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The Urban Teacher Education Program (UTEP), offered by the Department of Urban Education at Rutgers University-Newark, is an undergraduate course of study leading to NJ secondary teacher certification.

UTEP develops teacher candidates who champion exciting and innovative learning environments to better serve racially, ethnically, economically, and linguistically diverse student populations.

A 30-credit program, UTEP develops middle and high school teacher candidates through nine courses, including a year-long clinical experience in an urban classroom. UTEP is open to students from Rutgers’ Newark College of Arts and Sciences and from New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).\(^1\)

\(^1\) UTEP also prepares graduate students in the M.A.T. in History program, Graduate School-Newark.
UTEP Teacher Candidates:

- Investigate complexities of teaching in urban schools and affordances offered by such settings
- Study the importance of community awareness and relationships between urban schools and society
- Examine the development of and challenges confronted by urban adolescents
- Investigate historical, economic, and sociopolitical challenges that affect urban schools
- Understand the needs of English language learners and students with disabilities and design lessons with them in mind.

The Rutgers University-Newark Urban Teacher Education Program is awarded accreditation by the Inquiry Brief Commission of the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) for a period of seven years, from October 29, 2014 to October 29, 2021. The accreditation does not include individual education courses that the EPP offers to P-12 educators for professional development, re-licensure, or other purposes.

* The contents of this brochure were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal government.
Guiding Principles

UTEP teacher candidates master our six principles of teaching known as SUPER6. These principles encapsulate the core teaching proficiencies of an effective urban educator.

**P1 Subject Matter & Curriculum Aptitude**
Master the content in the area in which you intend to be certified

**P2 Understanding Your Learners**
Understand the development of learners and value diversity

**P3 Pedagogical Content Knowledge**
Develop effective instruction that advances the learning of each individual student

**P4 Evaluation of Achievement**
Utilize a variety of assessments to inform instruction, evaluate, and ensure effective learning

**P5 Readiness for Establishing and Maintaining Effective Learning Environments**
Create learning environments promoting high levels of achievement

**P6 Educational Professionalism**
Be responsible for your professional growth, performance, and involvement as an individual and as a member of a learning community
UTEP offers teacher candidates a personalized and unique experience through its six distinguishing features.

1. **Preparation as Urban Educators**

TCs explore a wide array of topics about the urban environment and social context and complete observation hours and fieldwork in an urban setting.

2. **Urban Education Writing Workshop**

TCs who need to improve their writing skills enroll in the Urban Education Writing Workshop.

3. **Urban Clinical Setting and Fieldwork**

TCs complete a year-long clinical experience in an urban secondary classroom, building their pedagogical content knowledge and examining the many dimensions of an actual classroom.
**Distinguishing Features**

**Great Urban Teacher Symposium (GUTS)**

For the Symposium, each student teacher prepares an e-portfolio and presents elements of it to fellow student teachers, department faculty, and clinical evaluators. Through the e-portfolio and presentation, TCs illustrate how their teaching embodies the SUPER6 and reflect on their development through the clinical experience.
Distinguishing Features

5 Orientations

TCs attend three orientations to better understand UTEP policies, procedures, and expectations. TCs examine the importance of academic responsibility and taking ownership of their own educational process.

New Teacher Candidate Orientation (NTCO)

TCs participate in team building activities and tour an urban community, learning about its history and landscape. They also learn about resources at RU-N and program requirements.

Pre-Clinical Orientation (PCO)

TCs review the requirements for Cluster IV: Clinical Experiences, program completion, and certification. They are provided with an outline of the clinical experiences.

Clinical Orientation

TCs and their field evaluators review together the formative and summative field evaluation forms as well as clinical expectations.

6 Individualized Advisement

TCs meet with an advisor every semester to review their individual plan of study.
Rutgers University-Newark (RU-N) is an urban, public research university renowned for the racial, ethnic, linguistic, and religious diversity of its student body. As U.S. News & World Report’s most diverse national university in the United States, RU-N maintains strong connections to the citizens and institutions of Newark—the largest city in New Jersey and its cultural capital—as well as surrounding communities.

