



CESS NEWS

Student Services for the College of
Education & Social Services

528 Waterman (802) 656-3468

Student Edition

<http://www.uvm.edu/~cess/stservices>

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Notes from Beth Ann

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Student Services
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Be sure to find the topics that pertain to you and to the program you are studying. Our website and our newsletters provide current information so that you can make informed academic decisions. Each of you should be very familiar with your program checksheet, the four year plan for which the professional courses provide the framework, and your personal CATS (Curriculum Audit Tracking System) report. Program checksheets and four year plans are available at our website and CATS can be accessed at the Registrar's webpage. If we can assist you in learning to locate and understand your CATS report, be sure to check with us in 528 Waterman Building. We posted directions to access CATS at our website, but we are happy to assist you with the process. You and your academic advisor should be able to access this information. **It even tells you when you have completed your program!**

I hope that you are each taking care of yourselves personally and academically as we move toward the end of the semester. I can be reached at Beth.Mohler@uvm.edu if I can assist you.

Accessing CESS Student Services Online Handbook for Faculty & Students

CESS Student Services is very happy to be an integral part of the CESS webpage, but we understand that some of you are having trouble finding the information we provide. Follow the directions below to find the requirements for our programs, licensing information, etc.

Click on:

- UVM A-Z
- E
- Education and Social Services, College of
- For Current Undergraduates
- Connect with Student Services
- Smile at the student developed caricatures of BAM, Jo-Ann, and Barb
- Click on one of the following categories as needed:

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[Tracking Your Education: Program Checksheets](#)

[Checking Your Major and Minor Requirements](#)

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March Graduates – December Celebration

The University of Vermont has three graduation times during the year – October, March, and May. Students who complete their degree requirements in December are actually March graduates, but the University holds a December celebration for you. And of course you are welcome to participate in the May ceremony! Degrees will not be added to your transcripts until February or March. *Once your degree has been added, licensure stamps can then be added for students who successfully completed one of the licensure programs. Teacher Education students should*

not apply for licensure until the degree and licensure stamp have been added to your transcript.

This December Recognition celebration is scheduled for Saturday, December 16, 2006 as follows:

9:00 am-10:00 am: Buffet Brunch / Billings Student Center

10:00 am-11:00 am: recognition Celebration / Ira Allen Chapel

Please reference the website at: <http://www.uvm.edu/~cmncmnt/decembergraduates/>



China Experience - Juefei Wang

The English Camp for Chinese teachers was initiated in 2002 with funding from the Freeman Foundation. CESS students help Chinese teachers of the English language improve their speaking skills with the best practices in the U.S. So far three programs have been held in China with 20 CESS students participating and more than 800 Chinese teachers and students receiving benefits.

Another English Camp will be held in China in summer 2007. This new program will open to all CESS students. Applications are available in 528 Waterman. They must be submitted no later than December 1, 2006.

For details of the program, review a copy of the application. After reading the application, questions should be addressed to Dr. Debby King at DebbyKing@wildblue.net.

Individual Program Modifications & CATS Report

The CESS has a “Request” process available to students interested in modifying academic program requirements. The request is submitted in writing and in the past, students received a written response. While we will still be requiring a written paragraph or two explaining the academic rationale for the request, we will only notify you if your request is not approved or if the decision isn’t apparent by looking at your CATS report. So yes, you really do need to check out CATS and learn how to use it if you haven’t already done so.

Have you transferred credits to UVM? If so, have you checked your CATS report to verify that the transfer courses are fulfilling the requirements as planned? Your online transcript indicates how the courses have transferred, but your CATS report indicates which requirement is being fulfilled. Problems? Check with us in 528 Waterman.

Criminal Background Check (Previously referred to as Criminal Record Check)



The Criminal Background Check (CBC) is something most all of you will complete prior to reaching program completion. It is a specific requirement for students in the **Teacher Education** programs and it must be completed just prior to student teaching. Students in **Human Development & Family Studies** and also in **Social Work** may need to complete the Criminal Background check for specific agency internship placements. The State Department of Education provides an informational flier and a copy has been included for your review. While it has been written primarily for the Teacher Education population, it is the same information needed by those students being placed in agencies. Just review the information and program faculty will explain when you need to complete for your program.

It is expected that other academic units on campus will begin requiring that students provide CBC information as part of the application process as a FTFY student. At this time, our College will continue having you provide your CBC paperwork through your agency or school where you are doing your final internship.

“Good Student” Forms

Students frequently need to have a form signed indicating that a specific grade point average has been attained (e.g. for insurance companies, etc.). Those forms should be taken to the University Student Services desk on the 3rd floor of Waterman for verification and the appropriate signatures.

Licensure Programs

Reminder to all who are enrolled in the Teacher Education options.



Overall Average

You must earn an overall average of 3.0 or above to be eligible for licensure when you reach program completion. That means a 3.0 each semester! If you are earning less than a 3.0 each semester, it will eventually be very difficult to improve your overall GPA later because the more credits you earn, the more difficult it is to improve it. DO NOT assume that you can waive this requirement. The requests to waive the requirement are reviewed by the CESS Student Affairs Committee and only those requests between 2.9 and 2.99 will be considered. There is no guarantee of approval.

PRAXIS I

The **paper & pencil** version of PRAXIS I is now being offered only four times a year. The **computer version** of PRAXIS I can be completed by appointment throughout the year at Prometric (802-872-0251) in Williston.

PRAXIS I on CATS Report

Students completing the Teacher Education program in the CESS are required to successfully complete PRAXIS I or provide specific scores on ACTs, SATs, or GREs. If you take the PRAXIS I test, it is essential for you to have your scores sent to UVM. Once we have evidence that you passed the test, either by successfully earning the minimum scores for each of the three sections or by earning the composite score (526), it will be noted on your CATS report as fulfilled.

