

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Teacher Education Candidates  
FROM: Dr. Jack Mayhew, Chair  
DATE: October 6, 2008  
RE: Praxis II Testing

The Utah State Office of Education (USOE) now requires all teacher licensure candidates to take a Praxis II content-area exam. This testing requirement was put in place to meet the Federal No Child Left Behind “Highly Qualified Teacher” mandate and other national standards requiring teachers to demonstrate content-area mastery. (See: <http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us>).

Although the USOE has mandated one exam as the minimum, universities have an obligation to our students to ensure that program completers meet minimum standards as well as being competitive with others seeking teaching positions both within and outside Utah. As a result, Utah universities (including Weber State) have raised the testing bar to require all candidates to complete content exams in both their academic majors and minors where such exams exist.

The WSU University Council for Teacher Education (composed of members from various academic departments) has issued the following guidelines for Praxis II testing at Weber State (These guidelines may be subject to change):

1. Students in all disciplines *must* take Praxis II tests prior to student teaching in both their academic majors and minors.
2. Test dates for all Praxis exams are available on the Educational Testing Service (ETS) website: <http://www.ets.org/praxis>. WSU is an approved ETS testing center.
3. WSU students need to take tests determined by WSU listed below. Information from the USOE or ETS websites may be incomplete or inaccurate.
4. Currently, the USOE has established some pass rates for *Utah* teachers, however all teachers nation-wide must meet *national* NCLB pass scores for “highly qualified” status.
5. Note that the WSU Test Center Site is #04607 and the attending institution/recipient code is #4941.

The following constitute approved USOE tests that are required by Weber State for academic majors and minors:

- Early Childhood Education –10014
- Early Childhood/Elementary Education Dual –10014
- Elementary Education – 10014
- Composite Elementary Ed./Spec. Education – 20353 and 10014
- Elementary Education with Mathematics specialist — 10014 & 20069
- Art Composite Major/Art Minor- 10133
- Biology Composite Major/Biology Minor– 20235
- Business Education Composite Major/Business Education Minor – 10100
- Business/Marketing Minor - 10100
- Chemistry Major/Minor – 20245

- \*Communications(Speech) Major/Minor- 10220
- Earth Science Composite Major/Earth Science Minor– 20571
- \*Economics Minor - 10910
- English Major/Minor – 10041
- \*French Major/Minor – 20173
- \*Geography Major/Minor – 20920
- \*\*German Major/Minor– 20181
- Health Promotion Minor - 20550
- History Major/Minor – 10941
- Mathematics Major/Minor– 10061
- Music Education Composite Major (Instrumental & Choral) – 10113
- PE Teaching/Coaching - 10091
- Physical Education Major/Minor– 10091
- \*Physical Science Composite Major- 20481
- Physics Major/Minor– 10265
- \*Political Science (Government) Major/Minor- 10930
- \*\*Psychology Major/Minor— 20390
- Social Science Composite Major – 10081
- \*\*Sociology Major/Minor - 10950
- Spanish Major/Minor – 10191
- Special Education Minor – 20353
- \*Theatre Arts Major/Minor – 10640

As of this date, the USOE has not informed the University of a specific content exam in the following areas: Dance and Computer Science. Please contact the Teacher Education Advisement Center for current information or questions (801) 626-6309.

\* These specific Praxis exams will only be offered September, January, April, and July.

\*\* These specific Praxis exams will only be offered November, March, and June.