

B.S. in Elementary Education

Advisement Manual

Department of Curriculum, Teaching, and Learning
College of Education
University of Nevada, Reno

For Students New to UNR as of Fall 2009

Thank you for your interest in the Elementary Education program at the University of Nevada, Reno. This manual provides important details about applying to and advancing through the program. It is divided into five major sections: Introduction; Pre-Major Information; Admission to the College of Education; Internship Requirements; Graduation and Licensure; Elementary Education Program Required Courses. Be sure to read relevant sections of the current UNR General Catalog so that you may observe policies found in that document as well as in this one.

Introduction

Teaching is a demanding but also a worthwhile and rewarding profession. The Elementary Education Program at the University of Nevada, Reno is committed to preparing teachers who are able to meet the challenges of today's and tomorrow's classrooms. The teacher education faculty provides an education program that enables students to:

- Develop a strong foundation of knowledge about teaching and learning,
- Display a love of learning,
- Value democracy and pluralism, and
- Engage in reflective practice about one's growth as a teacher.

To accomplish this, students will gain knowledge in several key areas: academic disciplines (content-area knowledge), foundations of elementary education, management of classroom learning environments, methods of teaching various subjects in elementary school classrooms, educational psychology and human development, and education of culturally diverse and special-needs populations. Throughout the program, students will also gain experience in public-school classrooms. As Elementary Education majors, students will develop professional competence in the following domains:

- Knowledge of Students
- Knowledge of Subject Matter and Planning
- Delivery and Management of Instruction
- Knowledge and Use of Assessment
- Professionalism

Upon completion of the approved program of study (128 credits) and other program requirements, Elementary Education majors will earn a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. As students complete requirements for the bachelor's degree, they are also eligible for a teaching credential for grades K-8, which is issued by the Nevada Department of Education.

Program Accreditation

Teacher education programs at the University of Nevada, Reno are accredited by the National Council for Accreditation in Teacher Education (NCATE), the most prestigious accrediting agency for teacher preparation programs. National accreditation makes it easier to become licensed as a teacher in other states.

Program Organization and Requirements

The elementary education program is referred to as a field-based program. Beginning with the first education course (EDU 201 Introduction to Elementary Education), students gain experience in public school classrooms, assisting teachers with instruction and gaining knowledge about children. As students progress through the Elementary Education program, experiences in public school classrooms intensify. Ultimately, students become responsible for planning instruction in a variety of subject areas. The teacher education program culminates in a full semester of internship (student teaching) in which students are placed in the classroom on a full-time basis.

Teacher education majors at UNR fulfill both the University of Nevada requirements for graduation and College of Education requirements for licensure as an elementary teacher. Please consult with an advisor at the Student Advisement Center (WRB 2005) to schedule your courses in an appropriate sequence. Students should refer to the current University of Nevada, Reno General Catalog and this advisement manual to be sure they are adhering to university and program requirements. It is a student's responsibility to observe degree requirements, timelines, and UNR and College of Education policies and procedures.

College of Education Dean's List

Outstanding scholarship is recognized by the Dean of the College of Education each semester by naming qualified students to the Dean's List. To be on the Dean's List, students must obtain a 3.65 grade point average the previous semester while taking a minimum of 12 credits. Students meeting the requirements for the Dean's List will be sent a letter from the dean recognizing their academic accomplishments.

Pre-Major Information

Core Curriculum Requirements

The University requires that each student completes Core curriculum requirements, which includes coursework in English, mathematics, natural science, social science, Core Humanities, and fine arts. (Descriptions of the Core curriculum requirements can be found in the UNR General Catalog.) The Core curriculum also includes a diversity requirement, which is met in the elementary education program by EDSP 411 Students with Disabilities in General Education Settings. The Core curriculum culminates with courses designated as capstone courses, or integrative experiences. Students are required to take two capstone courses, which are met in the elementary education program by EDUC 411 Socio-cultural Contexts, and a general capstone that extends K-8 content area background.

Teaching Options

Elementary Education majors may select from two program options:

Option #1 prepares students to become well-rounded teachers for grades K-8. It requires 27 credits of additional coursework in general education beyond the Core, including the following: English (+6 cr), Mathematics (+6 cr), Natural Science (+3 cr), Social Studies (+6 cr), Fine Arts/PE (+3 cr), and Diversity (+3 cr).

Option #2 prepares students for teaching in a particular subject area in middle school. It requires an additional 30 credits in one teaching area (English, mathematics, general science, or social studies). Please note: Students choosing Option #2 must complete it *in addition to* Option #1, not in place of it.

