

Southwestern Michigan College (SMC) Transfer Guide

Ferris State University's School of Education offers an exemplary program in Secondary Education designed to provide a balanced blend of theory and practice. Students have the opportunity to obtain Michigan Secondary Provisional Certification by taking classes at Southwestern Michigan College and Ferris State University. Certification will allow an individual to teach sixth through twelfth grade in both their major and minor subject areas. Throughout the program, students will complete at least 570 hours in a variety of hands-on, field-based experiences in the classroom. Our class sizes of 20-25 students guarantee that all students receive the attention they deserve. A background in state-of-the-art educational technology prepares students to integrate computer technology into instruction.

The Secondary Education Program requires the completion of a secondary education minor giving students a broad academic base in their chosen subject area. The professional education courses include field-based experiences supervised by instructional teams comprised of teacher educators, professors from the content area disciplines, and expert 6-12 teachers.

General Admission Criteria

Students seeking admission to the teacher education program must have at least 30 transferable credits and a minimum 2.50 overall GPA. All transferred courses must be a "C" grade or higher and the following courses must be completed prior to admission: ENGL 150, ENGL 250, COMM 105 or COMM 121, and MATH 115. English majors need a "B" or better in ENGL 150 and ENGL 250. Official transcripts from all accredited colleges/universities must be submitted with the Ferris application. Financial aid is available and may include concurrent enrollment at both institutions.

Teacher Certification Requirements

As required by the State of Michigan to receive teacher certification, all teacher candidates must: (1) meet the MDE (CAEP) cohort requirements, (2) pass the pedagogy tests in their subject area majors, and (3) have a 2.50 minimum GPA to receive teacher certification in Michigan. These state requirements are in addition to the FSU graduation requirements of your individual program.

Field Experience, Pre-Teaching

Pre-student teaching field experiences provide an opportunity to experience classroom management, discipline, planning and delivery of content in the classroom setting. EDUC 338 and 438 have pre-teaching field experiences with clock hour requirements.

Student Teaching

Student Teaching is the final activity of the Elementary Education Program (typically 15-16 weeks long). Prior to student teaching all degree program coursework must be completed and all minimum GPA requirements met. Student must successfully complete the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) subject matter exam(s). More information about student teaching can be obtained by contacting the Field Placement Coordinator or the Faculty Advisor.

Additional Requirements

Various policies are in place to ensure the success of our students. All students must meet MDE requirements; currently CAEP, prior to starting their Level II/III courses. Students must submit required paperwork prior to taking any courses with field placements included. Students are required to maintain appropriate GPA in their planned program and minors to be eligible for student teaching and program completion.

Communication Competency Requirements

FSU Course	FSU Course Title	FSU Cr. Hrs.	SMC Equiv.	SMC Course Title	SMC Cr. Hrs.
COMM 105 or COMM 121	Interpersonal Communication or Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3	SPEE 102	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
ENGL 150	English 1	3	ENGL 103	Freshman English 2	3
ENGL 250	English 2	3	ENGL 104	Freshman English 3	3
ENGL 321	Advanced Composition	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent

Quantitative Literacy Requirements

FSU Course	FSU Course Title	FSU Cr. Hrs.	SMC Equiv.	SMC Course Title	SMC Cr. Hrs.
MATH 115	Intermediate Algebra	3	MATH 102	Mathematical Literacy	4

Natural Sciences Competency Requirements – Minimum 6 credits; 1 course with lab

FSU Course	FSU Course Title	FSU Cr. Hrs.	SMC Equiv.	SMC Course Title	SMC Cr. Hrs.
Varies	FSU General Education - Natural Sciences Elective (see advisor)	6	Varies	Varies	6 - 7

Culture Competency Requirements - Minimum 9 credits from two different disciplines with one course at FSU 200 level or higher - HIST 121 and HIST 122 – 6 Credits met in Major

FSU Course	FSU Course Title	FSU Cr. Hrs.	SMC Equiv.	SMC Course Title	SMC Cr. Hrs.
Varies	FSU General Education - Culture Elective 200+ level	3	Varies	Varies	3

Self and Society Competency Requirements – Credits Met in Major

Ferris State University General Education Courses

Students are encouraged to work with an advisor to select appropriate general education courses

Diversity Competency – 2 Courses Required

If not met by courses taken for Culture, Self and Society, or MTA, a student must meet the following:

- 1 course with the Global Diversity attribute
- 1 course with the U.S. Diversity attribute

Major Requirements – 33 Credits Required

FSU Course	FSU Course Title	FSU Cr. Hrs.	SMC Equiv.	SMC Course Title	SMC Cr. Hrs.
PLSC 121	American Government 1: People and Policy	3	POSC 201	American Government	3
PLSC 122	American Government 2: Policy Making	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
PLSC 221	American Political Parties	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
PLSC 251	Public Administration	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
PLSC 311	American State & Local Government	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
GEOG 311	Social Applications of GIS	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
PLSC 323 or PLSC 331	International Organizations or Comparative World Governments	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
PLSC 341	International Politics	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
PLSC 410	Politics & Media (Instructor approval)	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
PLSC 411	Urban & Regional Planning	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
SSCI 425	Issues in Public Policy	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent

Directed Electives - 12 Credits Required

FSU Course	FSU Course Title	FSU Cr. Hrs.	SMC Equiv.	SMC Course Title	SMC Cr. Hrs.
GEOG 100	Geography of World Regions	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
HIST 121	US History to 1877	3	HIST 201	United States History 1	3
HIST 122	US History 1877 to Present	3	HIST 202	United States History 2	3
GEOG 201	Geography of US & Canada	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
ECON 201	Principles of Microeconomics	3	ECON 202	Microeconomics	3

One Secondary Education Subject Area Minor Required. It may not be the same as the Secondary Education Major.

