



Department of Curriculum & Instruction

Early Childhood Education Specialization within the Elementary Education Master's Degree Program

Early Childhood Education majors are encouraged to use the flexibility built into the Program to develop an individualized course of study. The degree is designed for individuals who have completed a degree in early childhood education or elementary education and who have a teaching license in early childhood education (preschool), elementary/primary grades (K-3), or elementary education (K-6). The program is oriented to the professional development of the diverse populations who teach children in educational settings.

1. Major Course Work (15 hours): Education J500, E505, E506, E508, and E525.
2. Foundations (3-6 hours): Education P515 is required. An additional course may be in the history or philosophy of education to be selected in consultation with a faculty advisor.
3. Electives (9-12 hours): Select courses from inside or outside the School of Education to complement your program. These courses must have a unified focus and the approval of an advisor. Course selections are open and may be taken in Sociology, Library Science, Psychology, Folklore, Language Education and other areas. Note: Up to six hours may be at the 300 or 400 level.
4. Thesis or Practicum Option (6 hours): Practicum proposals and thesis topics must be selected with the approval of your advisor. Practicums must extend over at least two semesters or one semester and a regular summer session. Six hours of course work may be substituted in lieu of a thesis or practicum with the approval of an advisor.

For information about an elementary education master's degree with specialization in early childhood education, please contact:

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