Physical Education/Health for Teacher Licensure (K-12)

Why study Physical Education/Health at MC?

If you consider yourself physically active and healthy and enjoy working with others to educate them on the benefits of being physically active, you will enjoy a career teaching physical education and health in the school setting. The major in physical education/health for K-12 teacher licensure allows you to become certified to teach in kindergarten through 12th grade. Emphasis is placed on whole-person education and the role you can play in assisting students to make proactive choices to improve physically, cognitively, socially and emotionally. You will learn about the human body, nutrition, risk behaviors and the relationships between physical activity, academics, longevity and lifetime wellness.

The College’s FIT.GREEN.HAPPY.® initiative will introduce you to the importance of being active, being outside and caring for the outdoors by advocating for nature and participating in green initiatives like campus recycling, energy conservation, and local food consumption. And with evidence suggesting that both fitness and the outdoors can boost resiliency, focus, career effectiveness, and longevity, you will be equipped to positively impact students’ lifestyles.

**Aaron Rucker ’20**

Hometown: Athens, Tenn.

After graduation, Aaron hopes to either coach soccer at the collegiate level or teach physical education and coach soccer in high school. He’s already developing the leadership skills needed for both: captaining the Maryville College soccer team and serving as an assistant coach for the William Blount High School boys soccer team.

“I chose physical education with teacher licensure because of the significant influence that my teachers and coaches have had in my life. They have helped me grow as a person by teaching me how to be the healthiest, best version of myself,” he said. “I want to be a positive role model for others and have a lasting impact on students’ lives just like my former teachers and coaches have had on mine.”

**Ami Birchfield ’19**

Currently: 9th Grade Wellness/PE teacher at Seymour Junior High School in Seymour, Tenn.

Now a full-time teacher, Ami can see that applying what she learned inside and outside the classrooms at Maryville College helped her land a teaching job and be successful, day in and day out.

“The education courses really teach you the standards set by school systems, and the Career Center helps you become familiar with the interview process,” she said. “Student teaching was one of the biggest opportunities I had that helped me prepare for teaching. I am extremely blessed to have had teachers who were able to advocate for my major and showed an interest in teaching.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit maryvillecollege.edu/physed or call 865.981.8092