

Exceptional Student and Elementary Education

The B.A. degree program in Exceptional Student Education is designed to prepare students who plan to teach in classrooms that include children and youth with exceptionalities. The Exceptional Student and Elementary Certification Specialization is a Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) accredited and Florida Department of Education (FDOE) approved specialization that leads directly to FDOE certification in Exceptional Student Education (K-12) and Elementary Education (K-6) with ESOL and Reading Endorsements. A grade below "C-" in any major course cannot be used to satisfy a program requirement.

Students interested in teaching at the elementary level without certification for exceptional student education should review the [Elementary Education Major section of this catalog](#).

Students interested in teaching at the middle or secondary level will complete their baccalaureate degrees in the discipline and are encouraged to earn the Professional Education Minor. The Professional Education Minor is designed for content majors to complete the requirements for a temporary middle or secondary certification in Florida. Coursework meets the requirement of the Professional Training Option (PTO) and is consistent with the program requirements of Florida Department of Education. For additional information review the [Professional Education Minor section of this catalog](#).

Students interested in teaching Science or Math at the middle or secondary level will complete one of 5 UWF-Teach programs (Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Mathematics, or Physics). For additional information review the undergraduate degrees in the [catalog](#).

Responsibility for the teacher education programs at The University rests with the Dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies, who is the head of the Professional Education Unit.

Requirements for teacher education programs may change due to legislative mandates. Therefore, the actual program requirements may differ from those listed in the catalog. Candidates must inquire with the Director or an advisor in the School of Education (SOE) to obtain the most current program requirements. Students seeking initial certification must be degree-seeking.

Fingerprinting may be required for any placement in a school (including the field experience associated with EDF 1005 Introduction to Education). The Student Affidavit and Fingerprinting Application may be required before any student can be placed in a school for Field Experiences or Student Teaching. Forms are available from the local school districts.

Admission to Teacher Education

Students entering UWF or declaring a major in Teacher Education will automatically be placed in a pending status until they are fully admitted to the Teacher Education program.

Students must be admitted to the Exceptional Student Education program prior to enrolling in higher-level education coursework. While in the pending status, students may take a limited number of

3000/4000 level education courses, including EDF 3234 Applied Foundations of Education, LAE 3314 Literacy for the Emergent Learner, EEX 3070 Methods in Inclusion and Collaboration, TSL 4080 ESOL Principles and Practices, EDG 4442 Effective Learning Environments, EDG 4373 Integrated Arts and Contemporary Educational Tools, EDG 4351 Educational Assessment, and RED 3310 Literacy Instruction for the Elementary Learner.

To be admitted, students must meet the following requirements:

- A cumulative GPA of 2.50 in all previously attempted college work;
- A passing score on the General Knowledge Test of the Florida Teacher Certification Exam;
- Completion of EDF 1005 Introduction to Education with a grade of "C-" or higher.

The admission process requires students to complete the Application for Admission to Teacher Education and complete the orientation requirement.

Prospective teachers are expected to adhere to the Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida and national standards of conduct associated with professional, accreditation, and state agencies. Teacher candidates who are struggling to meet content and/or disposition standards and/or competencies may be referred to the Teacher Education Remediation Process and Navigate, the University support system. If a student who is referred to the remediation process, and does not successfully complete the support/intervention process, they may not be allowed to continue to enroll in any professional education program.

All approvals for admission to teacher candidacy are provisional and subject to reevaluation as students progress through the program. Students denied admission or removed from the program may appeal the decision to the Dean, College of Education Professional Studies.

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Readmission to Teacher Education

Readmission into a teacher education program requires the student to meet standards for the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) and the University. Readmitted students will be required to complete the degree plan in effect at the time of readmission and to meet the requirements for admission to teacher education in effect at the time of readmission.

Course work completed prior to readmission will be reviewed for compliance with current CAEP, FDOE, and University requirements. Students will be required to retake courses that are not in compliance with these requirements.

