

Teacher Preparation News

August 24, 2021

Welcome Back Students!
Have a great fall semester!

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If you have news that would be useful to teacher candidates, email edprep@semo.edu by 12:00 noon on the **Friday** prior to the publication date to have it included in the next newsletter. ***Some newsletter hyperlinks are not compatible with iPad*** Follow this link for past newsletters <http://semo.edu/education-health/edu-prep/news.html>.

Welcome Back!

Welcome back, education majors! We have missed having you on campus and look forward to seeing you in our classrooms. We know there is much about this semester that will be different from the past, but there are some things in our Education Preparation program that haven't changed: caring, knowledgeable faculty, course work that prepares you well for a teaching career, an emphasis on using technology in instruction, an education program that is nationally accredited, and classmates that will become life-long friends. If you are a new freshman or transfer student, we want to extend you a special welcome and let you know you can stop by our department offices at any time with questions or concerns. Have a great semester!

Dr. Shonta Smith, Chair, Dept. of Elementary, Early and Special Education

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Dr. R.D. Nordgren, Chair, Dept. of Leadership, Middle and Secondary Education

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Welcome New Interim Associate Dean, Dr. Shannon Clapsaddle!

Dr. Shannon Clapsaddle is the new Interim Associate Dean of Educator Preparation in the College of Education, Health, and Human Studies. She has been a faculty member in the Department of Leadership, Middle, and Secondary Education since 2016, and she will continue to teach literacy courses in the Middle and Secondary Program. She will also continue to serve as Coordinator of the Master of Arts in Educational Studies Program, as well as the Coordinator of Middle and Secondary Programs. Before securing a tenure-track position at SEMO, Dr. Clapsaddle taught high school English and reading, as well as served as a Literacy Specialist in Illinois, in addition to teaching adjunct at SIUC. Dr. Clapsaddle recently earned the 2021 College of Education, Health, and Human Studies Teaching Excellence Award.

Welcome New Department Chairperson of Leadership, Middle, and Secondary Education, Dr. R.D. Nordgren!

Dr. R.D. Nordgren is the new Department Chairperson of Leadership, Middle, and Secondary Education. He is from Central Illinois but has lived in Houston, Tampa, Cleveland, and San Diego. For the past couple of years, he lived in Georgia, north of Atlanta, so he has come full circle, back to his roots in the Midwest.

Dr. Nordgren spent six years as an English/language arts teacher and another six as an assistant principal—all at the middle and high school levels. During this time, he earned a BS in English Education, an MEd in Educational Leadership, and a PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of South Florida. He was an Associate Professor of Urban Education, department chair, program director, and Director of Undergraduate Curriculum during his eight years at Cleveland State University on the snowy shores of Lake Erie. He was lured to sunny San Diego to work at National University as chair of the Educational Administration department, but picked up the School Counseling, School Psychology, and ABA department after his first year. After nine years at NU, he left for Georgia to be dean of the school of education at a small liberal arts college in mountainous north part of the state. Since moving to Cape in May, he's fallen in love with the city and the people, and it feels like home!

Office of Field Experiences Masking Policy

Students in pre-student teaching field experience courses must follow the guidelines for [Protect the Nest](#). Masking is required in these field experiences as per university policy.

Technology Requirements for Education Majors

Education majors must have a mobile device for their course work, but may choose to use any device, such as a laptop, and not exclusively iPads. Education majors are required to have a device in class when they take their first pre-education course, such as ED 280 Introduction to Education as a Profession. Cell phones are not an acceptable device. The device must meet specifications needed for education courses, and the details of these specifications can be found on the EDvolution Center website at this [link](#).

Pearson Testing Voucher Update

The few Pearson Testing Vouchers that we previously received have already been given out to students. We hope to receive some more vouchers in September. Any new information will be posted in upcoming newsletters this fall.

Are you Looking for a Place to Zoom?

If you are looking for space to Zoom while in Scully (or anywhere on the main campus), check out the link below. For the private spaces in The EDvolution Center, we highly recommend making a reservation by emailing edvolution@semo.edu. The second link is for Zoom spaces on regional campuses.

