

Bachelor of Science (BS)
Special Education

Specialist Certification with Interdisciplinary Content Pedagogy

The 2026-2027 list of core courses can be found in the 2026-2027 Undergraduate Catalog: www.utrgv.edu/catalog > See 'Bachelors Degree Program Regulations'

Symbols Key
 Campus: B - Offered in Brownsville; E - Offered in Edinburg; O - Offered Online; T - Travel Required
 Bolded Course Number*: Program Admission Requirement
 Min Grade: A - Excellent; B - Good; C - Satisfactory; D - Below Average; CR - Credit; P - Passing; S - Satisfactory.
 Core: 010 - Communication; 020 - Mathematics; 030 - Life and Physical Sciences; 040 - Language, Philosophy & Culture; 050 - Creative Arts; 060 - American History; 070 - Government/Political Science; 080 - Social and Behavioral Sciences;
 Core: 090 - Applied Communication and Literacies; Humanities; Leadership; Science Labs; Interdisciplinary; Technologies; Language Diversity & Writing

This program is delivered in a hybrid format with courses offered through a combination of face-to-face and online instruction.

Year	Semester	Credit Hours	Campus	Course Number	Course Title	num	Core	Prerequisite	Additional Notes	
1	Fall	3	B/E/O	Choose 1	Communication		C	010	For all 010 courses: Satisfactory scores on English portion of ACT test and TSI examination or ENGL 0301. For ENGL 1302, a grade of "C" or better in ENGL 1301.	See General Education Core for more details Option: ENGL 1301
1	Fall	3	B/E/O	Choose 1	American History			060		See General Education Core for more details. Options: HIST 1301 or HIST 2327
1	Fall	3	B/E/O	MATH 1314 or MATH 1414	College Algebra		C	020	College Ready TSI status in Mathematics.	See General Education Core for more details.
1	Fall	3	B/E/O	SPED 1390	Introduction to Exceptional Children					Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.
1	Fall	3	B/E/O	ARTS 1301	Art Appreciation			050		See General Education Core for more details.
1	Fall		B/E/O	UNIV	1301 Foundations of Academic and Career Success 1101 Academic and Career Success 1001/1300 Living and Working by Design					As required, based on a number of factors such as credit hours earned, TSI status, high school rank, major declaration, etc.
1	Fall	15	Semester Total Hours							
1	Spring	3	B/E/O	Choose 1	Communication		C	010	For all 010 courses: Satisfactory scores on English portion of ACT test and TSI examination or ENGL 0301. For ENGL 1302, a grade of "C" or better in ENGL 1301.	See General Education Core for more details. Options: ENGL 1302 or ENGL 1305
1	Spring	3	B/E/O	Choose 1	American History			060		See General Education Core for more details. Options: HIST 1302 or HIST 2328
1	Spring	3	B/E/O	POLS 2305	U.S. Federal Govt & Politics			070		See General Education Core for more details.
1	Spring	3	B/E	MATH 1350	Fundamentals of Mathematics I		C		Minimum grade of C in one of the following: MATH 1314, MATH 1414, MATH 2412, or MATH 2413.	Prerequisite to Teacher Education Program Admission
1	Spring	12	Semester Total Hours							
1	SUMMER	4	B/E/O	Choose 1	Life and Physical Sciences			030/ 090	May apply pending course selection	See General Education Core for course options. PSCI 1421 recommended. If taking lab, earn 1 hour toward Integrative/Experiential Learning Option (090).
1	SUMMER	4	B/E/O	Choose 1	Life and Physical Sciences			030/ 090	May apply pending course selection	See General Education Core for course options. PSCI 1422 recommended. If taking lab, earn 1 hour toward Integrative/Experiential Learning Option (090).
1	SUMMER	8	Semester Total Hours							

Year	Semester	Credit Hours	Campus	Course Number	Course Title	num	Core	Prerequisite	Additional Notes	
2	Fall	3	B/E	MATH 1351	Fundamentals of Mathematics II				MATH 1350 with a grade of "C" or better.	Prerequisite to Teacher Education Program Admission
2	Fall	3	B/E	SCIE 3301	Science for Elementary Teachers I				Must be a declared major in the following College of Education and P-16 Integration programs: BS Education, BS Special Education, BS Bilingual Education, and BS Early Care and Early Childhood Studies (Teacher Certification).	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.
2	Fall	3	B/E	HIST 3309	History Foundations for Elementary Social Studies Educators				Grade of "C" or better in HIST 1301 and HIST 1302 and Sophomore standing. Must be a declared major in the following College of Education and P-16 Integration programs: BS Education, BS Special Education, BS Bilingual Education, and BS Early Care and Early Childhood Studies (Teacher Certification).	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.
2	Fall	1	B/E/O	Choose 1	Integrative/Experiential Learning Option			090		See General Education Core for course options.
2	Fall	3	B/E/O	Choose 1	Integrative/Experiential Learning Option			090		See General Education Core for course options.
2	Fall	13	Semester Total Hours							
2	Spring	3	B/E/O	Choose 1	Language, Philosophy & Culture			040		See General Education Core for course options.
2	Spring	3	B/E	SCIE 3302	Science for Elementary Teachers II				Must be a declared major in the following College of Education and P-16 Integration programs: BS Education, BS Special Education, BS Bilingual Education, and BS Early Care and Early Childhood Studies (Teacher Certification).	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.
2	Spring	3	B/E/O	Choose 1	Social and Behavioral Sciences			080		See General Education Core for course options; ECON 1301 recommended
2	Spring	3	B/E/O	POLS 2306	Texas Government & Politics			070		See General Education Core for more details.
2	Spring	12	Semester Total Hours							