Transfer and Correspondence Credit

The Office of Admissions and Records evaluates coursework completed at other universities for possible transfer into a UNR program in place of comparable courses. Within the degree program, at least 64 semester credits must be earned from a regionally accredited, four-year educational institution, including at least 40 upper-division hours. At least 32 upper-division semester credits must be earned at UNR. (See the UNR General Catalog for additional information about these topics.)

College credit transferred from another institution must first be evaluated by UNR Transfer Center staff for Core curriculum requirements. (College of Education advisors cannot approve core curriculum requirements because they are University requirements for graduation.) Once this has been done, the College of Education Student Advisement Center oversees the evaluation of the remaining courses according to the Elementary Education program requirements. Correspondence and Web-based courses generally are not accepted as comparable to our teaching methods courses because of the value we place on hands-on and collaborative in-class activities in those courses.

Admission to the College of Education

Students considering Elementary Education as a major are first admitted to the College of Education as pre-majors. Students may declare this major at the first point of admission to UNR as a freshman or a transfer student, or they may submit a change-of-major form at a later point in their studies. Students are strongly urged to declare their major as Elementary Education as early as possible to facilitate their advisement and program completion in a timely manner.

Advisement in the Elementary Education Program

Advisement for undergraduate Elementary Education majors takes place in the College of Education Student Advisement Center (WRB 2005). Please consult with an advisor at least once each year.

Course-Scheduling Notes

It is important for a student to plan a schedule well in advance to account for course prerequisites that will impact the course sequence. Course sequences have been carefully designed to allow students to maximize their learning experiences in their education coursework. Prerequisites are strictly upheld, except for extenuating circumstances that justify an appeal; this appeal must be submitted in writing for review and approval by the Elementary Education faculty. Prerequisite courses taken by correspondence must be completed in their entirety, with a grade posted, prior to the first class of the course to which it is prerequisite in order to enroll in that class. Note that the math and literacy course sequences have most often been “sticking points” for students, so be sure to take these courses early. Summer course offerings vary year to year and cannot be guaranteed, so particular summer course offerings should not be assumed in planning schedules.

Admission to Teacher Education

All students seeking a teaching credential in Elementary Education must apply for admission to teacher education, which entitles students to enroll in upper-division education courses (those numbered 300 and higher). Applications for admission to teacher education are accepted twice each year: **October 1** and **March 1**. Applications may be obtained in the Student Advisement Center of the College of Education (Room 2005). A limited number of the most promising students will be accepted into the Elementary Education program each semester. The number of students accepted will be determined by space available for students in required courses.

All teachers in Nevada are required to demonstrate mastery of basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. To be prepared for the content of methods courses, students in all UNR teacher licensure programs are expected to demonstrate knowledge of basic skills prior to acceptance into teacher education by passing the Praxis I (PPST) or CBEST exam. Information on preparing and registering for these tests is available in the Student Advisement Center (WRB 2005) or go to www.ets.org/praxis for the PPST or to www.cbest.nesinc.com for the CBEST test. The CBEST is available ONLY at designated test sites in California; the PPST is available in Reno at UNR (in written form) and at Sylvan Learning Center (as a computer-based test). To register for the computer-based test at Sylvan learning Center, please call 1-800-853-6773. Students should plan to take the test at least two months prior to their planned date of application to the program, to allow time for scores to be returned.

To apply for admission to the elementary teacher education program, students must:

- 1) Have completed at least **45 credits** of college coursework, including an introductory education course such as **EDU 201** with at least 30 documented hours of practicum experience in elementary schools.
- 2) Submit a current **DARS** showing a minimum overall GPA of 2.75, including all transferred and approved substitute courses, **with a C or better in all premajor courses required in the Elementary Education program**
- 3) Submit a completed **application form** for Admission to Teacher Education to the Student Advisement Center (College of Education Room 2005),
- 4) Submit a copy of passing **PPST (Pre-Professional Skills Test) or CBEST (California Basic Educational Skills Test)** scores for all three skill areas of reading, writing, and mathematics (scores from the two tests cannot be mixed).
- 6) Submit **two letters of recommendation** At least 1 recommendation must be from a teacher who has directly observed the applicant's work with children. The other recommendation may be from an employer who has directly supervised the your work. Recommendations should provide detailed descriptions of your professional qualities and potential for teaching.
- 7) Submit a **typed essay (2-3 pages)** on your beliefs regarding the purposes of education, the role of teachers, and the characteristics of students. The essay is evaluated for quality of ideas and content, support for those ideas, overall organization, and style of writing. You will find the rubric used to evaluate this essay in the application packet available in the Advisement Center.

