Middle School Extension Programs

Brief Program Description
Teachers who are certified to teach adolescent or childhood education may expand their career opportunities and respond to the most current middle school needs by earning our new Middle School Extension Advanced Certificate.

• Upon successful completion of two courses focused on middle grades learners and exemplary middle grades learning environments, teachers certified in childhood education are able to extend their certification to include grades seven, eight, and nine. This is contingent upon completion of 30 credit hours (C or better) in one content area and passing the New York State Content Specialty Test (CST) in the same content area. Teachers certified in secondary education are able to extend their certification to include grades five and six.

Both courses work in tandem to offer students a full range of opportunities to understand young adolescents’ social, emotional, and academic needs:
• EDU 7106 focuses on understanding young adolescents from a developmental perspective, and
• EDU 7107 introduces best practices for engaging middle grades learners so that they thrive.

Benefits
You will be eligible to teach a wider range of grades and will gain knowledge of current best practices related to middle-level education. These practices prepare you to create teaching and learning experiences based on the unique characteristics of middle-school children.

Career Possibilities
Secondary school teachers are qualified for a broad range of positions. Teachers with flexibility are especially appealing to principals who are starting new small middle schools and schools with a grades six through 12 model. Since there are currently as many as 856 middle schools in New York State, the employment opportunities for teachers possessing middle school certification expand exponentially.

What Makes Our Program Unique?
We offer opportunities to take EDU 7106 online while taking EDU 7107 face to face. Students can decide to take the classes together or one per semester.