We will also check the SAT and GRE scores provided online to determine who fulfilled the requirement through SATs. If we have your scores and if they are high enough to accept in place of PRAXIS I, we will note PRAXIS I as fulfilled on your CATS report.

If you have ACT scores that are high enough to fulfill the PRAXIS I requirement, you will need to provide a copy (unofficial is fine) to Barbara Romanoff in 528 Waterman. The ACT is reported online as a composite and we need to review the score for the verbal and for the math as separate scores.

If you have questions about whether or not we have your PRAXIS scores, check online **AFTER** you receive your scores to determine if it is marked as fulfilled on CATS. If not, then send an e-mail to Barbara Romanoff (Barbara.Romanoff@uvm.edu).

PRAXIS II - Science Endorsement

Students completing Secondary Education science (Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Physics) majors must meet the VT passing scores set for the -

- General science PRAXIS II exam and
- Content knowledge science exam (Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Physics)

The general science test and the specific content knowledge science tests are currently one hour each. The general science test will continue to be one hour as will the Earth Science test. Beginning in September 2007, the content knowledge science tests for Biology, Chemistry, and Physics will each be 2 hours in length. Tests listed as 0231, 0241, and 0261 will be replaced by the following 2 hour tests in September 2007.

Endorsement Area	Test Title Code	Passing Score
Biology	0234	151
Chemistry	0245	160
Physics	0265	140

Passing scores in these PRAXIS II exams are required for licensure in Vermont.

PRAXIS II – Middle Grades Endorsement Middle Grades Content

Applicants who submit the licensure application to the VT SDE beginning March 1, 2007 or thereafter, will need to provide passing scores for the appropriate PRAXIS II Subject Assessment. The areas include: Middle School Language Arts; Middle School Mathematics; Middle School Science; Middle School Social Studies.

Secondary Science and Social Studies Majors Revisions

Are you majoring in Secondary Science or Social Studies? Revised requirements will be posted at the CESS Student Services portion of the College website very soon. When requirements change midstream, students have an option of remaining with the old requirements or moving to the new ones. These majors have been revised to meet current licensure endorsement requirements and if possible, you should plan to move to the new requirements.

Secondary Education Science

The options include majors in Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, and Physics. Each major also includes a minimum of 12 credits of supplemental coursework in the sciences other than the major. There are no broadfield options. Minors are not required for students majoring in Science, but you may have room in your program to include one if you choose to do so.

Secondary Education Social Studies

The options include majors in Economics, Geography, History, and Political Science. Each major also includes supplemental courses as required for the Social Studies Endorsement. There are no broadfield options. Minors are not required for students majoring in Social Studies, but you may have room in your program to include one if you choose to do so.

Art, Music, and Physical Education

Students enrolled in the Art, Music, and Physical Education programs are completing requirements for the full endorsement of PreK-12. You must complete a development course that spans the PreK-12 range and likely covers the lifespan (e.g. HDFS 005).

PreK-12 Endorsements - Art Music, Physical Education

All students in the teacher education programs must complete 60 hours of supervised field experience prior to student teaching.

Students working toward the PreK-12 endorsement will need to complete 60 hours of supervised field experience and the student teaching just as students working toward other endorsements must do. The difference is that students working for the PreK-12 endorsement (Art, Music, PE) must have a minimum of a practicum (60 hours of supervised field experience), or the equivalent, at both the PreK-6 and 7-12 instructional levels is required. Since all Teacher Education students must complete the 60 hours of supervised field experience (practicum) and

student teaching, the requirement may be fulfilled by doing the practicum at one level and student teaching at the other. Or, some students may choose to add additional weeks on during the student teaching semester, but move to a different level to meet the requirement. This would be done in addition to the practicum that must be completed prior to student teaching. Student teaching (full semester) at both levels is not required.

Students in Art, Music, and PE, do you know how you are meeting this requirement?

Attention CESS Students: Career Services is for Everyone, Not Only Seniors! *by Anna Smiles*

What can you do now that Career Services can help with?

- ◆ Develop a resume – it's never too early or too late to come in to Career Services and get started!
- ◆ Envision how you want your resume to look when you graduate. What experiences and skills do you want to be able to show potential employers? Begin to pursue experiences such as internships, work-study, and volunteer work that fulfill your vision. Career Services can help here too!
- ◆ Evaluate and assess your major choice: Are you enjoying your classes? Are you excited by going into the classroom/local agency? Why do you like what you are doing? If you don't enjoy it, what else do you want to do?
- ◆ Look for part-time and summer jobs that have you interacting with the populations that interest you. Yup, you guessed it, Career Services can help.
- ◆ Develop positive relationships with your advisors, collaborating teachers, principals, supervisors, etc. These people will be invaluable in your eventual job search. This one you have to do on your own – but it's important!
- ◆ Check out the section of our website dedicated to you!
<http://www.uvm.edu/career/?Page=students/Education/Education.htm>
- ◆ Stop by for Walk Ins: No need to make an appointment, just stop by Career Services, L/L E Building, Monday – Thursday, 1-4pm for a brief appointment to discuss starting a resume, your major choice or exploring internship opportunities.
- ◆ Make an individual appointment to discuss these steps and questions with Anna Smiles-Becker, Career Counselor and Liaison to CESS by calling 656-3450.

Upcoming Career Services Events

Internship Hop

Tuesday, November 7, 1-4 PM
Career Services, L/L E 166

Non-Profit Fellowship Day

Wednesday, November 15, 12 PM – 4 PM
Fireplace Lounge, L/L Commons

For more information about the listed events or anything related to Career Services, visit our website <http://www.uvm.edu/career/>