Internship Requirements

Application for the Supervised Internship

Applications for the Supervised Internship must be completed during the semester prior to internship. Typically, applications for the Fall semester must be received by February 15 and applications for the Spring semester must be received by September 15. Consult the Office of Field Experiences for actual due dates. The internship application form is available at "First Step" meetings held each semester by the Director of Field Experiences in the College of Education (housed in WRB 2004). Students who wish to intern outside of the Washoe County area must complete a "Request for Out-of Area Placement" form when they apply for internship. Approval is contingent upon the consent of the Elementary Education faculty.

Criteria for approval for the Internship include:

1. Completion of all required courses and other program expectations,
2. Overall GPA of 2.75 or higher, with a grade of C or better in all required program courses,
3. Performance Portfolio I deemed acceptable by the Elementary Education faculty,
4. A valid substitute teacher's license in Nevada. Students interning in Washoe County only must be hired as a substitute teacher in WCSD and be on "active status" prior to internship.
Students who will not teach in Nevada must have a current Nevada substitute license or a substitute license in the state in which they want to intern. Students who are not US citizens may acquire a Nevada substitute license only if they are in permanent resident status. Non-permanent resident aliens must contact the Director of Field Experience. These processes must be completed prior to approval for an internship placement,
5. Readiness to intern in the professional judgment of the Elementary Education faculty.

Submission of Performance Portfolio I

In the semester before internship, Elementary Education majors will complete and submit a portfolio of accumulated work with explanatory pieces in order to advance to internship. Students are advised to keep files of high-quality course assignments and exams from throughout their program. A successful portfolio serves as one piece of evidence that the candidate has made significant progress in developing knowledge, dispositions, and performances required of new teachers. Portfolio guidelines may be obtained in the Department of Curriculum, Teaching, and Learning (WRB 3100) or online at <http://www.unr.edu/educ/ctl> then under Downloads.

Obtain a Substitute Teacher's License in Nevada

To be eligible for an internship placement in public schools, students must have a valid Nevada substitute teacher's license. This process must be completed prior to approval for an internship placement. For more information about obtaining a substitute teacher's license, contact the Nevada Department of Education in Carson City through their website www.nde.state.nv.us/licensure/moreinfo/index.html or contact the College of Education Office of Field Experiences, WRB 2004, or their website: <http://www.unr.edu/educ/fx/>

Submission of Performance Portfolio II

Portfolio II contains the Student Learning Sample, observation by the lead teacher and university supervisor, as well as mid-term and final evaluations. Information concerning the Student Learning Sample is available in a separate handbook. Portfolio II provides the opportunity for the candidate to demonstrate the competencies required of an effective beginning teacher. Each candidate must achieve ratings of proficient or higher in all required competencies.

Pass Praxis II Exam

The Praxis II exam is required by the Nevada Department of Education for teacher licensure. It is required that students take and pass the Praxis II prior to completion of their internship semester. Elementary Education majors are required to pass two exams:

Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (# 10011) score 158 or better
Elementary Education: Content Area Exercises (# 20012) score 135 or better

Registration materials for the exam are available in the College of Education Student Advisement Center (WRB 2005) or on the Praxis website (www.ets.org/praxis, see Tests at a Glance).

Graduation and Licensure

Application for Graduation

The College of Education requires that undergraduate students submit an application for graduation earlier than the general university deadline. The intent of this is to assist students with deficiencies early enough to allow for changes in class scheduling. Students who are graduating in May or August must submit their graduation applications to the Student Advisement Center by the previous December 1. Students planning to graduate in December must submit their graduation application by the previous May 1. Graduation applications must be purchased from the Cashier's Office in the Student Services Building.

A current Degree Audit Report for Students (DARS) showing "all requirements met in-progress registration used" must be submitted with the graduation application. If any requirements remain outstanding on the DARS, the student must meet with an advisor in the Student Advisement Center to plan how these deficiencies will be met by graduation. The plan must be verified and approved by the SAC Coordinator.

In order to graduate with a B.S. in Education degree, a student must:

1. Complete a minimum of 128 college credits, with at least 40 credits at the 300 and 400 level.
2. Meet all requirements of the Core curriculum,
3. Meet all requirements of the Elementary Education program, and
4. Have an overall GPA of 2.75 or higher, with a grade of C or better in all Education courses and a grade of C or better in all other courses required in the Elementary Education program.