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Admission to Student Teaching

The student teaching program, administered through the School of Education, consists of one semester of student teaching or two semesters of internship supervised by a highly qualified teacher who has completed Clinical Educator Training. The student teaching/internship experience is scheduled during the student's senior year.

Requirements for admission to student teaching/internship include the following:

- Full admission to teacher education;
- A minimum GPA of 2.5 in teacher education (major) courses. A grade below "C-" cannot be used to satisfy a program requirement;

- Completion of specialization courses required in the major, if applicable, (see the section of this catalog related to the appropriate specialization for specific course requirements);
- Passing results on the general knowledge, professional, and subject area tests of the Florida Teacher Certification Examination;
- Recommendation of the student’s academic advisor and approval of the Director of the Department of the School of Education.

During the time a student is engaged in student teaching, any outside employment or additional academic work except senior seminar must be approved by the [Director](#) of the Department [of the School of Education](#).

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Title II Reports

In compliance with the Higher Education Act, annual reports about teacher preparation in the state are available [online](#). Select the appropriate year from the left column of the webpage and then click on Florida.

Program Requirements

Candidates for admission to the CAEP/FDOE approved teacher education specialization must meet and complete admission requirements detailed above. In addition to general University requirements, students seeking the B.A. in Exceptional Student Education/Elementary Education must meet the following requirements.

The Exceptional Student/Elementary Education Certification program is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and is a Florida DOE (FDOE) approved program that leads directly to certification in Exceptional Student Education (K-12) and Elementary Education (K-6) with ESOL and Reading Endorsements. Students must successfully complete the Florida Teacher Certification Exam in Exceptional Student Education, Elementary Education, General Knowledge, and Professional Education.

General Education

In addition to the General Education requirements listed on this page, students must satisfy all additional University requirements, including the Gordon Rule, multicultural, and foreign language requirements. With appropriate planning and coordination with an academic advisor, students may satisfy some of the general University requirements through the General Education curriculum. For a complete listing of general degree requirements, refer to the ["University Requirements"](#) section of this catalog.

General Education Curriculum:

Communication

ENC 1101	English Composition I	3
ENC 1102	English Composition II	3

Mathematics

Choose one course from Group A and one Additional course from either Group A or Group B 6

Group A		
MAC 1105	College Algebra	
MAC 1105C	College Algebra with Lab	
MAC 2311	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I	

MGF 1106	Mathematics for Liberal Arts I
MGF 1107	Mathematics for Liberal Arts II
STA 2023	Elements of Statistics

Group B

MAC 1114	Trigonometry
MAC 1140	Precalculus Algebra
MAC 1147	Precalculus with Trigonometry
MAC 2233	Calculus with Business Applications
MAC 2312	Analytic Geometry and Calculus II
STA 2360	Introduction to Data Science

Social Sciences

Choose one course from Group A and one additional course from either Group A or Group B 6

Group A

AMH 2020	United States since 1877
ANT 2000	Introduction to Anthropology
ECO 2013	Principles of Economics Macro
POS 2041	American Politics
PSY 2012	General Psychology
SYG 2000	Introduction to Sociology

Group B

AMH 2010	United States to 1877
ANT 2100	Introduction to Archaeology
ANT 2400	Current Cultural Issues
CCJ 2002	Survey of Crime and Justice
COM 2023	Death and Communication
CPO 2002	Comparative Politics
DEP 2004	Human Development Across the Lifespan
EUH 1000	Western Perspectives I
EUH 1001	Western Perspectives II
FIN 2104	Personal Financial Planning
GEA 2000	Nations and Regions of the World
GEB 1011	Introduction to Business
HIS 2050	Explore! History
IDH 1041	Honors Core 2
INR 2002	International Politics
MMC 2000	Principles of Mass Communication
PLA 2013	Survey of American Law
SOW 2192	Understanding Relationships in the 21st Century
SPM 2010	Sport in Global Society
SYG 2010	Current Social Problems

Humanities

Choose one course from Group A and one additional course from either Group A or Group B 6

