

# ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

## COMMON CAREER PATH

The College of Education is among the leaders of teacher preparation and is accredited by NCATE\*. There is an increasing demand for teachers both within Oklahoma and across the nation. Teacher preparation is offered in **elementary education** (1-8); **secondary education** (7-12 in English, mathematics, social studies and science); **Art** (K-12); and **foreign language** (K-12 in French, German, and Spanish). An emphasis is placed on field experiences which provide opportunities to work with and observe practicing classroom teachers. Successful completion of a twelve-week student teaching (internship) experience is required for graduation. Numerous opportunities to work with students in settings that vary from academic tutoring to coaching sports are available and encouraged.

## FRESHMAN YEAR

### Career Development Activity Options

- Access your HIRE System account and update your profile
- Identify and join student organizations
- Explore OSU/Stillwater community through part-time work, volunteering and participating in events
- Research your desired career: find out the growth rate, expected salary range, possible locations, etc.
- Develop a career plan
- Become familiar with and explore the resources and services available to you for self-discovery
- Visit the Career Services office in 102 Willard Hall

## SOPHOMORE YEAR

### Career Development Activity Options

- Meet with a Career Consultant to develop and/or update resume
- Identify faculty, advisors, peers, administrators and staff that you can add to your professional network
- Continue to develop and enhance skills by seeking leadership positions in organizations, the classroom, work or other activities you are involved in
- Make revisions to your career plan as necessary
- Make contact with employers by attending information sessions, club speakers and alumni events.
- Visit organizations of interest to you
- Continue to assess your interests, values, skills and abilities
- Study for the OGET (Oklahoma General Education Test)

## JUNIOR YEAR

### Career Development Activity Options

- Have your resume critiqued by a career consultant
- Research specific employers you are interested in working for
- Attend professional meets and conferences
- Continue to build your network of faculty and professional contacts
- Participate in a mock interview
- Attend a career fair
- Study for OPTE (Oklahoma Professional Teaching Exam)
- Study for the OSAT (Oklahoma Subject Area Test)

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## SENIOR YEAR

### Career Development Activity Options

- Put together portfolio
- Develop targeted resume and cover letter
- Update your HIRE System account
- Fine tune career plan and decide how you will transition from school
- Clinical Practice Internship (Student Teaching) – *usually Spring Semester*
- Attend a career fair or networking event related to your career goal
- Purchase an interview suit (if you haven't already!)
- Apply to positions of interest
- Upon graduation, report your HIRE status at [www.hireosugrads.com](http://www.hireosugrads.com)

## ALSO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING

### Career Development Activity Options

- Join Elementary Educators of Tomorrow
- Join Education Student Council
- Apply for College of Education Ambassadors
- Volunteer at Stillwater Children's Museum
- Attend career workshops
- Work at a summer camp or summer program
- Work at a day-care
- Volunteer at YMCA youth program
- Volunteer to tutor elementary, middle or high school students
- Look into Studying Abroad
- Join Big Brothers Big Sisters