



Department of Education  
3300 Poinsett Highway  
Greenville, SC 29613

**Elizabeth Kutz**  
Teaching Fellows Campus Director  
Elizabeth.Kutz@Furman.edu  
(864) 294-3340

**Dr. Nelly Hecker**  
Chair, Director Teacher Education  
Department of Education  
Nelly.Hecker@Furman.edu

# Teaching Fellows

---

Furman University is one of only eleven institutions in the state identified as a Teaching Fellows Institution. A scholarship program for qualified South Carolina high school students who wish to teach in South Carolina's public schools, the program provides a (statewide) scholarship/loan each year for eligible high school seniors.

## Furman Teaching Fellows Program

---

With a maximum cohort of 12 Teaching Fellows each year, close knit small groups meet weekly with Elizabeth Kutz, director for the Teaching Fellows program. With a cross section of ages and interests, K-12 certifiers meet with those who study secondary and elementary education. By reading books, discussing movies, or hearing guest speakers in an informal class atmosphere, the Fellows' experience enhances their education and aids in developing the skills of leaders who will make the changes that education is demanding. Juniors attend and often present at professional conferences, and sophomores use summer experiences to do independent research on topics of interest. In addition, Fellows give service hours as tutors for high-risk high school students through the Bridges for a Brighter Future program here at Furman.

## The Difference

---

Furman's unique five-year program is available to elementary and secondary certifiers (with the exception of music certification, that remains 4 years). With the option of a master's degree, the fifth year can be a paid internship and full time teaching opportunity that carries supervision/mentoring through the first year in the classroom. These students graduate in four years with a degree in education, but certification is completed in the fifth year. The masters programs presently include early childhood, special education, literacy, TESOL (teaching English to speakers of other languages), and curriculum and instruction.

## Student Support

---

The Director of Teaching Fellows serves as a second academic advisor for all Fellows, helping majors to have a stronger link to the education department and/or content areas in which they certify. A full time person assists students in completing requirements for South Carolina certification, and all students are eligible for academic assistance when needed.

## Accreditation

---

The Department of Education at Furman is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Students who satisfactorily complete requirements for certification become eligible for a teaching certificate in South Carolina and other states with reciprocal arrangements.

## Diversity

---

Fellows work throughout their training with children from diverse cultures, varied experiences, and all socio-economic levels. They spend time in classrooms with students who are challenged by the English language, the struggles of poverty, crisis, and learning differences. Furman prepares scholars and leaders to recognize the dignity and importance of being teachers. According to Jock Zakkai, *"If the heavens were all parchment, and the trees of the forest all pens, and every human being were a scribe, it would be impossible to record all that I have learned from my teachers."*



---

<http://www2.furman.edu/academics/education>

---