

Pre-Education

A liberal arts degree is an excellent foundation for a career in education. Oberlin College graduates have pursued a variety of paths to a teaching career. Some teach in private schools and have gone on to teach directly after graduation. *Teach for America* and other alternative programs for entering the public school system are also popular. However, the majority of Oberlin graduates interested in a long-term commitment to public school teaching have followed the path most recommended, which is to couple their liberal arts degree with a master's degree in education or teaching. This combination provides the best teacher preparation and also complies with the movement of many state boards of education towards requiring a master's degree to maintain state licensure.

There is no designated department of education at Oberlin except in the Conservatory, which offers a degree in Music Education; however there are a number of courses available to help a student assess his or her interest in education and provide a solid background for future endeavors in the field. Students who plan to teach secondary/high school should declare a major at Oberlin College in the subject area they wish to teach.

Courses related to education include:

African American Studies

181 Education in the Black Community
213 Educational and National Development in Africa
385 Black Pedagogy

Dance

214 Teaching Dance: A Chance for Transformation

Politics

339 Political Theory and Political Education Seminar

Psychology

122 Educational Psychology
216 Developmental Psychology
219 Cognitive Psychology
302 Development Psychology Lab
503 Practicum in Educational Psychology

Sociology

125 Sociological Analysis of Society
277 Race and Ethnic Relations
378 Sociology of the African-American Community

Oberlin also offers several practica for students to acquire needed experience, including:

African American Studies

281 Practicum in Tutoring

Learning Assistance Studies

113 Teaching and Tutoring Quantitative Skills

Rhetoric and Composition

481 Teaching and Tutoring Writing Across Disciplines

In addition, Experimental College (EXCO) courses are taught by undergraduates and provide students with a chance to teach their own class on a subject of their choice or to pursue other tutoring and mentorship EXCO experiences. The Center for Service and Learning helps involve students in community tutoring programs like *America Reads*. The Office of Career Services connects students with education-related employers and with Oberlin alumni who are willing to offer internships or career advice. Also, a number of faculty are prepared to offer private readings in education, sponsor winter term projects and individual tutoring projects.

If you are an aspiring teacher, please meet with a Career Advisor in The Office of Career Services to discuss your individual career development plans.

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