

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

NEW TERMINOLOGY

1. What is a Teacher Candidate (TC)?

A Teacher Candidate (a.k.a. TC) is you, that is, someone who is studying to become a teacher and is enrolled in a Bachelor of Education program.

2. What is In-Service and Pre-Service?

When you are certified to teach and you hold a teaching position, you are considered “In-Service”. While you are studying your Bachelor of Education program, the level of study is “Pre-Service”.

3. What is being referred to when someone asks about my “undergraduate degree”?

To differentiate between your first undergraduate degree (e.g. BA) and your BEd, when we refer to your undergraduate degree, we mean your BA or BSc. When we refer to Pre-Service, we are talking about your BEd.

ENROLMENT

4. Who should I contact if I have a disability and require special accommodation for my courses and/or practicum placement?

If you have a documented disability, it may be helpful to disclose this information to your Course Directors. They may be able to support you more effectively with placement decisions and/or accommodations in assignments if this is something that you share with them from the outset. Also, please contact the appropriate university offices on campus. For more information, visit <http://www.yorku.ca/dshub/>.

5. Can I satisfy the concurrency rule using a combination of my summer and Fall/Winter courses?

In order to be eligible for the Concurrent Bachelor of Education (BEd) degree, you must complete 12 credit-hours each academic year with your home faculty. The 12 credits can be maintained using a combination of summer and Fall/Winter courses. You will graduate from both degrees at the same time. The Intermediate/Senior (I/S) program must be taken only in conjunction with an Honours degree academic program, and over a period of three or four years of co-registration.

6. Can I switch Divisions?

If switching divisions (which may involve adding/dropping a teachable – see below), it is recommended that students have successfully completed a course in the new teachable subject area(s) before requesting a program change. Please note that I/S candidates need to complete an honours degree in their home faculty (P/J and J/I candidates do not need an honours degree). Students need to complete a Program Change form and return it to the BEd Undergraduate Student Services Office by April 30.

7. Can I switch my teachable(s)?

It is possible to switch teachable(s) as long as you are able to complete the necessary coursework as outlined in the calendar. If you are dropping a teachable subject (which would mean a change of division – see above) please make sure you complete the appropriate forms as soon as possible, as this will affect your practicum placements for the academic year. Candidates may only request to change their program once for the duration of the program, and we will not change your program after Convocation. Students need to complete a Program Change form and return it to the BEd Undergraduate Student Services Office by April 30 for approval by the Associate Dean.

8. Do I have to minor in my second teachable subject if I'm an I/S candidate?

Students simply must complete 24 credits of approved coursework in a subject area to count towards a second teachable. It is only recommended that students pick up a minor if they encounter problems when enrolling in courses for their second teachable.

9. I just heard about the new BEd (French) program. Is it too late to apply?

A concurrent BEd (French) program at Glendon will prepare P/J teachers to teach in French Immersion schools. Admission to the program requires a French Proficiency test. If interested in Fall 2008 admission, please speak to a staff member prior to July 24, 2008.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

10. What are my GPA requirements?

A minimum C+ grade is required for each and every Education course. As well, a C+ overall GPA is required for your undergraduate degree. It is strongly recommended that J/I and I/S students achieve a minimum C+ grade in each of the courses to be counted towards a teachable subject area.

11. How can I get some academic advising while in the program?

Students are encouraged to book an individual advising appointment online by visiting <http://www.york.ca/foe/bed/current.html>. There will be group advising appointments available in November. Please note that during the months of December and January, individual advising appointments are not possible as we attend to admission responsibilities. Inquiries can be emailed to osp@edu.yorku.ca for academic advice.

GENERAL

12. Can I fast track?

It is not possible to fast track. Our curriculum is a prescribed course of study, and candidates must successfully complete each year of the Concurrent program, before being allowed to proceed.

13. Can I use my Education credits to satisfy my undergraduate degree program requirements?

Although undergraduate and Education courses are taken concurrently, they are counted separately by each Faculty. Grade Point Averages for courses in the two Faculties are also calculated separately. Thus, the 30 credits required for the BEd are independent of the 120 credits required for the Honours undergraduate degree program, or the 90 credits required for the undergraduate degree program. Therefore, a student completing the requirements for both degrees would complete a total of 150 credits for the Honours BA/BEd or 120 credits for the BA/BEd. The following is an example of how you might proceed as a student who is co-registered in the Concurrent program as well as an Honours degree program.

Breakdown of how the BEd degree program and undergraduate degree program(s) work together			
YEARS AT YORK	UNDERGRAD PROGRAM	EDUCATION	CREDITS COMPLETED
1	30	0	30
2	21	9	30
3	18	12	30
4	30	STOP-OUT*	30
5	21	9	30
Convocation	120	30	150

* Stop-Out can be taken between ED 1 and ED 2, or between ED 2 and ED 3.

14. What is the cost of the program? How is tuition divided?

Academic fees for York University students are assessed on a per-credit or program basis. Thus, the number of credits you enrol in determines the number of credits you pay for. Fees and refund tables for each academic session are posted on the Web. It is the responsibility of students to make themselves aware of changes in fees and financial penalties associated with dropping courses. A current schedule of academic fees can be found at <http://www.yorku.ca/osfs/fees/>.

15. Are there bursaries and scholarships for the Faculty of Education?

There are various bursaries and scholarships available for Faculty of Education students. You must apply for these via the Office of Student Financial Services, by completing a Student Financial Profile. In some cases, you may be required to submit a separate Education application, and provide letters of reference. Please visit <http://www.yorku.ca/foe/bed/awards.html> for more information. The deadline for Faculty of Education Awards and Bursary applications is usually in January.