This program leads to a profession which requires an occupational license as defined under Texas Occupations Code 58.001. This requires that all applicants seeking to become licensed must undergo a criminal background check prior to licensure. Students in this program should check with the College of Education and P-16 Integration on the requirements for a criminal background check prior to student teaching.

A BS in Physical Science with teaching certification will enable future educators to gain solid training and education in the areas of chemistry and physics. Future graduates will have a leadership role in improving science education and in enabling the youth to become more interested in STEM careers.

A – GENERAL EDUCATION – 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
MATH 2413 Calculus I (or MATH 2487 Honors) three-hour lecture

030 - Life and Physical Sciences – 6 hours
CHEM 1311 General Chemistry I
CHEM 1312 General Chemistry II

090 - Integrative and Experiential Learning – 3 hours
CHEM 1111 General Chemistry I Lab
CHEM 1112 General Chemistry II Lab

B – MAJOR REQUIREMENTS – 59 hours (31 advanced)

1 – Physics Core Courses – 29 hours (21 advanced)
PHYS 2411 Physics for Teachers I
PHYS 2412 Physics for Teachers II
PHYS 3301 Electromagnetic Theory I
PHYS 3402 Modern Physics
PHYS 3304 Optics
PHYS 4401 Physics Education
PHYS 3101 Junior Laboratory Research I
PHYS 3330 Functions and Modeling
PHYS 4392 Research Methods

2 – Chemistry – 18 hours (7 advanced)
CHEM 2323 Organic Chemistry I
CHEM 2123 Organic Chemistry I Lab
CHEM 2325 Organic Chemistry II
CHEM 2125 Organic Chemistry II Lab
CHEM 2301 Analytical Chemistry
CHEM 3303 Biochemistry I
CHEM 4401 Chemistry Education

3 – Mathematics – 12 hours (3 advanced)
MATH 2413 Calculus I (or MATH 2487 Honors) one-hour lecture
MATH 2414 Calculus II (or MATH 2488 Honors)
MATH 2415 Calculus III
MATE 3317 Perspectives in Mathematics and Science (or PHIL 3317)

C – UTEACH CERTIFICATION – 21 hours (19 advanced)

Area of Certification: Physical Science (6-12)
UTCH 1101 Inquiry Approaches to Teaching
UTCH 1102 Inquiry-Based Lesson Design
UTCH 3301 Knowing and Learning in Mathematics and Science
UTCH 3302 Classroom Interactions
UTCH 3303 Project-Based Instruction
UTCH 4601 Apprentice Teaching
UTCH 4101 Apprentice Teaching Seminar
READ 4305 Content Area Literacy

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS FOR GRADUATION – 122 HOURS
TOTAL ADVANCED HOURS – 51 HOURS

ADMISSION, PROGRESSION, AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, if applicable:

Progression requirements
Admission to the College of Education and P-16 Integration is required for participation in Apprentice Teaching and Seminar (UTCH 4101, 4601). Students unable to be admitted to UTCH 4601 and UTCH 4101 will be required to substitute 4 advanced hours, as recommended by advisor.

Graduation requirements
In addition to the graduation requirements listed in the UTRGV 2017-2018 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.