RU-N is a center of innovation at a crossroad of teaching, research, and reciprocal community engagement. Many of the challenges facing our rapidly urbanizing and diversifying world can be found in the region—as well as all of the assets needed to take on those challenges.
Urban Teacher Education Program

UTEP is one of two programs options operated by the Department of Urban Education in RU-N’s Faculty of Arts and Sciences:

1. UTEP, an undergraduate program that leads to a New Jersey teacher certification in secondary education;
2. Abbott Leadership Institute, a parent and student advocacy organization.

History

An education program leading to teacher certification was launched in 1956 as a mutual agreement between RU-N, the Graduate School of Education at Rutgers University-New Brunswick, and Kean University. By 1971, the satellite program transitioned to the Department of Education in the Newark College of Arts and Science at RU-N.

In 2004, signaling a deeper commitment to preparing teachers in urban schools in general, the department officially changed its name to the Department of Urban Education. An affiliation with the Department of Humanities of the College of Science and Liberal Arts of New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) was formalized, making it a partner in the teacher education program.

The Excite and Ignite: Building the Next Generation of Teachers (NextGen) partnership grant awarded by the US Department of Education was announced in 2014, defining a new era for UTEP. By combining their resources, UTEP, Liberty Science Center, and Jersey City Public Schools aim to innovate and improve teacher preparation in all subject areas, and in particular STEM fields.
Excite and Ignite: Building the Next Generation of Teachers (NextGen), a partnership with Liberty Science Center and Jersey City Public Schools, funded by the US Department of Education, provides specialized resources to re-design our curriculum in all areas and to incorporate the world of informal science education for students seeking teaching certification in a STEM field—science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

This transformative partnership prepares future teachers with a deeper understanding of science and engineering practices and to teach STEM fields with a broader repertoire of hands-on, minds-on instructional strategies.
NextGen will change the culture of science by not only inspiring the next generation of teachers but also equipping it with the necessary educational tools, building a better teacher through content-rich curriculum with literacy at the core, enriched clinical experience, and extensive support.

We are calling on you, the next generation of teachers, to Make Your Mark.
All teacher candidates major in one of the disciplines approved by the New Jersey Department of Education. UTEP’s approved areas of certification with corresponding majors from RU-N and NJIT are found on the adjacent table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas of Certification</th>
<th>Biology</th>
<th>Chemistry</th>
<th>Earth Science</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Physical Science</th>
<th>Physics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major at Rutgers-Newark</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Earth Science</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Physical Science</td>
<td>Physics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major at NJIT</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Environmental Sciences</td>
<td>Communication &amp; Media</td>
<td>Mathematical Sciences</td>
<td>Applied Physics</td>
<td>Applied Physics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information on the particular majors, visit the RU-N and NJIT websites: [ncas.rutgers.edu/undergraduate-studies](ncas.rutgers.edu/undergraduate-studies) [catalog.njit.edu/undergraduate/](catalog.njit.edu/undergraduate/) [history.newark.rutgers.edu](history.newark.rutgers.edu)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Portuguese</th>
<th>Social Studies</th>
<th>History or Science, Technology, &amp; Society</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technology Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RU-N and NJIT students may apply to UTEP while enrolled in *Social Foundations of Urban Education* (21:300:292 or 26:300:500). The application and instructions are accessible to enrolled students. An application review process determines the type of admission: full accept, conditional, or deferred. Once accepted into the program, UTEP students are referred to as teacher candidates (TCs).

**Entry Requirements**

- A declared major that meets one of the certification areas
- Two English composition courses with a minimum grade of “B” in each
- A minimum grade of “B” in Social Foundations of Education
- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Minimum 3.0 GPA in declared major
- Passing score on Praxis CORE Academic Test\(^2\)

For information on the Praxis CORE exam, visit: [ets.org/praxis/about/core/content/](https://ets.org/praxis/about/core/content/)

In addition, TCs must pass the Praxis II exam in their respective content areas of certification prior to enrolling in Clinical I.