Group A

ARH 1000	Art Appreciation
LIT 2000	Introduction to Literature
MUL 2010	Music Appreciation
PHI 2010	Introduction to Philosophy
THE 2000	Theatre Appreciation

Group B

AML 2010	American Literature I
AML 2020	American Literature II
AML 2072	Sex, Money, and Power in American Literature
ARH 2050	Western Survey I: Prehistory to the Medieval Period
ARH 2051	Western Survey II: Renaissance to Contemporary
ART 1015C	Exploring Artistic Vision
ART 2821	The Self, Creativity, Your Career and Visual Culture
CRW 2001	Introduction to Creative Writing
ENL 2010	History of English Literature I
ENL 2020	History of English Literature II
IDH 1040	Honors Core 1
LIT 2030	Introduction to Poetry
MUH 2930	The Music Experience: Special Topics
PHI 2103	Critical Thinking
PHI 2603	Ethics in Contemporary Society
REL 1300	World Religions
SPC 2608	Basic Communication Skills
THE 2300	Survey of Dramatic Literature

Natural Sciences

Choose one course from Group A and one additional course from either Group A or Group B 6

Group A	
AST 1002	Descriptive Astronomy
BSC 1005	General Biology for Non-Majors *
BSC 1085	Anatomy and Physiology I *
BSC 2010	Biology I
CHM 1020	Concepts in Chemistry *
CHM 2045	General Chemistry I *
ESC 2000	Introduction to Earth Science *
EVR 2001	Introduction to Environmental Science
PHY 1020	Conceptual Physics
PHY 2048	Calculus-Based Physics I * **
PHY 2048C	Calculus-Based Physics I Studio ***
PHY 2053	Algebra-Based Physics I * **
Group B	
ANT 2511	Biological Anthropology *
AST 2037	Life in the Universe
BOT 2010	General Botany
BSC 1050	Fundamentals of Ecology
BSC 1086	Anatomy and Physiology II *
BSC 2011	Biology II
BSC 2311	Introduction to Oceanography and Marine Biology *
CGS 2020	Introduction to Machine Learning
CHM 2046	General Chemistry II *
CIS 2530	Introduction to Cybersecurity
GLY 2010	Physical Geology *
MCB 1000	Fundamentals of Microbiology *
PHC 2082	Informatics and Your Health

PHY 2049	Calculus-Based Physics II * **
PHY 2054	Algebra-Based Physics II * **

- * May be taken with or without lab.
- ** Algebra-Based Physics is usually recommended for non-science majors, while Calculus-Based Physics is recommended for science majors
- *** Although students receive 5 semester hours credit for PHY 2048C, an additional 3 semester science course will be needed to meet General Education requirements.

General Education Electives

Choose an additional course from two of the three areas of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences

Multicultural Requirement

Multicultural Courses

An important component of a liberal education is the study of cultures other than one's own. As such, multiculturalism encompasses the appreciation of the values, expressions, and modes of organization of diverse cultural communities. To further such study, the University of West Florida requires all students pursuing a bachelor's degree to complete at least one course that explores one or more of the dimensions of another culture (language, religion, socio-economic structures, etc.). Students are exempt from this requirement if they have completed an A.A. degree, the general education program at a Florida public institution, or a baccalaureate degree.

The requirement is satisfied by the successful completion of a multicultural course designated on the following list. Several of the selections are General Education courses, and students may enroll in these to meet both the General Education and the multicultural requirements.

***Passed by UWF Faculty Senate on 11/08/2002*

This list is continually updated and students are encouraged to check with their advisors for alternative options.

