MASTER OF EDUCATION (leading to Initial Licensure)
SECONDARY TEACHER OF GENERAL SCIENCE (5-8)

Prerequisites:

1. Bachelor’s degree with a minimum of 31 credits in biology and the physical sciences, including the equivalents of the Westfield State University courses: ASTR 0101, BIOL 0128, CHEM 0109, CHEM 0111, GEOL 0101, PHSC 0115, and PHSC 0117 with a minimum GPA of 2.5 in those courses. Students will be required to complete any of the above courses that they have not taken.
2. Passing grade on MTEL Communication and Literacy Skills Test.
3. Coursework in Adolescent Development and in Foundations of Education.
4. Completion of EDUC 0321 Middle School and Its Students.

Program Requirements:

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<th>Requirements for Initial Licensure in Teacher of General Science (5-8):</th>
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<td>EDUC 0540 Students with Special Needs 3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 0552/3/4 Educational Planning and Evaluation 3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>GNSC 0571 Methods of Science Education for the Middle School 3 s.h.</td>
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<td>EDUC 0580 Multicultural Education 3 s.h.</td>
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<td>EDUC 0569 Practicum 6 s.h.</td>
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EDUC 0632 Research in Education (research project required) 3 s.h.

A total of 12 additional credits including:

6 additional credits of pedagogical coursework at the 600 level 6. s.h

6 additional credits of content area coursework:

ASTR 0549 Integrated Physical Science: Astronomy 3 s.h
GEOL 0547 Integrated Physical Science: Geology 3 s.h.

Requirements for Master's Degree 33 s.h.
Additional Guidelines

A. Students must have passed the MTEL subject matter test(s) and have a GPA of 2.8 before beginning the practicum. Although you may be allowed to apply for student teaching practicum with a 2.8 GPA, you must maintain a 3.0 GPA to remain in the graduate program.

B. Students are required to successfully complete a written comprehensive examination to demonstrate mastery of knowledge gained in coursework and to relate concepts across the curriculum. The comprehensive exam may be taken after completing a minimum of nine of the ten non-practicum courses within the Master’s program.

C. Passing scores on all appropriate and required sections of the MTEL are required for practicum enrollment. Practicum placement also requires completion of the following courses:

- EDUC 0540  Students with Special Needs,
- EDUC 0552/3/4  Educational Planning and Evaluation,
- GNSC 0571  Methods of Science Education for the Middle School,
- EDUC 0580  Multicultural Education,

and the recommendation of the student’s advisor, program director and Department Chair or designee.