Application for a Teaching License

The teaching license is granted by the Nevada Department of Education. To receive the teaching license, one must obtain an application form from the Nevada Department of Education website at www.doe.nv.gov, arrange for forwarding required documentation (official transcripts, PPST scores, Praxis II scores), and pay an application fee. UNR **does not** grant the license. The College of Education is responsible for recommending for Nevada licensure students who have successfully completed all program requirements.

Recommended Course Plan for Elementary Education

English 101 Core Math Core Fine Arts Core GEOG 106 (Soc Sci Core) EDU 110 or elective <div style="text-align: right;">15 cr</div>	English 102 Core Math Core Additional Soc Sci (multi-cultural course) Additional History EDU 204 or 214 or Elective Elective (1 cr) <div style="text-align: right;">16 cr</div>
CH 201 MATH 122 EDU 201 Earth Science PSC or ECON elective Additional English (1 st) Take PPST by Jan 30 <div style="text-align: right;">18 cr</div>	CH 202 MATH 123 EDU 207 BIOL 110 or BIOL 100 or ENV 100 Additional English (2 nd) Elective (3 cr) <div style="text-align: right;">Apply to Elem Prgm by Mar 1 18 cr</div>
CH 203 MUS 382 or PEX 351 EPY 330A Ed Psych PHYS 100 EDRL 442* Lit Instr I EDEL 433 Math Methods <div style="text-align: right;">18 cr</div>	General Capstone EDRL 443* Lit Instr II EDEL 433P Math Pract EDEL 443 Science Methods EDEL 453 SocSt Methods <div style="text-align: right;">15 cr</div>
EL 401 Law & Ethics EDRL 461* Diag Assess Instr Lit EDEL 443P Sci Pract EDSP 411 Stds w/ Disabl in Genl Ed Stgs EDUC 411 Socio-cultural Contexts Capstone <div style="text-align: right;">15 cr</div>	EDEL 483 Internship EDUC 402 Seminar <div style="text-align: right;">13 cr</div>

* **Three-semester sequence:** must be taken in order, each class available in fall, spring, and summer semesters.

BOLD indicates admission to teacher licensure program is required as prerequisite.

Core Requirements

English Core (6 credits)

ENG 101 (3) _____

ENG 102 (3) _____

Math Core (3 credits minimum)

*Math 120; or Math 126 & 127; or Math 126 & Stat 152; or
Math 126 & APST 270; or Math 128 (5); or Math 176 (3);
or Math 181 (3)*

Natural Science Core (6 credits)

PHYS 100 or above (3-4) _____

GEOL 100 or above _____
or GEOG 103 (3)

Core Humanities (9 credits)

Pre-requisite: completion of ENG 102

CH 201 (3) _____

CH 202 (3) _____

CH 203 (3) _____

Core Social Science (3 credits)

GEOG 106 (3) _____

Core Fine Arts (3 credits)

*Art 100, Mus 121, Phil 202, Thtr 100, 105, 210, SOTA 101
recommended.*

Capstones (3 credits + 3 credits counted in Elem Ed total)

(General) (3) _____
Topic related to K-8 teaching content.

(Major) EDUC 411 Socio-cultural Contexts in Educ
(3 credits counted in Elem Ed Major)

Additional Gen Ed Reqs: Option 1

Additional English (6 credits)

ENG ____ (3) _____

ENG ____ (3) _____
ENG 241, 253, 266, 297, 304, 340 or approved course.

Additional Math (6 credits)

MATH 122 (3) _____

MATH 123 (3) _____

Additional Science (3 credits)

BIOL 110 (recommended) _____
or BIOL 100 or ENV 100

Additional Social Science (9 credits)

MULTI-CULT ISSUES (3) _____
*ANTH 101, 201; SOC 102; HDFS 232, 438; HIST 320;
GEOG 464; PHIL 201, 210; SPAN 221, 222, 223; or
advisor approved course.*

HISTORY (3) _____
HIST 101, 102, 217, or other non-European

ECON or PSC (3) _____
RECO 100; ECON 100; PSC 101, 103

Additional Methods/Art (3 credits)

MUS 382 or _____
PEX 351 or _____
ART 100 (if not used for Core)

Electives (any needed to complete 128 credits)

NOTE: All courses on this page must be passed with a C or better grade

Pre-Major Courses in Elementary Education (15 credits)

All courses must be completed with a C or better

EDU 214	Preparing Teachers to Use Technology (3)	_____	_____
EDU 201	Intro to Elementary Education (3)	_____	_____
EDU 207	Children's Literature (3) (Pre-req: ENG 102)	_____	_____
EPY 330a	Educational Psychology (3)	_____	_____
EL 401	Law & Ethics for Educators (3)	_____	_____

Major Courses in Elementary Education (43 credits)

Admission to Teacher Education required. All courses must be completed with a C or better.

