

CORE 110 – Cornerstone Thematic Pilot Proposal

The Teacher Education Program would like to pilot two sections of Cornerstone designated for students in majors that include teacher certification. These majors include students from three colleges and 13 departments. The majors include the following:

Art Teaching ARTT
Biology Teaching BIOT
Chemistry teaching CHMT
Computer Science/Math teaching CSMT
English Teaching ENGT
Elementary - EC- 6 - IDSC
Journalism teaching - JMCT
Spanish teaching - SPNT
Math teaching - MATT
Music teaching instrumental - MTIA
Music teaching vocal - MTVA
Music teaching piano - MTPA
Physical Science teaching - CPST
Physics/Math teaching PHMT
Social Studies teaching - HSST
History teaching - HSTT
Theatre teaching - THED
Elementary with Special Ed. - SPEL
High school English with Special Ed - SPHE
Middle School social studies & Elementary - MSSS
Middle School Math & Elementary - MSMA
Middle school English Language arts & Elementary - MSLA
High School English - HSEL

Because teacher preparation at its best is a relational process, we believe that connecting with these diverse students early in their time at ACU will provide a foundation for future mentoring.

In addition, the students will benefit from purposeful interdisciplinary conversations that combine common professional goals (certification) with diverse academic interests. The music teacher candidate is very different from the candidate in physics. The elementary candidate will challenge and be challenged by the candidate in secondary math. The best teachers, whether in kindergarten or the high school biology classroom, are those who appreciate diverse perspectives and can make connections across disciplines. The Cornerstone curriculum provides a context for meaningful interdisciplinary conversations exploring questions that are critical for the faith informed classroom teacher.

It is not our desire to change the curriculum of the course. In fact, faculty in our department understand well the need to follow curriculum standards. We are committed to maintaining the integrity of the Cornerstone experience, and we believe this experience can be enhanced through themed sections like what we propose.