

Degree Type – Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS)
Degree Title – Elementary Education with Teacher Certification (EC-6 or EC-12)

To prepare highly skilled professionals to assume roles and positions in teaching, research, educational leadership, and human development to contribute to the educational achievement of children in elementary settings.

A – GENERAL EDUCATION CORE – 42 HOURS

Students must fulfill the General Education Core requirements. The courses listed below satisfy both degree requirements and General Education Core requirements.

Required

Mathematics – 3 hours

Choose the following or higher:

MATH 1314 College Algebra

Creative Arts – 3 hours

Choose one:

MUSI 1313 Teaching Music in the Elementary School

ARTS 1301 Art Appreciation

B – MAJOR REQUIREMENTS – 60 HOURS (39 advanced minimum)

1 – Academic Content – 30 hours minimum (15 advanced minimum)

Choose one (not completed in General Education Core):

ARTS 1301 Art Appreciation

MUSI 1313 Teaching Music in the Elementary School

Choose one (not completed in General Education Core):

BIOL 1406 General Biology I (or BIOL 1487 Honors)

BIOL 1407 General Biology II (or BIOL 1488 Honors)

BIOL 3301 Biology Evolution

BIOL 4315 Inquiry-based Science and Laboratory Techniques (or BIOL 4387 Honors)

Choose one (not completed in General Education Core):

GEOL 1403 Physical Geology

ASTR 1401 Introduction to Astronomy I

GEOG 2313 Principles of Geography Physics Elementary

PSCI 3310 Planet Earth and Its Place

HIST 4390 Special Topics in World History

KINE 3355 Health and Motor Development

MATH 1350 Fundamentals of Mathematics I

MATH 1351 Fundamentals of Mathematics II

READ 3320 Early Literacy Development

READ 3324 Reading Comprehension and Assessment

For Bilingual Specialization, complete:

SPAN 4338 Children's Literature in Spanish

For all other specializations, complete:

READ 3350 Literature and Disciplinary Learning in Elementary School

2 – Specialization – 18 hours (18 advanced)

a – Bilingual Education – 18 hours (18 advanced)

Bilingual Specialization allows the student the opportunity to become a teacher in the State of Texas with EC-6 Bilingual Generalist certification and work in schools with children in early childhood through 6th grades.

Area of Certification: Bilingual Generalist (EC-6)

SPAN 3304 Advanced Spanish for Bilingual Teachers
 EDBE 3322 Foundations of Bilingual Education and ESL
 EDBE 3323 The Development of Bilingualism
 EDBE 3324 Early Biliteracy
 EDBE 4305 Language Arts in the Bilingual Classroom
 EDBE 4306 The Bilingual Curriculum in the Content Areas

b – Early Childhood – 18 hours (18 advanced)

Early Childhood Specialization allows the student the opportunity to become a teacher in the State of Texas with EC-6 Generalist certification and work in schools with children in early childhood through 6th grades.

Area of Certification: Generalist (EC-6)

ECED 4315 Linguistically Diverse Early Childhood Students
 ECED 4314 Dynamics of Play and Play Environments in Childhood
 ECED 4391 Foundations of Early Childhood Education
 ECED 4392 Guidance of Young Children
 ECED 4393 Cross-Cultural Perspectives in Elementary School Settings
 ECED 4394 Principles of Curriculum Design in Early Childhood

c – English as a Second Language (ESL) – 18 hours (18 advanced)

ESL Specialization allows the student the opportunity to become a teacher in the State of Texas with EC-6 Generalist and ESL Supplement certification and work in schools with children in early childhood through 6th grades.

Area of Certification: Generalist (EC-6) with ESL

EDSL 3322 Foundations of Bilingual Education and ESL
 EDSL 3326 English as a Second Language
 EDSL 4306 Content Area Methods in the ESL Classroom
 EDSL 4308 Assessment in the ESL Classroom
 ENGL 4360 Fundamentals of Language Development
 ENGL 4375 Language Acquisition

a – Special Education – 18 hours (18 advanced)

Special Education Specialization allows the student the opportunity to become a teacher in the State of Texas with EC-6 Generalist and EC-12 Special Education certification and work in schools with children in early childhood through 6th grades.

Area of Certification: Generalist (EC-6) with Special Education (EC-12)

SPED 3390 Introduction to Exceptional Children
 SPED 4330 Language and Literacy Development of Diverse Exceptional Learners
 SPED 4350 Assessing Exceptional Learners
 SPED 4370 Instructional Methods for Students with Low Incidence Disabilities
 SPED 4380 Instructional Methods for Students with Learning Disabilities
 SPED 4395 Special Education Practicum in Behavior Techniques

3 – Education Support Courses – 12 hours (6 advanced)

EDUC 1301 Introduction to Teaching
 EDFR 2301 Intercultural Context of Schooling
 SPED 4310 Inclusion and Differentiated Instruction in Special Education
 EDSL 3310 Emergent Bilingual Students in Schools

C – TEACHER CERTIFICATION – 24 HOURS (24 advanced)

Choose one:

- EDCI 3331 Human Development and Student Learning
- EPSY 3331 Human Development and Student Learning
- EDCI 3332 Designing and Implementing Instruction and Assessment
- EDCI 3333 Teaching Science to Elementary Students
- EDCI 3334 Teaching Mathematics to Elementary Students
- EDCI 3335 Teaching Social Studies to Elementary Students
- EDCI 3336 Teaching English Language Arts and Reading to Elementary Students
- EDCI 4637 Student Teaching for Elementary Teachers (EC-6)

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS FOR GRADUATION – 126 HOURS**TOTAL ADVANCED HOURS (MINIMUM) – 63 HOURS****ADMISSION, PROGRESSION, AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, if applicable:****Progression requirements**

For teacher certification, students must apply for admission and be accepted to the College of Education and P-16 Integration prior to enrolling in teacher certification courses, except for EDFR 2301 which is open to all students.

Graduation requirements

In addition to the graduation requirements listed in the UTRGV 2015-2017 Undergraduate Catalog, demonstration of proficiency in a language other than English is required at the undergraduate level equivalent to a minimum of six credit hours. Proficiency can be demonstrated by a college credit exam, a placement test approved through the UTRGV Department of Writing and Language Studies, and/or up to six credit hours of college-level language coursework.