

### Choosing a Major and Planning Your Course of Study

Students in **subject area certification programs** (everything except Early Childhood and Elementary) work toward certification that is valid for grades P-12. Dance, Art, Music, and Physical Education/Health students may wish to teach in any of these grade levels, but students in the other subject areas (e.g., English, Social Studies) usually intend to teach a specific subject in grades 5 or higher.

Students in the **Early Childhood Program** work towards certification for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 3 (P-3). Students in the **Elementary Program** work towards certification for grades Kindergarten through Grade 5 (K-5). Typically, Early Childhood and Elementary candidates are prepared to teach all or most academic subjects for one class of students.

The chart below shows the accepted majors and minimum major GPA requirement for each undergraduate initial teacher certification program offered at MSU.

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM	ACCEPTED MAJORS	MAJOR GPA REQUIRED
Early Childhood (P-3)	Family and Child Studies – Families, Children, & School Settings	3.0
Elementary (K-5)	Anthropology, English, General Humanities, History, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish OR Family & Child Studies: Families, Children, & School Settings	3.0
Biological Science	Biology	2.75
Chemistry*	Chemistry	2.75
Dance	Dance Education	2.75
Earth Science	Geoscience	2.75
English	English	3.0
English as a 2 <sup>nd</sup> Language	Linguistics	3.0
Fine Arts	Fine Arts Education	3.0
French	French	3.0
Health	Health Education	2.75
Italian	Italian	3.0
Latin	Latin	3.0
Mathematics	Mathematics	2.75
Music	Music Education	3.0
Physical Education & Health	Physical Education AND Health	2.75
Physics**	Physics	2.75
Physical Science***	Chemistry or Physics	2.75
Social Studies	Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Psychology, or Sociology	3.0
Spanish	Spanish	3.0

\* Holders of Chemistry certification can teach chemistry, environmental science, & general science.

\*\* Holders of Physics certification can teach physics, environmental science, and general science.

\*\*\* Holders of Physical Science certification can teach physics, chemistry, and physical, environmental, general, earth, & space science.