AML 2010	American Literature I	3
AML 2020	American Literature II	3
AML 3604	African American Literature	3
AML 3624	Black Women Writers	3
AML 4015	Topics in Nineteenth-Century American Literature	3
AML 4640	Topics in Native American Literature	3
ANT 1001	Anthropology as a Profession	1
ANT 2000	Introduction to Anthropology	3
ANT 2301	Human Sexuality and Culture	3
ANT 3212	Peoples and Cultures of the World	3
ANT 3312	North American Indians	3
ANT 3363	Japanese Culture	3
ANT 3403	Cultural Ecology	3
ANT 4006	Anthropology of Human Rights	3
ANT 4025	Ritual Use of Human Remains	3
ANT 4516	Modern Human Physical Variation	3
ARH 1000	Art Appreciation	3
ARH 2050	Western Survey I: Prehistory to the Medieval Period	3

ARH 2051	Western Survey II: Renaissance to Contemporary	3	MAR 4156	Seminar in International Marketing	3
ARH 3590	Non-Western Art	3	MMC 3743	Communicating Fear: Horror Films and Popular Culture	3
ARH 3607	Native American Art	3	MMC 3745	Communicating Fear Abroad: International Horror Films & Popular Culture	3
ARH 4302	Late Renaissance Art in Italy	3	MUH 2930	The Music Experience: Special Topics	3
ARH 4412	The Age of Revolution to Romanticism in Europe: 1750-1850	3	MUL 2010	Music Appreciation	3
ARH 4450	Modern Art: 1850-1980	3	NUR 4615	Community and Public Health Nursing	3
ARH 4470	Contemporary Art	3	NUR 4636	Population-based Public Health Nursing	3
ARH 4563	Art of Japan	3	PHI 3790	African Philosophy	3
CCJ 3678	Race, Gender, Ethnicity, and Crime	3	PUR 3404	International Public Relations	3
COM 3014	Gender Communication	3	PSY 3860	Positive Psychology	3
COM 3461	Intercultural Communication	3	SOP 3730	Psychology, Culture, and Society	3
COM 4242	Communication and Christianity	3	SOW 4233	Human Diversity and Social Justice	3
CPO 2002	Comparative Politics	3	SPN 3400	Advanced Stylistics	3
CPO 4792	Geopolitics	3	SPN 4520	Latin American Culture and Civilization	3
CRW 2001	Introduction to Creative Writing	3	SYO 4421	Sociology of Health, Illness and Health Care	3
EDF 2085	Teaching Diverse Populations	3	SYO 4530	Inequality in America	3
ENG 4013	Introduction to Literary Theory	3			
ENL 2020	History of English Literature II	3			
EUH 1000	Western Perspectives I	3			
EUH 1001	Western Perspectives II	3			
EUH 3203	Modern Europe	3			
EUH 3334	Emperors, Sultans, Dictators, and Democrats: The Balkans	3			
EUH 3411	Rome and the Mediterranean World	3			
EUH 3576	Soviet Union since 1917	3			
EUH 4563	The Other Germany: The Lands of the Austrian Monarchy, 1526-1918	3			
FRE 4955	Supervised Foreign Language Field Experience Abroad	1-3			
GEA 2000	Nations and Regions of the World	3			
GEB 4361	International Business	3			
GEO 3421	Cultural Geography	3			
GEO 3471	Geography of World Affairs	3			
HIS 2050	Explore! History	3			
HIS 4262	Rise and Fall of the Portuguese Empire	3			
IDH 1040	Honors Core 1	3			
IDH 1041	Honors Core 2	3			
INR 2002	International Politics	3			
LAH 4135	Spanish Conquest of the Americas	3			
LAH 4131	'Atlantic Indians': How Indigenous and African Peoples Shaped Europe & the Americas	3			
LAH 4451	Greater Mexico: Central America from Conquest to the 20th Century	3			
LAH 4728	Gender and Sexuality in Latin America from Colonization to Today	3			
LIT 2000	Introduction to Literature	3			
LIT 2030	Introduction to Poetry	3			
LIT 3233	Postcolonial Literature	3			
LIT 4036	Topics in Poetry and Poetics	3			
LIT 4385	Feminist Theory	3			
MAN 4102	Management of Diversity	3			

Civic Literacy Requirement

The 2017 Florida Legislature amended [Section 1007.25, Florida Statutes](#), to require students **initially entering a State University System (SUS) and/or Florida College System (FCS) institution in 2018-2019** and thereafter to demonstrate competency in civic literacy.

