SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND HUMAN PERFORMANCE
If you are someone who wants to make a difference in people’s lives, are caring and compassionate, a life-long learner who has leadership, management and organizational skills, a creative problem solver who can connect with different types of learners and interact with different personalities, then you should consider a career in education.

Become a Classroom Teacher
Did you know?

• Because there is a national teacher shortage, there are a variety of financial incentives for teachers – especially in critical shortage areas.

• The College of Charleston has seven undergraduate programs that lead to initial licensure for teachers.

• All seven programs are nationally accredited and have reciprocity with most states in the U.S.!
In 2018-2019, 42 students in the School of Education, Health, and Human Performance received over $130,000 worth of scholarships.

Funds are provided for students to conduct research with faculty. Summer research opportunities are available.

Students study abroad in Germany, Costa Rica, Ireland, Spain, Uganda and other countries.

Student organizations include:
- Project Playground, Save the Children Action Network, Call Me MISTER, Teaching Fellows, Teacher Leaders
Interesting Facts

• Close partnerships with local school districts. Approximately 84 percent of teacher education candidates are employed as classroom teachers after graduation.

• Unique programs include: Urban School Synergy Project, Teacher Leaders, Teaching Fellows, Call Me MISTER.

• N.E. Miles Early Childhood Development Center: a lab school where students can work, gain experience and conduct research.

• Professional development opportunities

• Undergraduate teacher education majors are nationally accredited.
Early Childhood Education

As an early childhood education major, you will explore child development and learn how to educate young children in the context of their environment(s) and be prepared to teach preschool through third grade. You will:

- come to understand the importance of play, inquiry and creative exploration as teaching strategies.
- be prepared to lead, inspire and advocate for young children and their families.
- get hands-on experience working with young children in a variety of settings, including the College of Charleston N.E. Miles Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC), which serves children who are two years old through kindergarten.
Elementary Education

Through this program, you’ll be able to execute a variety of teaching strategies that will help elementary school students develop intellectually and socially in the context of their family and school relationships.

You’ll learn how to:

- teach the major content areas and how to introduce creativity and movement into the curriculum.
- plan and implement instruction based on solid knowledge of how students learn, and on developmental theory and innovative curriculum.
- You will have three field experiences in elementary school classrooms that will give you opportunities to see firsthand how students actually learn.
- When you complete the program, you will be qualified to teach grades two through six.
Special Education

Special education is a critical needs area, which means that special education teachers are in high demand. This program will prepare you to teach students who have learning disabilities, emotional disabilities and/or intellectual disabilities, in a variety of educational settings, beginning with pre-kindergarten and on through the 12th grade.

• Through this program you will learn about special education from a legal perspective so that you can be the best advocate for your students.

• This program will prepare you to use cutting-edge educational techniques and strategies so that you can help all students thrive.
Middle Grades Education

Through this program you will learn how to teach the middle school/adolescent learner, and be prepared to plan and implement instruction that supports the development of middle school students.

- You will be ready to teach in two content areas. You’ll make your choices from English/language arts, mathematics, social studies, sciences. And, you can do more than 100 field hours in middle schools before your clinical internship.
- When you complete the program, you will be licensed to teach fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades.
- Note: Because the sciences and mathematics are critical needs areas, many school districts offer signing bonuses.
Secondary Education

As a secondary education major, you will choose one content area to focus on, and learn how to teach that content area to adolescents. Your knowledge of diverse teaching strategies and understanding of adolescent development will ensure that you can plan and implement instruction that best suits your students.

- When you graduate, you will be prepared to teach a subject area in grades 9 through 12.
- In addition to completing the requirements of the secondary education major, you will select a major in either biology, chemistry, physics, English, mathematics, history, political science or sociology.

Note: Because the sciences and mathematics are critical needs areas, many school districts offer signing bonuses.
If you choose this program, you will have to add a major in either Classics, French, German or Spanish to the foreign language education major. And, you’ll have the opportunity to study in a country where the language you’ve chosen is spoken or, in the case of Classics, in Greece or Italy.

When you complete the program, you’ll be qualified to teach languages at the pre-kindergarten level through 12th grade.
Health and Human Performance

The majors and a minor associated with health and human performance are:

- exercise science
- physical education teacher education
- public health
- coaching minor

Through these majors, our students who want to pursue advanced studies and careers in medicine (physician assistant, physician), physical therapy, occupational therapy and other allied health professions receive excellent academic training, hands-on learning experiences and mentored research.

Graduates pursue careers in:

- health, fitness and sport fields.
- epidemiology.
- environmental health.
- medicine.
- K-12 physical education.
Exercise science majors learn how to identify an individual’s challenges and make recommendations for people to improve their overall physical, mental, and emotional health and wellbeing.

They also study how movement and physical activity (or the lack of) affect the human body.

Exercise science majors are prepared for a broad array of careers. They go on to graduate school in fields such as occupational therapy, physical therapy, athletic training or physician assistant studies. But there are many professional roles that don’t require a graduate degree, including exercise physiologist, wellness program coordinator, or strength and conditioning specialist.
Physical Education Teacher Education

Through science-based coursework such as anatomy and physiology, physical education teacher education majors learn how the body moves. They explore strategies and techniques so they can work with individuals from a variety of backgrounds and ensure that people can remain active for a lifetime. PETE majors also learn about national and state laws that regulate physical activity in order to understand the importance of physical education as a part of the whole student learning experience.

- If you want to coach, or teach K-12 and adapted physical education, this program is for you. By the time you graduate, you will have completed more than 150 hours in pre-kindergarten through the 12th grade in public schools.
- This program blends both academic and hands-on learning experiences to prepare you for your career upon graduation.
- The latest technology in the field is available to PETE majors in the teaching and research lab.
Public Health

Our students are typically prepared for a career in fields such as epidemiology and biostatistics, global health, environmental health, and health policy, management, and administration, for example.

• There are a variety of opportunities for engagement with the program, public health faculty and the community. For example, our students develop research skills by working with faculty on independent studies, bachelor essays and grant-funded research. Community engagement opportunities include partnerships with local, regional, state and federal organizations that connect students to internship, volunteer and experiential learning opportunities.

• We have a very active student-run Public Health Society.
Contact Information

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