Physics Teacher Preparation Program

Program Benefits

- Bachelors Degree in a technical field AND graduate with a Massachusetts Initial Teaching License
- Preferential consideration for summer program outreach positions, Learning Sciences research positions and Physics Peer Learning Assistant positions
- Participate in a unique, exciting, challenging and regarding IPQ experience working in a real 6-12 grade classroom with a master teacher mentor
- Gain skills that are transferable between the classroom and industry
- Build high level communication, collaboration and leadership skills
- Experience working with broad, diverse groups of people
- Initial license transferable to other states
- Engage in activities with the regional Teachers Advisory Group

Massachusetts & Teacher Career Facts

- 74 days not under contract (breaks & holidays)
- Starting pay ~$50k, school year 9 month base
- Salary after 10 yrs ~$75k, school year 9 month base
- Retire before age 60 w/ pension - 87.5% Highest Earned Income and most teaching jobs have better retirement benefits than private industry
- Teachers rate their lives better than all other occupation groups, trailing only physicians
- 78% of teachers retention in year 5
- Intellectual challenge and satisfaction rated equal to or higher than private sector STEM careers
- Physics, Math and Chemistry teachers in the 5 highest demanded positions and you can get a job almost anywhere as a physics teacher

Program Requirements Courses:

1. 2401 Psychology of Education
2. PSY 2410 School Psychology or PSY 1404 Developmental Psychology
3. ID 3200 Sheltered English Immersion
4. ID 3100 Teaching Methods in Science Math and Engineering

Pre-Practicum:

- Three pre-practicum experiences, one in First year and two in Sophomore year
- Observe in classrooms across Central Massachusetts and co-teach lessons in settings that provide context for the school, district, and state in which you will complete your practicum
- Prepares you to take pedagogical and content skills into the classroom

Teaching Practicum:

- Teach in a local middle or high school
- All majors can count as an IQP or ISU
- Physics Majors can count toward the MQP

Get the Facts Out.org

Contact Shari Weaver, Director of the WPI Teacher Prep Program, sweaver@wpi.edu