

Elementary Education K-8

The Department of Education offers a teacher education program for students seeking teaching careers in grades kindergarten through eight (K-8). The Elementary Education major is designed to provide a broad educational foundation with a focus on how science, technology, engineering, and math interconnect within the language arts, social studies, arts, and health enhancement curricula. This program content is essential in the preparation of successful K-8 pre-service teachers.

Prospective elementary school teachers follow a program of study the first two years which is essentially the same for all students. There is sufficient flexibility, however, for specialization in the various teaching options available.

One of the major attributes of the Elementary Education program at Montana State University is its extensive field experience component. This includes service learning experiences in the freshman year, micro-teaching experiences in the After School Partnership in the sophomore year, and two practicum teaching semesters prior to student teaching.

During these semesters, students spend the equivalent of four half-days for a minimum of eight weeks in supervised settings working directly with children while concurrently completing methods courses on campus. The final clinical experience is student teaching where students spend fourteen weeks in a supervised classroom setting.

Students in the Elementary Education K-8 program can choose to add the following options: Early Childhood, Mathematics, Science, and/or Special Education. These options permit students to focus in these specific areas in addition to completing the K-8 degree requirements. The options, while not providing additional endorsements in the specialties addressed, do allow for added study in each area. Students can also pursue teaching minors (<http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/education-health-human-development/department-education/teaching-minors>) which would provide additional endorsements in the State of Montana.

Alternately, students interested in working exclusively with younger students may choose to pursue a major in Early Childhood Education & Child Services: P-3 Option (<http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/education-health-human-development/health-human-development/early-childhood-education-child-services-major>), which is administered by the Department of Health and Human Development (<http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/education-health-human-development/health-human-development>).

Students in 5-12 and K-12 teaching majors are required to take courses in certain areas of professional education. A grade of "C" or better is required in all professional education courses; a "C-" is not acceptable. See the Teacher Education Program (<http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/education-health-human-development/department-education/#teachereducationrequirements>) website for entrance requirements.

Graduate degree programs are offered for students who wish to pursue advanced programs in curriculum and instruction (See The Department of Education's Graduate Program's website (<http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/education-health-human-development/education>)).

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Note: A student must be admitted into the Teacher Education Program before enrolling in the Developing Instructional Materials K-8 Teaching Methods courses.

Recommended Program Sequence For Required Elementary Education K-8

	Credits	
	Fall	Spring
Freshman Year		
EDU 101US - Teaching and Learning	3	
WRIT 101W - College Writing I	3	
EDU 222IS - Educ Psych & Child Development	3	
M 132 - Numbers & Operations for K-8 Teachers	3	
BIOB 100IN - Organism Function or BIOM 103IN - Unseen Universe: Microbes	3	
EDU 204IA - Arts & Lifelong Learning		3
NASX 105D - Introduction to Native American Studies or NASX 205D - Native Americans in Contemporary Society or NASX 232D - MT Indians: Cultures, Histories, Current Issues		3
GPHY 121D - Human Geography or GPHY 141D - Geography of World Regions or ANTY 101D - Anthropology and the Human Experience or SOCI 101IS - Introduction to Sociology or AMST 101D - Introduction to American Studies		3
Approved STEM Elective		3-4
M 133Q - Geometry & Measure K-8 Teachers		3
Year Total:	15	15-16
Sophomore Year		
Credits		
	Fall	Spring
HSTA 101IH - American History I or HSTA 102IH - American History II or HSTR 101IH - Western Civilization I or HSTR 102IH - Western Civilization II	4	
EDU 330 - Emergent Literacy	3	
TE 250CS - Technology and Society	3	
M 234 - Higher Math for K-8 Teachers	3	
PHSX 103IN - The Physics of How Things Work or PHSX 201IN - Physics by Inquiry or CHMY 102CS - Applying Chemistry to Society	3	
EDU 211D - Multicultural Education		3
EDU 370 - Integrating Tech into Educ		2
PSCI 210IS - Introduction to American Government		3
ERTH 101IN - Earth System Sciences or EARTH 212RN - Yellowstone: Scientific Lab or GEO 103CS - Intro to Envrmntl Geology or GEO 105IN - Oceanography or GEO 111IN - Dinosaurs or GEO 140IN - Planetary Geoscience		3-4
Year Total:	16	11-12
Junior Year		
Credits		
	Fall	Spring
EDU 382 - Assessmt, Curric, Instructn	3	
EDSP 306 - Exceptional Learners	3	
EDU 331 - Lit and Literacy for Children	3	
EDU 397 - Methods (K-8 Health Enhancement)	3	
Option Course(s) or Elective	1-3	
Elective		3

EDU 397 - Methods (K-8 Language Arts)		3
EDU 397 - Methods (K-8 Science)		3
EDU 342 - Managing the Learning Envir		3
EDU 395 - Practicum (I)		1-3
Elective		3
Year Total:	16-18	13-15
Senior Year		Credits
	Fall	Spring
EDU 397 - Methods (K-8 Creative Arts)	3	
EDU 397 - Methods (K-8 Math)	3	
EDU 397R - Methods:K-8 Social Studies	3	
EDU 438 - Ltrcy Asmnt, Diagnos and Instr	3	
EDU 395 - Practicum (II)	1-3	
EDU 495 - Student Teaching		12
Year Total:	13-15	12
Total Program Credits:		111-119

A minimum of 120 credits is required for graduation; 42 of these credits must be in courses numbered 300 and above.

* See advisor to choose one course from stem list.

Options

The following options may be added to the Elementary Education K-8 major, but students are not required to add an option.

- Early Childhood Education Option (<http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/education-health-human-development/department-education/elementary-education/earlychildhood>) (Does **not** lead to additional licensure)
- Mathematics Education Option (<http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/education-health-human-development/department-education/mathematics>) (Does **not** lead to additional licensure)
- Science Education Option (<http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/education-health-human-development/department-education/science>) (Does **not** lead to additional licensure)
- Special Education Option (<http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/education-health-human-development/department-education/special-education>) (Does **not** lead to additional licensure--students interested in Special Education licensure should speak to an Education Department advisor)

Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Adobe Garamond Pro.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.