

Teaching Credential

Multiple Subject (Elementary) or Single Subject (Secondary)



Earn your California teaching credential at Westmont.

Become a knowledgeable, caring, Christian educator through our rigorous, highly practical and professional program. You'll learn from full-time professors with K-12 experience as you develop essential skills and attitudes to succeed as a teacher. Westmont's stellar reputation opens doors for you to observe, teach, and invest in diverse schools. You enter our professional program with a collegial cohort, taking classes in the fall semester and student teaching in the spring.

Secondary candidates major in art, English, history/social science, physical education/kinesiology, music, mathematics, the sciences (biology, chemistry, physics) and Spanish.

SELECTED COURSES

- Explorations in Teaching
- Perspectives on Cultural Diversity and Education
- Computers for the Classroom Teacher
- Language Acquisition
- Special Education for the Classroom Teacher
- Health Education for the Classroom Teacher

Additional classes are required, depending on whether you're pursuing an Elementary or Secondary teaching position.

CAREER PATHS

The **vast majority** of program completers begin their careers as an elementary or secondary classroom teacher following the completion of their studies. Others immediately pursue additional training to work in closely related careers such as special education or speech therapy. Long term, some program completers have gone into educational administration or teaching at the college level.



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SANTA BARBARA

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



SARAH HAWKINS, ED.D.

Sarah (Sally) Hawkins taught junior high English for 15 years and served as a reading intervention teacher for five years. She has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in education and literacy and is passionate about student wellbeing and school belonging.



CAROLYN MITTEN, PH.D.

Carolyn Mitten is a former mathematics teacher who has also taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses in education and mathematics. She enjoys helping her students foster a love of mathematics and deepen their assessment literacy.



ANDREW MULLEN, PH.D.

Andrew Mullen loves history, biology, literature and K-12 students. He has taught 4th and 5th grade as well as history, and is passionate about the history of education, curriculum and instruction.

MISSION STATEMENT

Westmont's Department of Education provides a supportive collegial community in which to acquire a rigorous, practical, and professional preparation for K-12 teaching. Building on teacher-candidates' liberal arts education, our program is designed to develop exemplary instructional skills, habits of reflection, and moral and cultural sensitivities that promote lifelong learning of diverse students.

ALUMNI

Hannah Krieshok '18 English: "Teaching is the best thing I've ever done! At no other time in my life have I felt so fulfilled and happy. It's an enormous challenge that is different every day, but I've had so many experiences that make it worthwhile a million times over. Getting to build relationships with students and hear all the hilarious and heartbreaking things they say has been such a wonderful journey, even in just one year."

Kelly Vivanco '23 Liberal Studies: "[In] the Westmont Education program, the professors get to know you well and personalize your fieldwork assignments as much as possible so that you end up meeting educators who can inspire

you and mentor you as you grow. The professors also very intentionally invest in you not just as a student or future educator but as a whole person. I was deeply impacted not just by the way they taught me pedagogy but also in the way they inspired me in my core teaching philosophies."

Carissa Corrigan '23 Double Major History and Music Education: "I loved the community of the Westmont Credential program. I was able to form deep and lasting relationships with my peers and professors, as well as our cooperating teachers. The Westmont professors were able to spend a lot of time in each of our classrooms and to help guide our development as teachers. "



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