

Secondary 4+1 (STEP) Program Overview

University of
Massachusetts
Amherst BE REVOLUTIONARY™



- ❖ Common Application
 - Education BA or Education Exportary Track (ET)
- ❖ Education BA
 - Start off as a Community Education and Social Change Major
- ❖ Apply to **Teacher Preparation Programs** later in your college career



Secondary Education Masters 4+1

- ❖ Initial license to teach grades 5-12 in English, History, Math, or one of the Sciences
- ❖ Accelerated Master's Degree (NOT an undergraduate major, undergraduate major needed)
- ❖ Apply January of Junior Year
- ❖ Major/Minor in content area
- ❖ Able to take 1-4 graduate courses your senior year
- ❖ Can graduate in five years with a bachelors and masters degree!



- ❖ Enter UMass as Education major or content area major
- ❖ Connect with Education advisor to establish plans for STEP 4+1
- ❖ Connect with faculty subject coordinator in the College of EDU
- ❖ Take the following required courses:
 - ❖ EDUC 457: Tutoring in the Schools
 - ❖ EDUC 524: Work of the Middle/High School Teacher
- ❖ Consider taking the following suggested courses:
EDUC 101, EDUC 210, EDUC 306, and EDUC 325 (to complete an EDUC minor).
- ❖ Complete requirements for major



Secondary 4+1 vs. Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP) Masters

- Admission into the 4+1 Program allows seniors the opportunity to start graduate coursework for the master's degree early - during senior year. This can result in time and cost savings.
- Actual admission into the graduate school to complete the STEP program is not guaranteed. 4+1 seniors must apply to the graduate program by January 1 of senior year.
- Admitted graduate students can carry up to 12 credits into the graduate program if they take and pass all 4 pre-approved graduate courses during senior year.

What we are looking for in teacher candidates



- ❖ Passion for the role
- ❖ Understanding and appreciation for social justice and cultural competence
- ❖ Ability to work in diverse populations



- ❖ Highly effective interpersonal and communication skills
- ❖ Strong advocates and leaders
- ❖ Experience working with students!

Q. "Am I a secondary education major?"

A. No. Secondary Education is not an undergraduate degree. It is offered at the masters level. Students must pursue an undergraduate degree in another subject. Some students major in the subject matter in which they wish to teach while others major in Education and minor in the subject they wish to teach. Some students double major. The best plan should evolve from conversations with EDUC advisors.

Q. "If I am accepted into the secondary 4+1 program, does that make me a graduate student?"

A. Students are not considered graduate students until they graduate with their bachelor's degree and matriculate into the graduate school (after applying senior year). 4+1 status allows undergraduate students to take graduate coursework senior year, thus enabling them to get a head start on their graduate degree. 12 credits max of specifically approved STEP courses can be transferred into the graduate school.

Q. "Can any graduate courses be taken into the graduate / +1 year?"

A. No. Only a select number of STEP graduate courses can be transferred into the graduate program. Always consult with a College of Education advisor or Secondary 4+1 faculty coordinator before enrolling in a graduate course you are hoping to transfer into the STEP program later.

Undergraduate Advising Team

- ❖ Darrell Earnest
 - ❖ Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
- ❖ Camille Cammack
 - ❖ Undergraduate Program Coordinator
- ❖ Mike Hanna
 - ❖ Director of Student Success and Engagement
- ❖ Beth Rochon
 - ❖ Sr. Undergraduate Academic & Career Advisor
- ❖ Stephanie Lare
 - ❖ Assistant Director of Career Advising & Student Success



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