**Elementary and Kindergarten Education, B.S. (Altoona)**

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Altoona

Program Description

**Please Note:** Individuals interested in earning Pennsylvania teaching credentials for grades PK-8 should refer to the Childhood and Early Adolescent Education major.

Not all options are available at every campus. Contact the campus you are interested in attending to determine which options are offered.

This major offers teaching options in Early Childhood Education and in Elementary Education. Students successfully completing this major will have met all of the requirements for the N-3 or K-6 College Instructional I certificate issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Students must indicate their choice of teaching option at the time they make application for admission to a teacher education major. Students who are undecided at this time about which teaching option to select should contact their adviser and enroll in a field experience featuring participation in the classroom.

**Early Childhood Teaching Option**

*Available at the following campuses: University Park*

Students successfully completing this option will have met all of the requirements for the N-3 Instructional I certificate issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Special courses in both human development and education are used to integrate understanding of preschool programs with relevant theories of child development.

**Elementary Education Teaching Option**

*Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Berks, University Park*

Students successfully completing this option will have met all of the requirements for the K-6 Instructional I certificate issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

**Degree Requirements**

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary and Kindergarten Education, a minimum of 129.5 credits is required for the Early Childhood Teaching Option and a minimum of 122 credits is required for the Elementary Education Teaching Option:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>101-117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

27-30 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 6 credits of GS, 6 credits of GQ, 6 credits of GH, and 9 credits of GN courses for both options. The Early Childhood Teaching option permits 3 credits of GHW.

See also Teacher Education Programs ([https://ed.psu.edu/academics/teacher-testing-certification/](https://ed.psu.edu/academics/teacher-testing-certification/)).

### Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better per course is required for teacher certification.

### Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better for teacher certification</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AED 303</td>
<td>The Visual Arts in the Elementary School</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CI 295</td>
<td>Introductory Field Experience for Teacher Preparation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CI 495B</td>
<td>Clinical Application of Instruction - Middle Level Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CI 495D</td>
<td>Practicum in Student Teaching--Childhood and Early Adolescent Education</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CI 495F</td>
<td>Professional Development Practicum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDPSY 14</td>
<td>Learning and Instruction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 100</td>
<td>English Language Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 126</td>
<td>The Health Program for the Elementary School Child</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLED 400</td>
<td>Teaching Reading in the Elementary School</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLED 401</td>
<td>Teaching Language arts in Elementary School</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLED 402</td>
<td>Teaching Children's Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 200</td>
<td>Problem Solving in Mathematics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTHED 420</td>
<td>Teaching Mathematics In The Elementary Schools</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 241</td>
<td>Music for Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCIED 458</td>
<td>Teaching Science in the Elementary School</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPLED 400</td>
<td>Inclusive Special Ed Foundations: Legal, Characteristics,</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collaboration, Assessment, and Management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSED 430W</td>
<td>Teaching Social Studies in the Elementary Grades</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better for teacher certification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDTHP 115</td>
<td>Education in American Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or EDTHP 115A</td>
<td>Competing Rights: Issues in American Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 20</td>
<td>American Civilization to 1877</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or HIST 21</td>
<td>American Civilization Since 1877</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one of the following: 3-4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDPSY 101</td>
<td>Analysis and Interpretation of Statistical Data in Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 100</td>
<td>Statistical Concepts and Reasoning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 200</td>
<td>Elementary Statistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Select one of the following: 3

- ECON 14  Principles of Economics
- ECON 102  Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy
- ECON 104  Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy

Select one of the following: 3

- GEOG 20  Human Geography: An Introduction
- GEOG 30N  Environment and Society in a Changing World
- GEOG 122  The American Scene
- GEOG 123  Geography of Developing World
- GEOG 124  Elements of Cultural Geography
- GEOG 126  Economic Geography
- GEOG 128  Geography of International Affairs
- GEOG 320  Urban Geography: A Global Perspective

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

**Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better for teacher certification**

Select 3 credits in literature GH 3

Select 9 credits: 3 credits each (including one course with a lab) from the following GN biological science, earth science, and physical science 9

Requirements for the Option

**Requirements for the Option: Require a grade of C or better for teacher certification**

Select an option 16.5-30

Requirements for the Option

**Early Childhood Teaching Option (27-30 credits)**

*Available at the following campuses: University Park*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CI 495A</td>
<td>Clinical Application of Instruction - PK-4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 451</td>
<td>Instruction in Early Childhood Education Derived from Development Theories</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 452</td>
<td>parent Involvement in Home, Center, and Classroom Instruction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 453</td>
<td>Development and Administration of Child Service Programs</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 454</td>
<td>The Young Child's Play as Educative Processes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 479</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Courses**

- HDFS 315  Family Development 3
- or SOC 30  Sociology of the Family 3
- HDFS 428  Infant Development 3
- or HDFS 429  Advanced Child Development 3
- HPA 101  Introduction to Health Services Organization 3
- or NUTR 251  Introductory Principles of Nutrition 3
- PSYCH 100  Introductory Psychology 3
- & PSYCH 212  and Introduction to Developmental Psychology 3
- or HDFS 229  Infant and Child Development 3

**Elementary Education Teaching Option (16.5-19.5 credits)**

*Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Berks, University Park*

**Code** | **Title**                                                                 | **Credits** |
--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
KINES 127| The Physical Education Program for the Elementary School Child         | 1.5         |

**Additional Courses**

Select one of the following: 3-6

- EDPY 10  Individual Differences and Education
- HDFS 229  Infant and Child Development
- PSYCH 100  Introductory Psychology
- & PSYCH 212  and Introduction to Developmental Psychology

**Supporting Courses and Related Areas**

Select 3 credits in MATH or MTHED 3

Select 6 credits of the following: 6

- EDTHP at the 400 level
- ECE at the 400 level
- SPLED at the 400 level
- ELDK 405  Strategies in Classroom Management
- ELDK 497  Special Topics
- LLED 497  Special Topics

Select 3 credits in U.S. History 3

**General Education**

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

**Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)**

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

**Knowledge Domains**

- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

**Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)**

- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

**University Degree Requirements**

**First Year Engagement**

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3
credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 for more information). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Academic Advising
The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in- and out-of-class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY for more information.

University Park
College of Education
Advising and Certification Center
228 Chambers Building
University Park, PA 16802