The 2021 Legislature further amended Florida Statutes, requiring students to complete both a civic literacy course and exam. As a result, there are three cohorts of students currently matriculating at Florida public institutions subject to varying requirements. As demonstrated in the table below, the exact civic literacy requirements are based on the academic term in which a student first enrolled in a Florida public institution.

Students Included in Cohort	Civic Literacy Competency Requirement
Cohort 1: Students first entering the SUS or FCS prior to fall 2018	None
Cohort 2: Students first entering the SUS or FCS in fall 2018 – summer A 2021	Complete a course or exam
Cohort 3: Students first entering the SUS or FCS in summer B 2021 (on or after July 1, 2021) and thereafter	Complete both a course and exam

Additionally, the 2021 Legislature made two additional exceptions: approving the use of accelerated mechanisms for meeting the course competency requirement and exempting high school students who pass the Florida Civic Literacy Exam in high school from the postsecondary exam requirement. These two changes are in effect for Cohort 3.

There are multiple ways to satisfy this requirement. Students should work with their academic advisor to determine which option is best for their degree requirements/degree plan.

Additional information can be found on our [Civic Literacy](#) website.

*[BOG 8.006](#); [s.1007.25\(4,a-b\)](#)

Common Prerequisites

State-mandated common prerequisites must be completed prior to admission to the Exceptional Student/Elementary Education program. See the [Common Prerequisite Manual](#) for course substitutions from Florida colleges and universities.

EDF 1005	Introduction to Education	3
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Lower Division Recommended Electives

Students must complete sufficient 1000/2000 level advisor-approved electives to satisfy at least 60 sh in the lower division. Current UWF students may substitute courses at other levels (3000-4000) with permission. The following are recommended courses for aspiring teachers:

MAC 1105	College Algebra	3
PHI 2103	Critical Thinking	3
SPC 2608	Public Speaking	3
STA 2023	Elements of Statistics	3
Choose one of the following:		3
DEP 2004	Human Development Across the Lifespan	
PSY 2012	General Psychology	

Total Hours 30

Major

EDF 3234	Applied Foundations of Education ⁺	3
EDG 3945	Field Experience 1 ⁺	3
EDG 4351	Educational Assessment ⁺	3
EDG 4373	Integrated Arts and Contemporary Educational Tools ⁺	3
EDG 4442	Effective Learning Environments ⁺	3
EDG 4949	Field Experience 2 ⁺	3
EEX 3070	Methods in Inclusion and Collaboration ⁺	3
EEX 4141	Teaching Students with Language and Communication Disorders ⁺	3
EEX 4254	Instructional Strategies for Teaching Students with Exceptionalities ⁺	3
EEX 4255	Curriculum for Teaching Students with Exceptionalities ⁺	3
EEX 4474	Curricula for Teaching Students with Severe Disabilities ⁺	3
EEX 4772	Personal, Social and Employment Skills for Exceptional Students ⁺	3
LAE 3314	Literacy for the Emergent Learner ⁺	3
MAE 4310	Teaching Mathematics in Elementary Schools ⁺	3
RED 3310	Literacy Instruction for the Elementary Learner ⁺	3
RED 4542	Assessment and Differentiated Instruction in Reading ⁺	3
SCE 4310	Teaching Science in Elementary Schools ⁺	3
SSE 4113	Social Studies for Elementary Teachers ⁺	3
TSL 4080	ESOL Principles and Practices ⁺	3
TSL 4081	Teaching English to ESOL Students ⁺	3
Student Teaching (choose one of the following options):		12
Option 1		
EDG 4936	Senior Seminar and Reading Practicum ⁺	

EDG 4940	Student Teaching ⁺	
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Option 2

EDG 4936	Senior Seminar and Reading Practicum ⁺	
EDG 4941	Teaching Internship I ⁺	
EDG 4942	Teaching Internship II ⁺	

Total Hours 72

⁺ Courses included in the major GPA