

Hobart and William Smith Colleges Teacher Education Goals

1. A solid grounding in the liberal arts

- Having breadth of study in the liberal arts: natural sciences, social sciences, fine arts, and the humanities
- Having a deep knowledge of one or more areas of study in the liberal arts
- Being able to translate knowledge of our discipline into experiences for learning, using subject-specific teaching strategies

2. Curriculum Planning and Assessment

- Knowing how curricula are generated
- Developing lesson, unit, and course plans
- Understanding and using a range of assessment techniques, and using assessment to improve instruction
- Addressing local, state and national standards

3. Diversifying instruction to empower all learners

- Understanding and respecting the legal and ethical implications of student differences
- Teaching to accommodate differences: Gender, abilities, socio-economic factors, ethnicity, and culture
- Understanding and responding to childhood and adolescent development (social, emotional and cognitive) within the learning process

4. Appreciating cultures and encouraging family participation in schools

- Understanding and incorporating the context of the student lives in the curriculum
- Understanding cultural differences in child-rearing, language, and authority
- Creating classrooms that promote self-respect and inter-cultural understanding
- Working with families

5. Promoting literacy and communication skills

- Teaching reading, writing and study skills appropriate to the subject and the developmental levels of the students
- Using writing to learn
- Understanding and being able to use “ways of knowing” that are specific to academic disciplines
- Using the conventions of standard English

6. Facilitating Student Learning

- Choosing and applying appropriate instructional strategies
- Using technology appropriately and effectively
- Supporting student discourse, inquiry, and critical thinking

- Establishing and maintaining orderly classrooms
- Understanding and using motivational techniques

7. Promoting the physical, emotional and social well being of students

- Fostering positive self-concepts
- Promoting social skills and teaching conflict resolution
- Dealing with substance, physical, and emotional abuse

8. Preparing students for engaged citizenship

- Understanding classrooms as formative spaces for the social order: Creating classroom communities that promote individual self-worth, a spirit of mutual acceptance, and cooperation among students
- Encouraging students to take the perspective of others and develop positive self-efficacy
- Helping students work collaboratively, recognize commonalities, and respect individual differences

9. Preparing for the professional aspects of teaching

- Developing the ability to reflect on and improve one's practice
 - Viewing teaching as life-long learning
 - Developing the work habits of a professional educator
 - Knowing professional educational organizations and other resources that help teachers grow professionally
 - Demonstrating leadership in the field of education
-