What can I do with a major in... PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Physical Education major is designed to prepare students to teach Physical Education K-12 in private and public schools. As an education major, you'll be mentored by professors who will guide and encourage you during your journey toward a degree and teacher licensure, and a classroom of your own! We have a wide range of P–12 school partnerships that will give you extensive interaction with current teachers in real classrooms as early as your sophomore year. You'll observe and assist in classrooms before you become a student teacher your senior year.

What types of work are related to this degree?

Teaching in your area of specialty

Creating/directing educational programs

Curriculum development

Instructional design (technology training may be required)

Textbook editing

Student life/student affairs

Adapted physical educator

Athletic director or trainer

Camp counselor

Exercise or fitness specialist

Industrial wellness programming

Recreation programming/directing

Umpire/referee

Teacher for US citizenship classes

Who employs people with this degree?

Schools of all kinds-public, private, charter, international,

government, residential

Day care and nursery school

Parks and Recreation departments

Educational testing companies

Curriculum/educational publishers

School district offices

Educational research firms

Industries related to your subject area

Non-profit organizations

Universities and colleges

Employee training programs

More information online at ONETonline.org

Strategies for Success:

- Requirements for certification/licensure vary by state. Multiple certifications will increase employability. A master's degree will increase earning potential.
- Be willing to work hard at finding a job and to go where the jobs are.
- Obtain part-time, summer, internship, or volunteer experience with the age group you intend to work with in various settings: pre-schools, daycares, camps, community agencies, adult centers, YMCA's, etc.
- Participate in co-curricular activities and related organizations to broaden skills, interests, and opportunities.
- Identify transferable skills learned in teaching that are applicable to other careers: written and verbal communication, teaching and instruction, program planning, organization and record keeping, working under pressure and meeting deadlines, motivational skills, creativity, working autonomously, decision-making, problem solving.

Professional Associations:

American College Personnel Association American Educational Research Association American Federation of Teachers Association for Experiential Education National Education Association US Department of Education (listing of associations)
Association for Childhood Education International
American Council on Exercise
Society of Health and Physical Educators (Shape America)

This information represents possible occupations and strategies for careers with this major. As with any job or career, there may be additional qualifications or experience needed. For more information and options, make an appointment with Career Development or check out our online resources on our website or on the ROCK, Career Development tab.