

# Elementary Education

Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education and Human Services



## Program of Study

Students combine a foundation of general studies with major courses and clinical experiences with children as they complete the elementary education curriculum. A Bachelor of Science in education with a major in elementary education leads to Illinois teacher licensure in grades first through sixth grade (self-contained classrooms).

In addition to extensive coursework in the major, students begin observing children early in the program and begin working with them as tutors and classroom aides in their junior year. During the comprehensive pre-student teaching field experience in the first semester of their senior year, students teach lessons in mathematics, science, reading, language arts and social studies. The program culminates in a 16-week student teaching experience.

## Faculty

The professors in the WIU Department of Curriculum and Instruction have a strong interest in helping students develop into skilled, competent and creative professionals. The faculty members hold advanced degrees from notable universities across the United States and are all experienced public school teachers. The faculty engage in a wide variety of scholarly activities that enhance their teaching: collaborating with local education agencies, participating in professional organizations, providing continuing education workshops, delivering professional conference presentations, publishing in education journals, authoring books and book chapters and writing grants. Several have won teaching, technology and/or research awards.

## Scholarships

A number of scholarships are available to academically talented students through curriculum and instruction, the Center for Preparation of Education Professionals (CPEP) advising office and the College of Education and Human Services. Information about these scholarships can be found on the department website at [wiu.edu/curriculum](http://wiu.edu/curriculum).

## Honors College

Entering students with high ACT or SAT scores and/or top placement in their high school graduating classes may be eligible for the Centennial Honors College. Transferring students with high GPAs may be eligible as well. General honors seminars in the humanities, sciences and social sciences provide students with the opportunity to explore key academic issues with distinguished faculty members. To find out more, visit [wiu.edu/Honors](http://wiu.edu/Honors).

## Transfer Students

Many students enroll in Western's programs after completing one or two years at a community college. Because the programs are very specific and courses are sequential, it is imperative that students who are considering transferring into our program contact the CPEP advising office early for assistance with selecting appropriate community college classes to ensure a smooth transition from the community college to Western.

## Student Activities

Students participate in professional groups such as the WIU Student Education Association, Council for Exceptional Children, Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education and Society of Educators. Students are also involved in the PreK-8 Science Update Conference, Assistive Technology Conference, WIU SEA Spring Conference and KDP Fall Conference. Further information about other student activities and organizations available to all Western students can be found at [wiu.edu/osa](http://wiu.edu/osa).

## Special Opportunities

The elementary education program is accredited through the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The faculty in the department are committed to meeting the needs of individual students and communicate with them frequently. Elementary education majors complete three reading, two social studies, two science and one mathematics teaching methods courses that fully prepare them for the demands of the classroom. The use of technology and techniques to accommodate the needs of individual children are emphasized throughout the program. Students apply the knowledge gained in the classroom as they complete a variety of field experiences and student teaching. The department's Outstanding Pre-service Teaching Award (OPTA) recognizes students who have demonstrated excellence in their academic coursework and teaching experiences.

## College of Education and Human Services' Special Facilities

The facilities of the College of Education and Human Services (COEHS) include the 12,000-unit Children's Literature Examination Center (CLEC), 18,000-unit Curriculum Library, state-of-the-art Interactive Multimedia (IMM) Lab and WIU Infant/Preschool Center licensed daycare and lab training site.

## After College

Nationwide studies indicate teacher shortages in some areas and suggest that job opportunities are increasing. All graduates of the elementary education program are qualified to teach in self-contained first through sixth grade classrooms. Graduate coursework is available for licensed teachers, qualifying them to serve as reading specialists, principals, curriculum directors and superintendents.

## For More Information

For more information, contact the CPEP advising center in Horrabin Hall 91 at (309) 298-1438 or the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in Horrabin Hall 40 at (309) 298-1961.

### Elementary Education Sequence of Courses

ENG 180+ College Writing I (3) HIST 105+ American History (3) LAB SCI+ (BIOL 100 or 101) (4) ECON+ Economics (3) C&I 110 Critical Skills (2) UNIV 100 Human Well Being (1)	Fine Arts or Humanities Elective (3) Fine Arts+ (3) MATH 260+ Math for Elem Teachers (4) LAB SCI + (Physical) (3-4) GEOG 110 + World Regional Geography (3)	<b>FRESHMEN YEAR</b>
SCI+ Earth and Space Science (3) POLS 122+ American Gov/Politics (3) ENG 280+ College Writing II (3) COMM 241+ Intro to Public Speaking (3) EIS 202+ Mult Cultural/Social Found. (3) C&I 170 Class Observation/Sem (1)	EIS 301+ Cognition, Dev't & Motivation (3) LLA 313+ Children's Literature (3) C&I 270 Elem Ed Field Work/Sem II (1) KIN 360+ Methods Elementary Phys Ed (2) STAT 171+ General Elem. Statistics (3) SPED 210+ Exceptional Individual (2) ELED 445+ Honors/Seminar Elem Ed (if Honor student) (2)	<b>SOPHOMORE YEAR</b>
<b>Successfully Pass Test of Academic Proficiency or have ACT or SAT scores used in lieu of TAP</b>		Complete the safety training Complete Technology Competency Assessment
*SSED 365 + Teaching Our Heritage (3) *RDG 383+ Lit Instruct Early Grades (3) SCED 364+ Intro Sci Methods (3) or Math 364+ Teaching Elem. Math (4) (3 or 4) EIS 428+ English Language Learners (3) C&I 370+ Field work Elem Ed I (1) EIS 305+ Measuring Assessment (2)	Social Science Elective (3) *SSED 495+ Teaching/Global Perspectives (3) *RDG 384+ Lit. Instruction Intermediate (3) SCED 364+ Intro Sci Method Elem (3) or Math 364+ Teaching Elem. Math I (4) (3 or 4) C&I 371+ Field Work Elem Ed II (1) SPED 390+ Classroom Adaptions (2)	<b>JUNIOR YEAR</b>
SCED 464+ Integ Sci Through Inquiry (3) *RDG 433+ Intro corrective Reading (3) *C&I 470+ Senior Field Work (4) EIS 401+ Hist. & Phil. Foundations (2)	*Student Teaching Grades 1-6 (12) *ELED 410 Senior Seminar in Elem Ed (1)	<b>SENIOR YEAR</b>
<b>Successfully pass Illinois Licensure Testing System Content Matter Test</b>	<b>Successfully complete edTPA</b>	Submit: • Student Teaching Application • Graduation Application • Mandated Reporter Training Certificate

\*Must be taken concurrently +Grade of "C" or higher required

**NOTE:** This plan is subject to successful completion of pre-requisites and/or availability of courses.

## wiu.edu/curriculum

### Department of Curriculum & Instruction

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