Students must ensure that both the NJ Department of Education (code R7666) and Rutgers University-Newark (code RA2512) are recipients of their test scores.

\(^2\) The NJ Department of Education waives this requirement for applicants with at least: 1660 combined SAT score (critical reading, writing, math); 23 ACT score; or 4.0 analytical writing and combined 310 quantitative and verbal GRE scores.
UTEP’s 30-credit program consists of four interrelated clusters of courses.

**CLUSTER I**

Social Foundations of Urban Education
(3 credits)

Adolescent Psychology and the Urban Experience
(3 credits)

21st Century Urban Educator
(3 credits)

**CLUSTER II**

Information and Communication Technology for Secondary Schools
(3 credits)

Understanding Educational Evaluation
(3 credits)

**CLUSTER III**

Curriculum and Instruction
(3 credits)

Methods of Teaching
(3 credits)

**CLUSTER IV**

Clinical I: Seminar
(1 credit)

Clinical I: Field Experience
(2 credits)

Clinical II: Seminar
(3 credits)

Clinical II: Field Experience
(3 credits)
Clinical Year

The clinical courses provide teacher candidates with a year-long experience in an urban classroom setting. Clinical I and Clinical II courses are offered in the fall, winter and spring. TCs are assigned to a host teacher whose classroom they visit, part-time in Clinical I and full-time in Clinical II. TCs are also assigned a university supervisor and content specialist. The host teacher, university supervisor, and content specialist mentor and guide TCs through a cycle of observations and evaluation.
In order to exit UTEP and be considered a Program Completer, teacher candidates must:

• Successfully complete all clinical courses, including the assigned observations;
• Obtain a minimum 3.0 GPA in their major and 3.0 overall cumulative GPA;
• Successfully complete program requirements; and
• Have no faculty concern of candidate’s dispositions

In order for UTEP to recommend program completers for a Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) to the NJDOE, they must:

• Successfully fulfill Program Completer criteria above;
• Complete RU-N/NJIT graduation requirements;
• Pass performance assessment; and
• Have a B.A. or B.S. degree conferred by the university. \(^3\)

Requirements for NJ teacher certification are found on the NJDOE’s website: nj.gov/education/educators/license/

\(^3\) History MAT students may have a BA/BS degree from another university, and an MAT from RU-N.
Resources at RU-N

Office of Admissions
973-353-5205
admissions.newark.rutgers.edu/

Office of Financial Aid
973-353-5151
studentaid.rutgers.edu/

Academic Foundations Center
Educational Opportunity Fund
973-353-5605
www.ncas.rutgers.edu/afc

Libraries at Rutgers University-Newark
973-353-5901
www.newark.rutgers.edu/libraries

Office of Housing and Residence Life
973-353-1037
housing.newark.rutgers.edu/

Career Development Center
973-353-5311
www.ncas.rutgers.edu/cdc

Office of Academic Services
973-353-5800
http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/oas

Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation
973-353-3562
gslsamp.rutgers.edu/

The Writing Center
973-353-5847
www.ncas.rutgers.edu/writingcenter

Rutgers Learning Center
973-353-5608
www.ncas.rutgers.edu/rlc

Honors College
973-353-5860
www.ncas.rutgers.edu/honors

Counseling Center
973-353-5802
counseling.newark.rutgers.edu/

Health Services
973-353-5231
health.newark.rutgers.edu/

(Disability Services, Student Life under Robeson Center) Paul Robeson Campus Center
973-353-5568
robeson.rutgers.edu/
Next Steps

1. Apply to RU-N

2. If I have questions contact UTEP

3. Visit RU-N and UTEP websites

for upcoming events and more information
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Rutgers University-Newark
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(973) 353-3528
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🌐 /RNUTEP