Interdisciplinary Studies
Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies
(Focus: EC – 6th/EC – 12th Grade Teacher Certification - Special Education)

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

020 - Mathematics – 3 hours
   Choose the following or higher:
   MATH 1314 College Algebra

050 - Creative Arts – 3 hours
   ARTS 1301 Art Appreciation

B – Major Requirements – 60 Hours (39 advanced minimum)

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

   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
      READ 3350 Literature and Disciplinary Learning in Elementary School

2 – Special Education Specialization – 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.