

Professional Education (506)

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

About Our Program

This program is designed for the student intending to transfer to a senior institution to complete a baccalaureate degree.

Nature of Work and Employment

Graduates of four-year baccalaureate programs in this major are typically employed as teachers in elementary schools, secondary schools, colleges and universities, religious organizations, and civic/social organizations.

Special Considerations

The listed coursework is a recommendation only. Students should check with a student advisor for HCC graduation requirements and specific university requirements in this major.

Program Contacts

Call Highland at 815-235-6121 for the following program contacts:

- Dr. Chelsea Martinez, Education and Psychology Faculty
- Paul Rabideau, Psychology Faculty
- Vicki Schulz, Student Advisor/Transfer Coordinator
- Jim Phillips, Dean, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Fine Arts

Recommended Courses

The following are recommended courses for this major only. Students must still meet all requirements for the Associate of Arts degree (see page 56) in order to graduate from Highland Community College. For more information, please see your student advisor.

*	HIST	143	U.S. History I	
			-or-	3
*	HIST	144	U.S. History II	
*	PSY	161	Introduction to Psychology	3
†	EDUC	224	Introduction to Special Education	3
*	POL	152	American Government and Politics	3
†	PSY	261	Educational Psychology	3
†	EDUC	221	American Public Schools	
			-or-	3
†	EDUC	222	Education As An Agent For Change	
†	EDUC	225	Educational Technology	3
*	PSY	162	Child Psychology	
			-or-	3
*	PSY	262	Human Growth and Development	

* Course has a prerequisite. See course description.

† Consult with a student advisor prior to selection.

Professional Education

Licensure Requirements

Students interested in teaching in the State of Illinois have choices of licensure in many areas. The following are the most popular categories:

- Early Childhood (Birth through Grade 3)
- Elementary (Kindergarten through Grade 9)
- Secondary (Grades 6 through 12)
- Special (Kindergarten through Grade 12)

Highland Community College provides general education courses and some professional courses for students interested in any of these areas. Many courses are the same for all certification levels; however, the number of hours required in certain disciplines may vary.

Students interested in the teaching profession should contact a student advisor for up-to-date information regarding state requirements and senior institution admission requirements

Special Notes:

Some courses require classroom observation at local schools. Students are responsible for completing any fingerprinting and/or background checks required of observers or volunteers in a local school.

Early Childhood Education

Highland Community College's Associate of Applied Science degree in Early Childhood Education will NOT satisfy teacher certification requirements in the State of Illinois.

Elementary Education

Students need to declare an area of emphasis after transferring to a senior institution. Working with a student advisor will help clarify students' choices in these areas.

Secondary/Special Education

Students should declare a major in a specific area such as history, biology, speech, hearing impaired, etc. General education and professional education courses complete the program.

The recommended courses on the next page are intended to give students a general idea of course choices. Education majors are required to consult with a student advisor, faculty member, and/or the Transfer Coordinator to ensure proper course selection and program advising. **Certification requirements are subject to change due to legislation or Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) decisions.**

Test of Academic Proficiency

Test of Academic Proficiency is required by education programs in the state of Illinois. The TAP test should be taken before transfer to a university. Information on the test can be found at www.il.nesinc.com or by contacting the advisor for the program at Highland Community College.