



Steps to Becoming a California Teacher

www.csusm.edu/coe

760/750-4277

1. Earn Your Bachelor's Degree

- Your choice of major corresponds to subject(s) you plan to teach.
- For Secondary (High School) level, select a major that corresponds with the subject you wish to teach.
- For Elementary school and Special Education (Elementary level), the Liberal Studies major is the best choices at CSUSM. The Liberal Studies Major offers two options:
 - The Integrated Credential Program (ICP) begins in the junior year, and students complete the Liberal Studies degree concurrently with the teaching credential classes.
 - The traditional option leads to a Liberal Studies B.A. degree followed by the credential program.
 Please Note: Community College students should follow the Liberal Studies articulation agreement found on www.assist.org for both options.

2. Pass Examinations

- Pass the Basic Skills Examination, e.g., California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) sophomore year. There are additional options available to fulfill the basic skills requirement. Please see COE website for details: www.csusm.edu/coe.
- Demonstrate Subject Matter Competency:
 - For Multiple Subject Credential Candidates:
CSET: Multiple Subjects is required for all Multiple Subject Credentials. Cal State San Marcos issues Multiple Subject Credentials to Middle Level and Special Education concurrent programs.
 - For Single Subject Credential Candidates:
CSET: Single Subjects (English, Foundational Level Mathematics, Mathematics, Science (Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Geosciences, Physics), Foundational Science, Physical Education, Social Science, and Spanish
OR complete a Single Subject Matter Preparation Program. Single Subject students currently have the option to take course work in lieu of examinations. Follow the subject matter preparation track for CSUSM Single Subject Matter Preparation Programs.

Cal State San Marcos offers a Single Subject Matter Preparation Program in Mathematics. For all other subjects, it is strongly recommended students complete a degree in the subject they wish to teach AND MUST pass the CSET in that subject area before entering the Single Subject Credential Program.

3. Complete a Teaching Credential Program

California State University, San Marcos Credential Programs:

- Are post-baccalaureate, which means you enter them after you finish your bachelor's degree, with the exception of the Integrated Credential Program (ICP)
- Include three basic types of teaching credentials: Single Subject, Multiple Subject and Special Education.
- Include certification to work with second language learners
- Include coursework with classroom participation/observation and student teaching.
- For bilingual students, offer a BCLAD: Spanish emphasis

**Application period: Summer and Fall apply Mid-January through Mid-March
Spring apply Mid-August through Mid-October**

Single Subject Credential	Multiple Subject Credential
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows you to teach in departmentalized classrooms typically found in High schools and Middle schools • Teaching authorizations offered at CSUSM: English, Mathematics, Foundational Level Mathematics, Physical Education, Science, Foundational Level Science, Social Science, and Spanish • BCLAD Emphasis: Spanish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows you to teach in self-contained classrooms typically found in Elementary schools and Middle schools • This program offers different options: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Elementary school (ICP or Traditional) 2) Special Education (including internships) 3) Middle Level Certificate 4) BCLAD Emphasis: Spanish

Undergraduate Options for Entering K-12 Teaching at Cal State University San Marcos

Are you planning to teach a specific subject in High school or Middle school?

CSUSM offers a Single Subject and Middle school Subject Matter Preparation Programs in Mathematics. Completion of this program exempts teachers from the CSET Single Subject examinations and is often referred to as a waiver program.

Students planning to teach a subject for which CSUSM does not offer a waiver program, such as Science, English, Social Science, Physical Education or Spanish should plan on taking the appropriate CSET exam.

Mathematics	This program can be completed by careful selection of courses within the Math major plus a 3-unit observation course.
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Are you planning to teach in a self-contained classroom (more than one subject is taught to same group of students) in grades K-12? You will need a Multiple Subject credential.

- This applies to most elementary school teaching assignments
- This applies to some Middle school teaching assignments where teachers teach two or more subjects to the same students.
- This applies to many Special Education teaching assignments.

The most common major for this option is Liberal Studies. Completion of the Liberal Studies major gives you the best background in subject knowledge required to pass the CSET Multiple Subject examination.

Lower-Division Core requirements for the Liberal Studies major may be completed at a community college.

Options for the Liberal Studies (LBST) Major at California State University San Marcos

Liberal Studies major	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ B.A. Degree ○ Enter a Credential Program after B.A. Degree
Integrated Credential Program (ICP) – enter program Junior Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Designed for future Elementary school teachers ○ Integrates the LBST requirements with the credential classes ○ Consists of six semesters ○ Students must be available during the day and must take a full load of coursework (approximately 15 units per semester) ○ To be eligible for this program, most lower-division requirements for the Liberal Studies major should be completed and have a minimum 2.67 GPA

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CSUSM CREDENTIAL PROGRAMS

PREREQUISITE COURSES:

**Note: The Integrated Credential Program (ICP) incorporates the prerequisite courses in the program
It is recommended ICP students take prerequisite courses at Cal State San Marcos junior year.**

1. EDUC 350: Foundations of Teaching as a Profession

Equivalent courses at a Community College:

- 1. EDUC 115 @ Mira Costa College**
- 2. EDU 200 @ Palomar College**
- 3. EDUC 200 & 203 @ SDCCD**

2. EDUC 364 or equivalent: Cultural Diversity and Schooling

3. EDUC 422 or portfolio—In order to enroll in EDUC 422 students must have prerequisite skills (examination <http://www.csusm.edu/iits/ccr/index.htm>). The following are good preparation for EDUC 422:

- **CS 301 @ Cal State San Marcos (fulfills part “A” of EDUC 422)**
- **CS 301A @ Cal State San Marcos (fulfills parts A & C of EDUC 422)**
- **CSIS 105 or CSIS 120 @ Palomar College**
- **CIS 100 @ Mira Costa College**

TESTING:

1. BASIC SKILLS—all programs, e.g., CBEST

2. SUBJECT MATTER EXAMS:

- Multiple Subject/Middle Level = CSET Multiple Subjects
- Single Subject = CSET in Specific Subject **or option to complete subject matter program in lieu of CSET exam**
- Special Education = CSET Multiple Subjects or Specific Subjects

CO-REQUISITE COURSES:

Students should consider incorporating these courses in the lower division education plan

1. U.S. CONSTITUTION—College-level course or exam

CSU graduates automatically meet the U.S. Constitution requirement

- History 130 or 230 or 330 or 335 or Political Science 100 or 300 @ Cal State San Marcos
- History 101 or Political Science 101 @ Palomar College
- History 110 or History 145 or Political Science 102 @ Mira Costa College

2. HEALTH EDUCATION course that includes the following content:

nutrition, physiological and sociological effects of abuse of alcohol, narcotics, drugs, and use of tobacco.

- PE 201 or PE 203 or EDUC 571 @ Cal State San Marcos (EDUC 571 includes CPR)
- HEALTH 100 @ Palomar College
- HEALTH 101 @ Mira Costa College

3. CPR CERTIFICATION—Infant, Child, and Adult CPR

- Must be valid during enrollment in a Teacher Preparation Program

GPA Required: 2.67 overall (Current Minimum)

Note: Good writing and communication skills are important factors when considering admission

Please Note: Changes in credential requirements are often legislated. Please refer to the Cal State San Marcos website for the latest information www.csusm.edu/coe