Course Information

Credits: 3.0
Instructor: James E. Angell, J.D.

This is an introductory course in the Education Department and it is a required course for all students in the educator preparation and educator licensure program. Westfield State is pleased to announce that this course will once again be offered online!
If you are considering a career in Education, this course is designed to give you an overview of many aspects of American schools. It will get you thinking about the teaching profession.

We will talk about the history of education in America, the role of the teacher in society, the structure of the school systems, school administration and funding, school legal issues, and what it is like in the day-to-day practice of teaching. The instructor has taught in a public high school since 1999 and will bring many tips, thoughts and experiences that you won’t read about in the textbook.

We will also cover the steps in process of getting, and maintaining, teacher licensure through the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

This course also requires a 15-hour field experience component. You will spend fifteen hours observing a teacher in a school and you will complete a field observation report booklet. Most of the arrangements for the observations will be made on your own, so you will have freedom in your choice of school and hours.

This course is a “must” for anyone interested in a teaching career!