WHAT DO STUDENTS LEARN?
Chatham’s education major focuses on Liberal Arts: PreK-4. Beginning in the first year, you will be engaged with students in the classroom. Your classmates will become professional colleagues, supporting you in your field experiences, and you’ll have faculty serve as mentors guiding you to develop the skills and attitudes that will make you the strongest teacher possible. During your student teaching term, you’ll work in a school full-time, teaching students as if they are your own, under the guidance of a trained mentor teacher in a local school district and a Chatham supervisor. You’ll graduate with a professional portfolio, the skills and knowledge to enter any classroom, and the expertise necessary to be a successful teaching professional.

WHAT DO GRADUATES GO ON TO DO?
Upon graduation, most students choose to take the Pennsylvania Educator Certification Test. Once you have achieved certification, you are ready to begin teaching. However, you may choose to further your studies before entering the classroom by pursuing a master’s degree in education or in a field related to your teaching interests, such as art, English, math, biology, and more.
Chatham’s education faculty is among the most experienced, well-connected, and community-minded of all the regional teacher education programs. You’ll have the opportunity to learn from and work alongside experts in early childhood and elementary education, environmental and science education, mathematics education, and special education. We are proud of our classroom practitioners who also teach in the education program, including specialists in school law, special education, early childhood and elementary curriculum, all of whom bring current classroom expertise to your undergraduate studies. You’ll learn from the best that the profession has to offer.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- All students complete a capstone seminar that channels the knowledge they’ve accumulated into a discipline-specific paper or project under close faculty guidance. Chatham is one of the few universities across the country that offers such an independent and student-driven program.
- Earn your Pennsylvania certification and be prepared for advanced studies.
- Explore your interest in education through the Chatham University Education Club.
- Students can pursue an Integrated Degree Program with Chatham’s Master of Education in Special Education, earning both undergraduate and graduate degrees while saving time and money.

**STUDENT TEACHING**

Students have completed their student teaching experience in a variety of settings around the University. We partner with Pittsburgh Public, Woodland Hills, Franklin Regional, Upper St Clair, Propel Charter, Manchester Academic Charter School, The Carriage House, and other schools.
CERTIFICATION FOR STUDENTS PURSUING OTHER MAJORS

Students pursuing other majors can receive a certificate in education for 45 credits. Options include certification for English, social studies, mathematics, biology, physics, and chemistry for grades 7-12, and art for grades K-12.

SAMPLE COURSES

Perspectives on Education
Students examine how an education system and society shape one another. Topics include the purpose of school in society; how social constructs (i.e. race, gender) interact with the education system; issues of power and control; the role of technology, and how we can provide an equitable education for all.

Pedagogical Practices
This course focuses on the characteristics of effective teaching practices and examines different ways that effective teachers help students learn. The impact of standards and accountability on lesson planning, implementing instruction and assessment is examined. How student diversity influences classroom practices is examined through case studies and discussion topics as well as how technology is used to create lesson focus, increase student involvement and to organize lesson content is explored.

Diverse Family and Professional Partnerships
This course provides students with an understanding of issues pertaining to diversity and also examines partnerships and relationships between communities, schools, students and parents. Students will develop an understanding of how socially constructed categories such as race, sexuality, and nationality emerge, evolve, inform, and affect the individual, schools, families and communities. This course prepares students for responsible citizenship in a global community.

www.chatham.edu/education/curriculum.cfm

Chatham has been named a 2017-2018 College of Distinction, recognizing the program for its expert blending of the liberal arts with professional programming in education.
“We are not just preparing our students for the classroom, we are preparing our students to be conscientious global citizens. Through the lens of the seventeen UN Sustainable Goals, students examine the United States’ and other countries’ educational systems. Our students learn how to reflect on their own belief systems and how they can contribute to the profession. We value faculty who are current in best practices and are able to transmit their experiences to our future teachers.”

– KRISTIN HARTY, PH.D., program director