

Career & Technical Education Baccalaureate Degree

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the purpose of the Career and Technical Education Baccalaureate Degree?

Valley City State University's Career and Technical Education Degree program will prepare quality instructors in the Trade, Industry, Technical and Health Education service areas.

What programs might these teaching professionals serve?

Instructors may teach in public school career and technical education programs, career and technical center programs, and post-high school settings such as junior colleges or public and private technical colleges.

What types of teaching position can I expect if I graduate with this degree?

Graduates will be technically competent to teach in Trade, Industry, Technical and Health areas such as Automotive Technology, Construction Technology, Diesel Technology, Food Service, Health Occupations and a host of others.

Are there restrictions to how many courses I can transfer to VCSU?

There are no restrictions as to how many courses a student may transfer, but VCSU does have an "in residence" requirement of 12 semester credit hours for the Career and Technical Education Baccalaureate Degree.

Can I get a head start to begin a position?

You certainly may! Students may choose an internship component as part of the degree. Students develop occupational competence using employment in real jobs as a source of learning. This on-the-job training gives students the opportunity to apply classroom theory and acquired skills toward their degree.

What are the specifics of the Career and Technical Education Degree?

The Career and Technical Education Baccalaureate Degree has two basic tracks:

The *Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S. in Ed.) degree* and the *Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree* train instructors for post-secondary and secondary teaching positions. The B.S. in Education track, primarily designed for secondary instructors, requires the completion of the secondary Professional Education Sequence. Embedded in the secondary Professional Education Sequence is a Clinical Practice Experience. The B.S. track does not require the Professional Education Sequence and historically has been the track preference for post-secondary instructors. For students seeking the B.S. Degree, the Clinical Practice experience is suggested as electives for the degree since it is a State Department of CTE

requirement for Trade, Industry, Technical and Health Education certification.

May I take courses at other institutions of higher education and count them toward this degree?

Yes, you may! You can seek to transfer credits earned from any accredited institution to VCSU. The registrar and appropriate university division chairperson will evaluate your transcript for the award of credits to be accepted into the Career and Technical Education degree program.

Is there any other way to earn credits for this program?

Yes, VCSU can award university credit for life experiences. This credit, sometimes referred to as “prior learning”, is available through the Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Program. Students seeking credit through this avenue should enroll in the **ASC 180-Prior Learning Assessment for Credit** class where students learn to present course-by-course credit application in a “Portfolio of Prior Learning”.

Why might this degree program be described as “creative and unique?”

The Career and Technical Education Degree takes a liberal arts emphasis and combines it with a Career and Technical Education specialty to prepare learners to be Trade, Industry, Technical and Health Education teaching professionals.

Degree Track Components:

Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| General Education | 36 |
| Required Courses | 13 |
| Technical Specialty | 36-50 |
| Electives | 21-35 |
| <i>Total Hours</i> | <i>120 hours</i> |

Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S. in Ed.)

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| General Education | 13 |
| Technical Specialty | 36-50 |
| Electives | 0-5 |
| Professional Education Sequence | 30 |
| <i>Total Hours</i> | <i>120 hours</i> |