EDRL 442	Literacy Instruction I (3) <i>(Prerequisite: EDU 207)</i>	_____	_____
EDEL 433	Teaching Elementary School Mathematics (3) <i>(Prerequisite: All general education Mathematics)</i>	_____	_____
EDEL 433P	Math Teaching Practicum (3) <i>(Prerequisite: EDEL 433)</i>	_____	_____
EDEL 443	Teaching Elementary School Science (3) <i>(Prerequisite: All general education Science)</i>	_____	_____
EDEL 453	Teaching Elementary School Social Studies (3) <i>(Prerequisite: All Core Humanities and GEOG 106)</i>	_____	_____
EDRL 443	Literacy Instruction II (3) <i>(Prerequisite: EDRL 442)</i>	_____	_____
EDRL 461	Diagnostic Assessment & Instruction Literacy (3) <i>(Prerequisite: EDRL 443)</i>	_____	_____
EDEL 443P	Science Teaching Practicum (3) <i>(Prerequisite: EDEL 443)</i>	_____	_____
EDSP 411	Students with Disabilities in Gen Ed Settings (3)	_____	_____
EDUC 411	CAPSTONE: Sociocultural Contexts in Education (3) <i>(Prerequisite: All Core Humanities and junior standing)</i>	_____	_____

Internship

All course work must be completed prior to starting Internship

EDUC 402	Seminar in Teaching & Learning (1)	_____	_____
EDEL 483	Elementary Supervised Teaching Internship (12)	_____	_____

Option #2: Concentrated Preparation in K-8 Subject (30 cr)

Note: Students considering Option #2 should consult their advisor for specific Core Curriculum suggestions.

English/Language Arts (30 cr + Core)	Social Studies (30cr + Core)
Reading (6cr) ENG 297 or 298; and 303 Survey of Literature (3cr) ENG 240 Am Literature (3cr) ENG 345, 427A, 493A or 497B (replaces Core General Capstone) Am Literature elective (3cr) ENG 304, 345, 427A, 429C, 451A, 451B, 462B, 472A, 472B, 495C English Literature (3cr) ENG 433A, 433B, 449A, 449B, 470A, 470B Composition (3cr) ENG 305, 306, 307, 308, 321, 400A, 401B, 409A, or EDUC 413 Descriptive Grammar (3cr) ENG 411B Linguistics/History of Language (6cr) ENG 281 and ENG 412A, 412B, or 413A Journalism (3cr) JOUR 101 Speech/Drama/Theater (3cr) THTR 100, 105, 210 (replaces Core Fine Arts)	Economics (3cr) ECON 102 or 103; APEC 485 or 486 Geography (3cr) GEOG 106 (taken as Core Social Science) Psychology or Sociology (3cr) SOC 101 or PSY 101 Political Science (6cr) PSC 101 or 103 PSC 211, 231, 255, or 353 History of United States (9cr) HIST 101 & 102 HIST 217 or 417 History of the World (6cr) HIST 105 & 106 Ethnic Groups (3cr) HIST 320, 347 General Capstone in US/World History (3cr) HIST 406, 419, 432, 441, 442, 478, 480, 486, or 488 (replaces Core General Capstone requirement)

Mathematics (30 + Core)	General Science (30 + Core)
Calculus (12cr) MATH 181 & 182 (replaces 6cr of Core) MATH 283 Probability & Statistics (3cr) MATH 352 Theory of Number (3cr) MATH 373 Computer applications (3cr) EDSC 459, CEP 4II, CS 105, or CS 201 Linear Algebra (3cr) MATH 330 Abstract or Modern Algebra (3cr) MATH 430 Finite/Discrete Processes (3cr) MATH 381 Euclidean/Non-Euclidean Geometry (3cr) MATH 475 Elective – 3cr	<p>Note: Courses below also meet requirements for an endorsement in physical science. To also meet an endorsement in biology, 3cr in botany, physiology, or zoology must be added.</p> <p>Note: Courses below replace core natural science requirements</p> <p>Note: Must take MATH 128 or higher for Core</p> Life Science (14 -15 cr) BIOL 190, 191, & 192 ENV 100 BIOL 223, 316, or 330 Chemistry (10cr) CHEM 121 & 122 Physics (8cr) PHYS 151 & 151Lab, 152 & 152 Lab Earth, Space, or Engineering (3cr) GEOL 100; AST 109 or AST 110; or ENGR 491