Learners	0.5
EDUC 5055	Advanced Field Seminar: Student-Centered Social Justice Pedagogy	1
EDUC 5065	Introduction to Teaching & Classroom Routines	1
EDUC 5113	Development of the Young Child	1
EDUC 6042A & EDUC 6042B	School, Society & Self and School, Society & Self	1
Total Course Units		11

Fieldwork

Field placement in the summer takes place with community partners, where apprentice teachers will be able to implement small-group teaching tasks learned in their Math, Literacy and Maker-Space courses. Apprentices are in fieldwork for half-days, Monday - Wednesday each

week and spend Fridays at community site-visits bi-weekly. Summer placements are a total of approximately 40 hours of fieldwork.

During the fall, apprentices are in their placements for two whole days and two half-days. Apprentices will begin their placement as small-group instructor, transitioning to whole-group facilitation by the beginning of Term III. Fall placements total approximately 330 hours of fieldwork.

During early spring, apprentices are in their placements for five whole days. Apprentices are expected to facilitate whole-group lessons regularly, including a “two-week takeover” during which apprentices become the lead teacher for the entire two weeks. Early spring placements are a total of approximately 280 hours of fieldwork.

During late spring, apprentices are at their placement for five whole days. Apprentices are expected to facilitate whole-group lessons regularly. Late spring placements are a total of approximately 245 hours of fieldwork.

Comprehensive Portfolio

Students complete an Inquiry Portfolio that expands on their inquiry question and highlights their two-week takeover from their social action project. Evidence of performance assessments, with commentary, appears in the final portfolios.

Additional Certifications

Alumni may earn the Special Education certification by taking additional coursework during the first year of professional teaching.

Pennsylvania Secondary Education Certification

Upon successful completion of all components of the Urban Teaching Apprenticeship Program (required coursework and student teaching apprenticeships), including obtaining clearances and completing prerequisite coursework, students receive faculty recommendation for instructional 1 certification, which is awarded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

While we offer faculty recommendation for Pennsylvania certification, many of our students obtain Pennsylvania certification and then move to other states or countries. There is a **NASDTEC Interstate Agreement** to facilitate movement by teachers among states. We recommend, therefore, that students obtain Pennsylvania certification even if they plan to teach in other states.

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2025 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.

Urban Teaching Apprenticeship M.S.Ed. in Middle Level Education with PA Grades 4-8 Certification – Student-Centered Teaching in Urban Contexts

The UTAP Middle Level Grades 4-8 program is 10 months long, culminating in a master’s degree in education and faculty recommendation for instructional 1 certification in a middle years content area

Apprentice teachers apply coursework theory and engagement with students during their year long fieldwork experience. Apprentice teachers engage in mentored teaching in the 4-8 grade range, in public or public charter schools based on their certification area.

Field opportunities extend across the full 10 months of our program, offering apprentices up to 800 hours of experience.

A total of 12 course units are required for graduation.

Program of Study
Middle Level Grades 4-8 Core Curriculum

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5015A & EDUC 5015B	Field Seminar: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and Field Seminar: Culturally Responsive Teaching	1
EDUC 5018	Integrating the Arts in the K-8 Classroom	0.5
EDUC 5020	Literacy in Elementary/Middle Schools	1
EDUC 5021	Science Methods: Project-Based Learning Approaches	1
EDUC 5040	Differentiating Instruction for Special Education Learners	1
EDUC 5055	Advanced Field Seminar: Student-Centered Social Justice Pedagogy	2
EDUC 5557	Developmental Theories: Applications with Adolescents	1
EDUC 5030	Cultivating Creativity in the K-8 Classroom	0.5
EDUC 5065	Introduction to Teaching & Classroom Routines	1
EDUC 6042A & EDUC 6042B	School, Society & Self and School, Society & Self	1
Total Course Units		10

Fieldwork

Field placements in the summer take place with community partners, where apprentice-teachers are able to implement small group teaching strategies learning in their summer courses.

During the fall, apprentices are at their placement for two whole days and two half-days per week. Apprentices are expected to begin their placement as small-group instructor, transitioning to whole group teaching.

During spring, apprentices are in their placements for five whole days and are expected to facilitate whole group lessons regularly, including a two week takeover, during which they are the lead teacher for the entire time.

Comprehensive Portfolio

Students submit an inquiry portfolio that features a social action project. Evidence of performance assessments is included in the final portfolio.

Literacy Requirements

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5023	Social Studies in the Elementary and Middle Schools	1
EDUC 6060	Advanced Methods in Middle & Secondary Schools: English	1

Math Requirements

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5023	Social Studies in the Elementary and Middle Schools	1
EDUC 6057	Advanced Methods in Middle & Secondary Schools: Math	1

Science Requirements

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5023	Social Studies in the Elementary and Middle Schools (for literacy, math, and science students)	1
EDUC 6058	Advanced Methods in Middle & Secondary Schools: Science	1

Social Studies Requirements

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 6029	Teaching in the Middle and Secondary Schools: Social Studies	1
EDUC 6059	Advanced Methods in Middle & Secondary Schools: Social Studies	1

Additional Certifications

Alumni may earn the Special Education certification by taking additional coursework during the first year of professional teaching.