(Requires Declaration) Must be 24 credits or more.

The current secondary education minor choices are: Biology, Chemistry, English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Physical Education, and Speech Communication.

Professional Sequence – 37 Credits Required

Level 1 Courses – 10 Credits

FSU Course	FSU Course Title	FSU Cr. Hrs.	SMC Equiv.	SMC Course Title	SMC Cr. Hrs.
EDUC 101	Introduction to the Profession of Teaching	1	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
EDUC 251	Life Span of Human Growth & Development	3	EDUC 215	Human Development and Learning	3
EDUC 289	Principles of Teaching & Learning	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
EDUC 303	School, Work, & Society	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent

Notes: Prior to enrolling in any Level 2 courses, all students must meet MDE requirements, currently CAEP (see advisor for options).

Complete all Level 1 courses with a minimum of 2.5 GPA with no grade lower than a C, have a 2.5 cumulative GPA, and complete a level 2 application. Students may not repeat any education course more than once. You may not have more than two repeats in Level 1 courses.

Level 2 Courses - 15 Credits

FSU Course	FSU Course Title	FSU Cr. Hrs.	SMC Equiv.	SMC Course Title	SMC Cr. Hrs.
EDUC 338	Secondary General Methods 1	4	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
EDUC 415	Teaching Special Needs	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent

Notes: Prior to entering the 80 hours pre-student teaching, students must meet MDE requirements, currently CAEP (see advisor for options.) Students may not repeat any education course more than once

FSU Course	FSU Course Title	FSU Cr. Hrs.	SMC Equiv.	SMC Course Title	SMC Cr. Hrs.
EDUC 438	Secondary General Methods 2	5	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent
EDUC 443	Teaching Reading - Secondary Areas	3	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent

Notes: Prior to enrolling in Level III courses, all students must pass the Michigan test for teacher certification in their subject area. Students may not repeat any education course more than once.

Level 3 – 12 Credits Required

FSU Course	FSU Course Title	FSU Cr. Hrs.	SMC Equiv.	SMC Course Title	SMC Cr. Hrs.
EDUC 499	Student Teaching	12	No Equivalent	No Equivalent	No Equivalent

Total Credits Required for Degree	130 - 142
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Program Delivery Locations and Contact Information:**Main Campus, Big Rapids****College Education and Human Services**

School of Education | (231) 591-3511

[Transfer Partnerships Webpage](#)

Select courses may be delivered online and/or in a mixed delivery format (i.e. a mix of online and face-to-face instruction at the Ferris Main Campus or at an off-campus location)

General Admission Criteria**Transfer Students**

- 2.5 cumulative GPA

Advising Notes

It is recommended that potential applicants meet with an advisor to review the degree, course schedule, and have any questions answered prior to completing an application. Students who are completing the MTA may have different general education course requirements for the particular degree selected. Meeting with a Ferris advisor prior to the selection of general education or elective course work may reduce the chance of completing a course that will not apply toward the selected degree. Once admitted, students must continue to meet with an advisor as they work toward graduation.

Transfer Student Orientation

All new students to Ferris State University are required to complete an orientation.

Reverse Transfer Agreement

Southwestern Michigan College and Ferris have entered into a partnership in order to work collaboratively and creatively to increase student completion of associate and bachelor degrees. The partners work together to provide a seamless transfer experience and increase student retention and completion at both Southwestern Michigan College and Ferris.

Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA)

Ferris participates in the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA). This agreement will facilitate the transfer of general education requirements from one Michigan institution to another. Students may complete the MTA as part of a degree program or as a stand-alone package. The MTA consists of a minimum of 30 general education credit hours as identified by the college or university.

Students transferring to Ferris with the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) and entering a degree program will have met a 30-hour block of lower-level general education courses. However, this does not exempt students from completing program specific prerequisites or higher-level general education course requirements. Students should contact their advisor regarding classes that meet the MTA.

Students must work with their Ferris advisor to declare a Minor or Concentration and for selection of Directed Electives.

Students who wish to fulfill MTA are encouraged to work with an advisor to select appropriate general education courses.

Disclaimer

This is a guide for students who plan to transfer to Ferris State University. This guide is not intended to be a contract with Ferris. The information on this guide is subject to change. Students should contact their community college or Ferris to keep informed of changes. Final responsibility for verifying all transfer information lies with the student. Please refer to effective and/or revised date on the bottom of this guide.