

Secondary Education Bachelor of Education 2025-2026

General Areas of Service: 5-12 teachers focus on enabling their students to develop their full mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual potential. Teachers facilitate interactive group discussions and “hands-on” learning, often employing creative “props” or “manipulatives” to help students understand abstract concepts, solve problems, and develop critical thought processes. Because of the high demands on time, energy, and creativity; teaching requires extraordinary commitment. However, the high rewards of teaching equal and often surpass its high demands. With additional training and experience, some teachers choose to use their gifts as school administrators or counselors.

Professional Training: Graduates who complete secondary certification will typically be qualified to teach grades 5-12 in their endorsed areas (some endorsements provide eligibility for P-12). They may be employed by public or private school systems. Requirements for teaching certification vary by state. However, all states require a bachelor’s degree and completion of an approved teacher-training program with a prescribed number of subjects, education credits, and supervised student teaching clinical practice. Certification is generally for one subject or several related subjects.

Denominational Opportunities for Baptized SDA Students: Teaching positions open each year for qualified graduates, especially if candidates are willing to teach almost anywhere in the country. Contact the School of Education & Psychology for more information on current positions. Denominational certification is highly recommended and may be required by the hiring school.

Job Outlook: Society’s attitude is focusing more and more on the benefits of service and volunteerism. Many people are discovering teaching as a venue where they can turn service into a satisfying career that provides meaningful and intrinsic rewards not only for themselves, but also for their students. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), “Employment of high school teachers is projected to decline 1 percent from 2023 to 2033”. The BLS states, “Despite declining employment growth, about 64,000 openings for high school teachers are projected each year, on average, over the decade. All of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire” (See www.bls.gov)

Earnings: According to the BLS, in May 2024, high school teachers earned a median annual salary of \$64,580 and middle school teachers earned \$62,970 (see www.bls.gov). Teachers can boost their earnings in a number of ways. In some schools, teachers receive extra pay for coaching sports and working with students in extracurricular activities. Getting a master’s degree or national certification often will also result in a raise in pay.

Note: The secondary education major requires completion of a major in an approved secondary endorsement content area, listed below, as well as any additional secondary content area competency requirements.

Before graduation, all students must take an exit exam.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & PSYCHOLOGY

Smith Hall
(509) 527-2211

Websites

[Walla Walla University](#)
[University Bulletin](#)

[School of Education & Psychology](#)

Faculty

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[Stephanie Onthank](#)

Certification Officer
[Stephanie Onthank](#)

Professional Organizations

[Adventist Education: A Journey to Excellence](#)

Suggested Degree Path

This program requires completion of a major in an approved secondary endorsement area. [See the Undergraduate Bulletin for Details](#)
 The chart below details one suggested path a student may take to complete a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education.
 Cognates are listed in *italics*.

Freshman Year

Fall Courses	Hours
*Intro to & Foundations of Education (EDUC 211)	4
*Intro to Analytical Writing (ENGL 121)	3
General Studies/Major classes	9
Total	16
Winter Courses	Hours
*Psychology of Learning & Development (PSYC 217)	4
Math for the Liberal Arts (MATH 105)	4
*Intro to Research Writing (ENGL 122)	3
General Studies/Major Classes	5
Total	16
Spring Courses	Hours
Fundamentals of Speech Comm (SPCH 101)	4
*Intro to SPED & Inclusive Classrooms (SPED 210)	4
Intro to Teaching Practices & Technology (EDUC 250)	2
General Studies/Major Classes	6
Total	16

Sophomore Year

Students typically begin Phase 2 of the Teacher Certification Program during the Sophomore year

Fall Courses	Hours
Research Writing in Education and Psychology (EDUC 223)	3
Measurement & Evaluation in Education (EDUC 290)	3
General Studies/Major Classes	10
Total	16
Winter Courses	Hours
Secondary Classroom Management (EDUC 365)	4
^Christian Beliefs (RELT 202)	4
General Studies/Major Classes	8
Total	16
Spring Courses	Hours
^ Health Option: (HLTH 110 or HLTH 205)	2-3
Secondary Methods of Instruction I (EDUC 395)	2
General Studies/Major Classes	11-12
Total	16

Junior Year

Office of Academic Advisement

Canaday Technology Center, Room 311 • (800) 558-2132 • (509) 527-2132

Students apply to Phase 3 of the Teacher Certification Program and their Student Teaching Placement Fall quarter the year prior to Student Teaching.

Fall Courses	Hours
Cultural Diversity in Education (EDUC 444)	3
Multigrade and Rural Education (EDUC 497)	2
Methods Option (EDUC 396 OR EDUC 395)	0-4
Colloquium: Child Abuse (EDUC 495)	0
General Studies/Major classes	7-11
Total	16
Winter Courses	Hours
Legal & Ethical Aspects of Education (EDUC 425)	2
Philosophy of Education (EDUC 410)	3
Methods Option (EDUC 396 OR XXXX 395)	0-4
Teaching Reading Skills in the Content Area (EDUC 475)	3
General Studies/Major classes	4-8
Total	16
Spring Courses	Hours
Intro to Student Teaching: Clinical Practice (EDUC 450)	1
Methods Option (EDUC 396 OR EDUC 395)	0-4
^History of Adventism (RELT 457)	3
General Studies/Major classes	8-12
Total	16

Senior Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Secondary Student Teaching Part I (EDUC 461)	2
Program Assessment Part 1 (EDUC 451)	1
^Inspiration & Revelation (RELT 417)	3
General Studies/Major classes	10
Total	16
Winter Courses	Hours
Secondary Student Teaching Part II (EDUC 471)	2
Program Assessment Part 2 (EDUC 452)	1
Cultures of the Pacific Northwest (HIST 386)	4
Seminar in WA State Social Sciences Resources (EDUC 386)	1
General Studies/Major classes	8
Total	16
Spring Courses	Hours
Secondary Student Teaching Part III (EDUC 481)	12
Program Assessment Part 3 (EDUC 453)	1
General Studies/Major classes	3
Total	16

+ Offered even years only

*Required prior to Phase 2.

^Required for Denominational Certification

- Offered odd years only