Pennsylvania Grades 4-8 Certification

Upon successful completion of all components of the Urban Teaching Apprenticeship Program (required coursework and student teaching apprenticeships), including obtaining clearances and completing prerequisite coursework, students receive faculty recommendation for instructional 1 certification, which is awarded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

While we offer faculty recommendation for Pennsylvania certification, many of our students obtain Pennsylvania certification and then move to other states or countries. There is a **NASDTEC Interstate Agreement** to facilitate movement by teachers among states. We recommend, therefore, that students obtain Pennsylvania certification even if they plan to teach in other states.

consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.

Urban Teaching Apprenticeship M.S.Ed. in Secondary Education with PA Grades 7-12 Certification

In the Secondary Education program, coursework and intensive field experiences build on content expertise and support the development of pedagogical content knowledge.

Through the secondary education program, teachers are recommended for certification in English, math, social studies, world languages and the sciences. Concentrations are designed to build upon apprentices' passion for their content areas with best-practices in problem-based, student-centered pedagogies.

A total of 11 course units are required for graduation.

Program of Study**Secondary Education Grades 7-12 Core Curriculum**

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5007A & EDUC 5007B	Teaching & Learning in Student Centered Classrooms and Teaching & Learning in Student Centered Classrooms	1
EDUC 5016A & EDUC 5016B	Field Seminar in Secondary Schools and Field Seminar in Secondary Schools	1
EDUC 5040	Differentiating Instruction for Special Education Learners	0.5
EDUC 5041	Differentiating Instruction for English Language Learners	0.5
EDUC 5054	Managing Collaborative Learning Environments in Urban Contexts	1
EDUC 5557	Developmental Theories: Applications with Adolescents	1
EDUC 6041	Culturally Responsive Pedagogy in Urban Secondary Schools	1
EDUC 6042A & EDUC 6042B	School, Society & Self and School, Society & Self	1

Fieldwork

Students begin their apprenticeship working with youth-serving agencies in summer programs. All teaching apprentices are assigned to a full-year placement in a Philadelphia public school that serves grades 7-12. As student-teaching apprentices, students spend significant time in their placement schools, taking courses in the late afternoon-evening. At the end of the term, apprentices develop a question about student-centered learning that arises from their practice in the field.

In Spring, teaching apprentices take full responsibility for teaching in their high school classrooms for five full days per week.

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Comprehensive Portfolio

Students submit an inquiry portfolio that features a social action project. Evidence of performance assessments is included in the final portfolio.

English

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5057	Advanced Field Seminar in Secondary Schools	2
EDUC 6030	Teaching in the Middle and Secondary Schools: English	1
EDUC 6060	Advanced Methods in Middle & Secondary Schools: English	1

Math

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5057	Advanced Field Seminar in Secondary Schools	2
EDUC 6027	Teaching in the Middle and Secondary Schools: Math	1
EDUC 6057	Advanced Methods in Middle & Secondary Schools: Math	1

Science

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5057	Advanced Field Seminar in Secondary Schools	2
EDUC 6028	Teaching in the Middle and Secondary Schools: Science	1
EDUC 6058	Advanced Methods in Middle & Secondary Schools: Science	1

Social Studies

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5057	Advanced Field Seminar in Secondary Schools	2
EDUC 6029	Teaching in the Middle and Secondary Schools: Social Studies	1
EDUC 6059	Advanced Methods in Middle & Secondary Schools: Social Studies	1

World Languages

Code	Title	Course Units
Courses		
EDUC 5057	Advanced Field Seminar in Secondary Schools	2
EDTF 5080	Methods: World Languages A	1
EDTF 5350	Methods: World Languages B	1

Additional Certification

Alumni may earn the Special Education certificate by taking additional coursework during the first year of professional teaching.

Pennsylvania Secondary Education Certification

Upon successful completion of all components of the Urban Teaching Apprenticeship Program (required coursework and student teaching apprenticeships), including obtaining clearances a apprentices receive faculty recommendation for instructional 1 certification, which is awarded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Alumni who successfully complete the UTAP program may apply for certification in other states. There is a **NASDTEC Interstate Agreement** to facilitate movement by teachers among states. For further information on certification in other states, contact the program director.

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Urban Education Minor

A collaboration between Penn GSE's Urban Teacher Apprenticeship Program (UTAP), Urban Studies, and the Netter Center for Community Service, offers undergraduates a more focused, goal-directed approach to the study of education.

Accelerated Masters

Undergraduate students at Penn, Haverford, Bryn Mawr and Swarthmore Colleges (a group of colleges and universities know as the Quaker Consortium) may apply to the Urban Teaching Apprenticeship Program M.S.Ed. programs during their senior year. Undergraduates who are admitted into the Accelerated Masters program may take up to four courses, two of which will count toward both their undergraduate degree and the Urban Teaching Apprenticeship Program M.S.Ed.

Once they graduate from their undergraduate institution, they are automatically admitted into the M.S.Ed. degree program in elementary, middle level ,or secondary education, with advanced standing.

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