Apply to College of Education and P-16 Integration Educator Preparation Program one semester prior (Summer for Fall and Fall for Spring).
 Students will complete a 6-credit hour clinical teaching experience through EDCI 4637 or EDCI 4331 and EDCI 4332.
 The EDCI 4331 and EDCI 4332 course sequence is only for students completing the Clinical Teaching Residency Pathway. The two courses are to be taken the last year of the program. Please consult with the program coordinator for more information.

Year	Semester	Credit Hours	Campus	Course Number	Course Title	num	Core	Prerequisite	Additional Notes	
3	Fall	3	B/E	EDCI 3331	Human Development and Student Learning			Admission to the College of Education EC-6 Teacher Education Program.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	Fall	3	B/E	EDCI 3332	Designing and Implementing Instruction and Assessment			Admission to the College of Education EC-6 Teacher Education Program.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	Fall	3	O	SPED 4330	Language and Literacy Development of Diverse Exceptional Learners			SPED 1390.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	Fall	3	O	SPED 4395	Social Emotional Learning			SPED 1390.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	Fall	3	B/E	READ 3320	Early Literacy Development			Must be taken after admission to the Teacher Preparation Program or consult with the department.	Recommended to be taken after admission.	
3	Fall	15	Semester Total Hours							
3	Spring	3	B/E	EDCI 3333	Teaching Science to Elementary Students			EDCI 3331 and EDCI 3332	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	Spring	3	B/E	EDCI 3334	Teaching Mathematics to Elementary Students			EDCI 3331 and EDCI 3332	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	Spring	3	O	SPED 3350	Collaborative Models and Legal Issues in Special Education			SPED 1390.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	Spring	3	B/E	EDSL 3310	Emergent Bilingual Students in Schools			Admission to the CEP Educator Preparation Program.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	Spring	3	B/E	READ 3324	Reading Comprehension and Assessment			READ 3320 and Admission to the CEP Educator Preparation Program.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	Spring	15	Semester Total Hours							
3	SUMMER	3	O	SPED 4350	Assessment and Data Interpretation in Special Education			SPED 1390.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	SUMMER	3	O	SPED 4370	Instructional Methods for Students with Low Incidence Disabilities			SPED 1390.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
3	SUMMER	6	Semester Total Hours							
Year	Semester	Credit Hours	Campus	Course Number	Course Title	num	Core	Prerequisite	Additional Notes	
4	Fall	3	B/E	EDCI 3335	Teaching Social Studies to Elementary Students			EDCI 3334	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
4	Fall	3	O	SPED 4380	Instructional Methods for Students with Learning Disabilities			SPED 1390.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
4	Fall	3	O	SPED 3300	Universal Design for Learning and Special Education Technology			SPED 1390.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
4	Fall	3	O	SPED 3333	Learning Strategies in Special Education			SPED 1390.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
4	Fall	3	O	SPED 4310	Inclusion and Differentiated Instruction in Special Education			Admission to Teacher Prep if education major. No prerequisite if non education major.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
4	Fall	15	Semester Total Hours							
4	Spring	6	B/E	EDCI 4637 or EDCI 4331 and 4332	Student Teaching for Elementary Teachers (EC-6) or Clinical Teaching Residency I for Elementary Teachers (EC-6) and Clinical Teaching Residency II for Elementary Teachers (EC-6)			Admission to the College of Education Student Teaching Program or Admission to the College of Education Clinical Teaching Residency Program.	All Education courses must be completed prior to admission to Clinical Teaching. Passing identified TExES certification exams is required before EDCI 4637. Must be taken last semester. Only offered Fall or Spring.	
4	Spring	3	B/E	EDCI 4320	Professional Development in Teaching			Admission to clinical teaching. Students must be concurrently enrolled in EDCI 4637 or EDCI 4332.	Satisfies Major-Specific Requirement.	
4	Spring	9	Semester Total Hours							
		120	TOTAL HOURS							
		(42)	Advanced minimum credit hours							