



CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Paola Coste '10

*Sociology-based human relations,
elementary education certificate*



Q: How did you choose your major?

A: Connecticut College provides a wide variety of majors from which to choose, and also has a

highly regarded education certification program. I was able to take challenging courses in both education and sociology, which challenged the idea of normality in a pedagogically thought-provoking manner.

Q: What were the biggest advantages of studying education?

A: The education courses equipped me with theoretical background that allowed me to become aware of and analyze what is operating within the educational system. Service learning provided me with hands-on experiences to aid the transition from being a student tutor to a student teacher.

Q: Were you able to study abroad?

A: The transition from my study abroad in India to being at Connecticut College was smooth due to planning my course schedules ahead of time with the education certification officer. The support, help and insight I received from the education professors is something I value very much.

Q: What are your career plans?

A: I am working as a child development specialist supervising Head Start teachers as well as working with children who are identified as having some sort of disability or special needs. I hope to earn a master's in education. Graduate school is an opportunity to develop new ideas and new perspectives about education, more specifically education in an urban setting.

Education Certificate

Overview

Both Connecticut College and the education department were founded in the spirit of equity and social justice. At the College today, our work is about living up to this legacy by ensuring that we not only certify teachers, but also help to develop public intellectuals and ethical citizens. In so doing, we hold firm to the assertion that questions about education cannot be reduced to disciplinary parameters but must include issues of power, history, self-identity and the possibility of collective agency. As such, our curriculum and field experiences are designed to meet the genuine needs of students, teachers and their communities.

Teacher Certification

The teacher certification program is designed for students who are looking for the educational courses to become professional educators in Connecticut public schools. It consists of seven to eight education program courses in addition to an outside major, culminating in a semester of full-time student teaching. Our program has a reputation for producing excellent educators, with our alumni teaching in elementary, secondary and music schools and programs throughout the world. We seek to prepare educators to see schooling as an opportunity to create a multiracial, multi-vocal democracy capable of addressing the serious social, economic and environmental problems of society. Connecticut teaching certifications are reciprocal in 46 states.

Internships

One of the assets of the certification program is our emphasis on the field work experience with our school/district partners. Nearly all courses in the education department have a placement component consisting of field observations, assistant teaching or full-time student teaching in local elementary or secondary schools. This gives teacher candidates the opportunity to study and explore issues and perspectives about education within the context of everyday classrooms.

Study Abroad and Interdisciplinarity

Since 55 percent of our students study abroad, the teacher certification program provides the structural flexibility for students who want to be certified, study away and graduate within four years. Education certificate students have studied abroad all over the world: in Latin America, Asia, Africa and Europe. Another opportunity our students have is to participate in the interdisciplinary centers. Many education department students apply to be part of the certificate programs offered by the Holleran Center, Toor Cummings Center, Goodwin-Niering Center and the

Ammerman Center, and integrate education into their projects for these programs. Careful planning under the guidance of Charles Cocores, the certification officer, will ensure that you are able to take advantage of all the opportunities here at Connecticut College.

Faculty

Charles Cocores, *Educator-in-Residence; Certification Officer*

B.A., Wesleyan University; M.A., Central Connecticut State University; M.A., Psychology, Southern Connecticut State College
Students' educational programs; elementary and secondary teaching certification; threats to public school students

Sandy Grande, *Associate Professor of Education; Chair of Education Department*

B.F.A., Syracuse University; M.A., Ph.D., Kent State University
Indigenous Native American education; critical pedagogy; critical race theory

Michael E. James, *Professor of Education*
B.A., M.A., California State University, L.A.; Ph.D., Claremont Graduate School

History of schooling and civil rights

Rosemarie A. Roberts, *Assistant Professor of Education*

B.A., Hunter College; M.A., Queens College, City University of New York; Ph.D., Graduate Center, City University of New York
Education, power and difference; intersection of arts and social justice in education; social psychology of performance and dance; participatory action research; critical race theory; critical theory

Dana E. Wright, *Assistant Professor of Education*

B.A., Vassar College; M.A., Ed.D., Harvard University Graduate School of Education
Curriculum design theory and participatory action research with youth; classroom assessment; schooling and educational equity

Selected Courses

The History of American Education; AIDS, Bullying, Aggression/Suicide, Drug Prevention and Conflict Resolution for Teachers; Foundations of Education; Curriculum and Classroom Assessment; Museum Education; Mathematics and Science in the Elementary School; Curricular Theories and Design in the Content Area; Children, Books, and Culture; Literacy in the Elementary Schools; Education and the Revolutionary Project in Latin America; Student Teaching in the Elementary School; Student Teaching Seminar in Critical Pedagogy: Elementary and Secondary School; Student Teaching in the Secondary School

About Connecticut College

Connecticut College is a highly selective residential liberal arts college with 1,900 students from all over the country and the world. The academic program offers 43 majors in the arts, sciences, social sciences, humanities and other interdisciplinary programs. Students engage with dedicated faculty and each other to create a vibrant social, cultural and intellectual community in which learning is valued for its own sake — and individuals' diverse perspectives enrich the experience of all.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION?

Daniel O'Keefe '09

Teaching middle school early American history and a course on major patterns in world history at a community night school for adults in Woodcliff Lake, N.J.

Majored in history (with a concentration in intellectual history) and received certification in both elementary and secondary education.

Melanie Knight '09

Co-teacher at Greenwich Day School, Greenwich, Conn.

Plans to pursue a master's degree in Speech Language Pathology and work in New York public schools as a speech and language pathologist. At Connecticut College, majored in theater, studied abroad in London and student taught.

Emily Taylor '09

Community associate in after-school programming, Washington Irving High School, New York City.

As an undergraduate, majored in American studies and student taught. At current job, oversees after-school activities, tutoring, mentoring and serves as liaison between the school, community and businesses.

Peggy McQuaid '10

Vice-principal and kindergarten teacher at Centro Escolar Santa Clara, Honduras.

Completed a self-designed study abroad teaching pre-kindergarten and kindergarten English in a bilingual school in Honduras. Returned after graduation to work to coordinate a team of eight English teachers and teach kindergarten.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
WWW.CONNOLL.EDU/ACADEMICS/