

Associate in Arts (690)

To teach in Illinois public schools, teachers must be licensed by the state of Illinois. Community college students are strongly encouraged to complete an Associate in Arts degree prior to transfer. Since admission is competitive, completion of the recommended course does not guarantee admission. A minimum grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale), dependent on the transfer school requirements, and the passage of the Illinois Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) or equivalent ACT plus Writing or SAT score are required for program admission.

Information regarding Illinois standards for Professional Educator License is available on the Illinois State Board of Education Website at www.isbe.net.

General education in major field requirements vary significantly by transfer institution. Students who have already chosen the university to which they plan to transfer should consult that institution's catalog or department advisor and an SVCC academic advisor in planning their program. This program is designed for those who plan to teach exceptional children in the pre-school, elementary, intermediate, or secondary levels. Special education endorsements include Learning Behavior Specialist 1 (LBS 1), teacher of students who are blind or visually impaired and teacher of students who are deaf or hard of hearing. Individualized articulation sheets for some universities are available in Academic Advising.

Criminal History Check Policy

Illinois law requires Illinois school boards to conduct a criminal background investigation on applicants for employment. This law also prohibits the employment of a person who has been convicted of committing or attempting to commit any one or more of a number of offenses. At present, offenses include first degree murder; any Class X felony; juvenile pimping; soliciting for a juvenile prostitute; exploitation of a child; obscenity; child pornography; harmful material; criminal sexual assault; aggravated criminal sexual assault; offenses set forth in the Cannabis Control Act; and crimes defined in the Illinois Controlled Substance Act. Employment must be denied whether the offenses and/or conviction occurred inside or outside the state of Illinois.

Students who perform classroom observations through coursework at Sauk Valley Community College may be required by the selected school/site to undergo a criminal background check prior to placement. Students may be denied at any observation site based on the results of that check.

Students who feel their criminal background may exclude them from observation or employment should seek counseling with SVCC faculty or advising staff early in their program to determine how it may affect their participation and eligibility.

Program Contacts at Sauk Valley Community College

Academic Advising, 815/835-6354

Janis Jones, Assistant Professor of Education, 815/835-6410

Suggested Program

First Semester - Sem/Hrs: 17

- Fine Arts 3 Semester hour(s)

- EDU 101 - Introduction to Education 3 Semester hour(s)
- OR
- EDU 102 - Computer Education for Teachers 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 105 - Preparing for Careers in Education 1 Semester hour(s)
- ENG 101 - Composition I 3 Semester hour(s)
- FYE 101 - First Year Experience 1 Semester hour(s)
- MAT 110 - Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I 3 Semester hour(s)
- PSY 103 - Introduction to Psychology 3 Semester hour(s)

Second Semester - Sem/Hrs: 15

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- Fine Arts/Humanities 3 Semester hour(s)
 - EDU 220 - Students with Disabilities in School 3 Semester hour(s)
 - ENG 103 - Composition II 3 Semester hour(s)
 - MAT 111 - Mathematics for Elementary Teachers II 3 Semester hour(s)
 - PSC 163 - American Politics and Government 3 Semester hour(s)

Third Semester - Sem/Hrs: 17-18

- Personal Development 2 Semester hour(s)
- *Physical Science 3-4 Semester hour(s)
- Humanities 3 Semester hour(s)
- **Electives 3 Semester hour(s)
- COM 131 - Introduction to Oral Communication 3 Semester hour(s)
- HIS 221 - American History to 1865 3 Semester hour(s)
- or
- HIS 222 - American History Since 1865 3 Semester hour(s)

Fourth Semester - Sem/Hrs: 14-15

- *Life Science 3-4 Semester hour(s)
- **Electives 4 Semester hour(s)
- ***Social & Behavioral Sciences 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 210 - Diversity in Education 3 Semester hour(s)
- OR **Electives 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 275 - Educational Psychology 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 278 - Clinical Experience in Special Education 1 Semester hour(s)

Total Credits: 64

Footnotes

*One lab science required.

**Recommended Electives include EDU 101 or 102, 221, 224, PED 220, and other special education courses as available. (HSV 130 and 131 are recommended for students interested in the deaf and hard of hearing option.)

***Choose from GEO 122, ECO 211 or 212, PSY 200 or 214

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