[Zoom Spaces for Students on Main Campus](#)

[Zoom Spaces for Students on Regional Campuses](#)

Friday, August 27 – Face-to-Face Jackson District Substitute Teacher Training

The Jackson School District will be hosting a Substitute Teacher Training session from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Friday, August 27, 2021, in Scully Room 312. Substitute teaching is a great opportunity to gain experience and to have school personnel to get to know you. It will increase your teaching skills and improve your resume. This training will enable participants to substitute teach in the Jackson District. In addition, the district will pay \$45 after you have substituted in a district school for one day. A valid substitute certificate is needed in order to sub. If you do not have a sub certificate, please contact Charity Wills at cwills@jr2mail.org or 573-243.9501.

Friday, September 10 – Face-to-Face Sikeston District Substitute Teacher Training

Sikeston R-6 Schools will be hosting a face-to-face Substitute Teacher Training session from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 10 in Scully room 312. Substitute teaching is a great opportunity to gain experience and to have school personnel to get to know you. It will increase your teaching skills and improve your resume. This training will enable participants to substitute teach at Sikeston R-6 Schools. A valid substitute certificate is needed in order to sub. If you do not have a sub certificate, please contact Danyell Pride at dpride@spsr6.org or (573) 472-2581.

Are you Eligible to Student Teach During the Spring 2022 Semester?

For instructions on how to apply, email the Candidate Status & Certification Officer, Alicia Lincoln, at aelincoln@semo.edu. The deadline to apply for student teaching is **September 3, 2021**. Instructions for the application process can be found here: <https://semo.edu/education-health/edu-prep/studentteach/apply.html> (PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS FOUND ON THIS PAGE).

Also, know that you will be required to pass all sections of the Missouri Content Assessment (MoCA) exam prior to student teaching. Some students in the past were not able to student teach, because they waited too late to take the exam. Start taking the MoCA now so you meet the **December 1, 2021** deadline!!! Follow this link to register for the MoCA exams: http://www.mo.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/GENRB_TestDatesAndSites.html.

If you have any questions or concerns about the student teaching application process, please contact the Candidate Status & Certification Officer, Alicia Lincoln, at aelincoln@semo.edu or 573-651-5932.

July/August EDvolution Newsletter

You can find the new July/August EDvolution Newsletter [here](#).

Background Checks

If you are planning to do field work in PreK-12 school buildings during the fall 2021 semester, you are required to have an up-to-date fingerprint background check on file with the Teacher Preparation Program. Field work courses include CE364, CE480, ED280, EL314, EL350, EL430, EL480, EX309, EX480, ME222, ME270, SE355, SE380, SE465, and any other course that requires field work in a school. (If you previously obtained a background check for the Southeast Missouri State University Teacher Preparation Program after September 2018, it has not expired.) If you are unsure if you have a background check on file with Teacher Preparation Program, you can email the Candidate Status and Certification Officer at cscs@semo.edu to check on your background check status. To obtain a new background check, you must go to the following website: <https://semo.edu/education-health/edu-prep/backgroundcheck.html> and follow the directions provided.

Gain Experience, Grow a Portfolio, Get Paid – and Do it all on Social Media

University Marketing is looking for a group of 10 students from across campus to represent the University on social media as influencers. They'll be dubbed the SEMO Social Ambassadors and be expected to work about 5 hours per week. They will be paid like any other student worker on campus. They will run their own SEMO branded Instagram accounts and post from time to time on the University accounts. Ideally this group will be a representative cross section of Southeast that includes several majors, departments, and organizations. If you are interested, apply [here](#).

Cumulative GPA Requirement Change Effective May 15, 2021

Effective May 15, 2021 candidates are no longer required to meet the 2.75 cumulative GPA requirement in order to be certified. Instead, candidates who are recommended after May 15, 2021 will be expected to have earned a 3.00 GPA in their professional education and content area coursework. For those areas for which a disciplinary content area does not apply, candidates will need to have earned a 3.00 GPA in their professional education and overall program coursework. For any category of required GPA, calculations will be made using courses listed on an EPP's approved program matrix.

MoCA/MoGEA Study Guides Available on Canvas

MoCA/MoGEA Study guides are available on Canvas. At this point, you should have received an invitation to a Canvas Course titled Pre-Service Teacher Resources, which will house study guides and other resources related to educator preparation. If you didn't receive an invitation and would like one, please email edprep@semo.edu.

Visit the Ed Prep Facebook Page!

There is lots of good information on our [Ed Prep Facebook page](#). Please share and like this page! If you have any items to post, please submit them to edprep@semo.edu!

Employment Openings

When the Office of Educator Preparation receives notice of employment openings, those are listed here: <http://semo.edu/education-health/jobs/index.html>. New full-time positions are now posted at REDHAWKjobs.com.