BA(Hons)/BSc(Hons) Secondary Education

Reach for the stars...
Education is currently ranked 1st in Scotland and 9th in the UK by the Guardian’s University League tables 2017!

In the most recent study by QS, staff from the University of Stirling received 5 out of 5 star rating for teaching.

Study Secondary Education at the University of Stirling and be taught by the experts!

Did you know?

- Education Studies is led by a group of world-leading academics, with strong and established research records, and a wealth of world-class publications.

- In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, Education had the highest quality of research outputs of any Scottish University, with 100% of research impact activity rated either world-leading or internationally excellent.

- Our teaching is informed by the research undertaken by its staff, and this permeates the Initial Teacher Education courses offered by the Faculty.

- Recently Re-Accredited by General Teaching Council of Scotland with 7 commendations - that include being student-centred and the high quality of our researched informed approaches.

Why study Secondary Education?

The opportunity to work with young adults to help them fulfil their potential must surely rank as one of the most important and influential roles anyone can take up as a career. What are the complex processes that underpin both learning and teaching within classrooms and other ‘learning spaces’? How can we use expert knowledge and developed experience of these processes to maximise the quality of education experienced by all our young people?

Choosing to study Secondary Education at Stirling will involve exploring these and other core pedagogical beliefs, issues and practices and lead to one of the most rewarding and challenging career choices available to any graduate.

The course

You will usually follow eight semesters (four years) which leads to an Honours degree in the chosen teaching subject(s) and Professional Education. Alternatively, seven semesters (three and a half years) lead either to a General degree, or to a Bachelor’s degree in Professional Education. General degree students may only be able to qualify in one teaching subject.

Students opting to study BSc Professional Education with either Chemistry or Physics follow the the same Education path as other students at Stirling but attend Chemistry or Physics lectures and seminars at Heriot-Watt’s campus.

Semesters 1 – 2

As part of the preparations for entry to the professional part of the ITE programme, we are asking you to undertake a short, self-organized placement in an educational context before the professional part of your studies begin in Year 2. You will receive further information in your first seminar meeting.

You will take the following core Education modules: Purposes, Principles Practice; and Learning and Teaching alongside your academic subjects.

Semesters 3 – 6

You will take a range of Core and Advanced modules in Education which cover a range of teaching skills in your academic subjects.

You will undertake the following placements;

SE1 – 4 weeks in Jan-Feb (PE) all other subjects 4 weeks in May-June (2nd Year)
SE2 – 5 weeks in April – May (PE) all other subjects in Jan-Feb (3rd Year)
Students studying a second subject (dual qualification) will do a 4 week placement in their second subject in April-May (3rd Year).
SE3 – 10 weeks for all subjects but 12 weeks for those who are doing a second subject (4th Year)

Semesters 7 – 8

In semester 7, you have a final school placement for 10 weeks, as well as supplementary taught classes. In the final semester, secondary students return to study two modules within their main teaching subject as well as completing their Enquiry into Practice.

School experience

The course is taught through seminars, lectures and workshops. Assessment is both formative and continuous. School experience placements are supported by school-based teachers and through tutor engagement.

Students on the Geography or Biology course may have the opportunity to undertake a residential field trip.
Why choose Stirling?

Education Studies is part of the Faculty of Social Sciences and is highly regarded for the quality of its teaching across a range of programmes in all sectors of education, and has an internationally excellent reputation for its research, with 100% of research impact activity rated either world-leading or internationally excellent by the Research Excellence Framework.

Initial Teacher Education at Stirling prides itself on its prominent position within Scottish Education and works hard to maintain its cutting edge approach to developing new knowledge within the field, as well as feeding this new knowledge into our teaching courses to enrich our core provision.

The imaginative approach of offering concurrent courses to prospective secondary school teachers was pioneered by Stirling and has been adopted by other Scottish universities following a recommendation by a recent Scottish Government report into Teacher Education. These degree courses enable you to gain a research-informed degree in Professional Education with an appropriate teaching subject (or subjects) for secondary in four years, rather than the traditional five.

We work in close partnership with the Local Authorities, schools, Education Scotland and General Teaching Council for Scotland to ensure that students are supported throughout their studies to become effective professional educators.

Will I get a job when I graduate?

99% of Education students at Stirling are in employment or further study within six months of graduating (UNISTATS).

The great majority of our graduates enter the Scottish Government’s Teacher Induction Scheme, which entitles them to guaranteed employment for one year as a newly qualified teacher in a Scottish Local Authority school. Of course, your degree and teaching qualification will qualify you to enter into a wide variety of other professional roles, such as corporate training and development, museum and leisure education, as well as other career routes less closely allied to teaching.

What our alumni say

I was attracted to Stirling due to the 4 year combined course offered, allowing me to study my subjects (history and politics) alongside my teaching degree. The school experiences are full on and being able to split them up over the four years rather than crammed into a one year post graduate was a big factor in my decision to go to the University of Stirling.

I am currently teaching history at a secondary school in the Scottish Borders, absolutely loving it - my dream career!

Jenni Cook
BA Secondary Education with History and Politics, 2015 graduate

1st in Scotland for Education
Guardian’s University League tables 2017.
Typical Education timetable

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Education: Purposes, Principles, Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education: Learning and Teaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pedagogy I: The Nature of Learning and Teaching</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pedagogy II: Differentiation, Assessment and Progression</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Experience (Placement)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Pedagogy Across the Curriculum</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Experience (placement)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Differences and Identities</td>
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<td>Partnership: Theory and Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Final Teaching Practice, Enquiry into Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enquiry into Practice</td>
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</tbody>
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Combined Degree Courses

Normally students following combined courses will study Education with two additional subjects.

- Biology
- Business Studies
- Business Studies/Computing Science
- Chemistry *
- Computing Science
- Computing Science/Mathematics
- English Studies
- English Studies/History
- English Studies/Religion
- Environmental Geography
- French
- French and Spanish
- History
- History/Politics
- History/Sociology
- Mathematics
- Philosophy/Religion
- Physics *
- Religion
- Religion/History
- Sports Studies, Physical Education and Professional Education +

* Chemistry and Physics lectures take place at Heriot-Watt University
+ Physical Education is not available in combination with any other degree programme.

Contact details

ITE Programme Secretary
Faculty of Social Sciences
T: +44 (0) 1786 467606
E: ite@stir.ac.uk
W: www.stir.ac.uk

Student Recruitment and Admissions
T: +44 (0) 1786 467046
E: recruitment@stir.ac.uk

Visit us
http://stir.ac.uk/65

Join our community @SoEStirling

http://stir.ac.uk/44

The University of Stirling is a charity registered in Scotland, number SC 011159.
Information is correct at time of printing, but subject to change.

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