The Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies degree with Teacher Certification at UHD prepares you for a successful career in education. A vibrant community requires great schools with dynamic, highly qualified teachers.

- An estimated 8,000 new teachers are needed for the upcoming school year.
- Our degree program gives you flexibility to create a curriculum across multiple disciplines to meet your career goals.
- Graduates from UHD’s Department of Urban Education have an 82 percent, five-year retention rate—higher than the state and national average.

About the Program

UHD’s proficiency-driven, field-based teacher training program focuses on leading-edge curriculum design and innovative scheduling to meet students’ needs. The Department of Urban Education continues its award-winning partnerships with 13 school districts in the Houston area—and counting—that provides field experiences to support our students. We work with community colleges to enhance the 2+2 programs to facilitate transfer of coursework, among other essential initiatives.

Our Urban Education Programs are based on the State of Texas Guidelines mandated for teachers by the State Board for Educator Certification. The 123-credit-hour program offers four certification programs:

- **4-8 Core Subjects with ESL Supplemental**: upper elementary classrooms through middle school grade levels
- **EC-6 Core Subjects with ESL Supplemental**: early childhood through grade 6 classrooms
- **EC-6 Core Subjects with Bilingual Supplemental**: early childhood through grade 6 bilingual classrooms

Median Salary

The average starting salaries for teachers in Greater Houston is about $50,000 for a nine-month contract (with full retirement and medical benefits). Teachers are eligible for loan forgiveness if they teach five years or more in an urban Title 1 School. Graduates with ESL and Bilingual Supplemental certification receive an additional stipend.

Earn Your Degree

- Downtown
- Kingwood
- Northwest

Contact

University of Houston-Downtown
713-222-5349
uhd.edu/urbaned
• EC-6 Core Subjects with EC-12 Special Education Supplemental and ESL Supplemental: early childhood through 12th grade classrooms

The Secondary Teacher Preparation Program prepares students for certification as a 7–12 grade teacher in English, math, science, history, or social studies.

Affiliated Student Organizations

UHD’s Department of Urban Education has four student organizations:

Be A Teacher provides opportunities to engage with state-wide teacher organizations as part of the professional development of teacher candidates. The organization also seeks out community service offerings as well as activities with local schools.

Urban Educators’ Literacy Society provides experiences for preservice teachers to acquire professional knowledge, serve the community, and develop professional contacts.

Bilingual Education Student Organization (BESO) supports bilingual education in every facet.

UHD Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi–International Honor Society in Education recognizes excellence and fosters mutual cooperation, support, and professional growth for educational professionals.

Career Options

A Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies prepares graduates for a variety of careers: