

# EDUCATION, BS: ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE EDUCATION, K-9

The Elementary and Middle Education Program prepares individuals to meet the needs of diverse populations in a regular education setting from kindergarten through ninth grade. Clinical and student teaching experiences occur mainly in urban settings and take place in close partnership with local school districts.

Candidates successfully completing the Elementary and Middle Education, K-9, program will receive a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Education and endorsement to be licensed to teach in the State of Wisconsin from four-year-kindergarten through ninth grade. Individuals are licensed to teach any subject, except world language, in a self-contained classroom, and may teach language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies in a departmentalized setting.

## Requirements

### General Education Requirements (GERs)

UW-Milwaukee has General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#generaleducationtext>) that must be met in order to earn a bachelor's degree. Some of the requirements of your program may fulfill the campus GERs. Please review the requirements and consult with your academic advisor.

Below is a list of GER courses that are *highly recommended* for students interested in the Elementary and Middle Education program.

| Code                                    | Title   | Credits |
|---|---|---------|
| <b>The Arts</b>                         |   |         |
| ART ED 130                              | Multicultural Art and Visual Learning in Elementary Education (GER-A, GER-CD)   | 3       |
| THEATRE 260                             | Storytelling: (GER-A)   | 3       |
| <b>The Humanities</b>                   |   |         |
| CURRINS 233                             | Introduction to Children's and Young Adult Literature (GER-HU)                  | 3       |
| CURRINS 234                             | Teachers as Writers (GER-HU, OWC-B)   | 3       |
| <b>The Natural Sciences</b>             |   |         |
| GEO SCI 185                             | Introductory Earth Science for Teachers (GER-NS+)                               | 3       |
| CHEM 185                                | Basic Chemistry for Teachers (GER-NS+)  | 3       |
| ASTRON 185                              | Astronomy for Pre-Education Majors (GER-NS+)                                    | 3       |
| <b>The Social Sciences</b> <sup>1</sup> |   |         |
| ANTHRO 213                              | American Indian Peoples of Wisconsin (GER-CD, GER-SS)                           | 3       |
| AIS 203                                 | Western Great Lakes American Indian Community Life of the Past (GER-CD, GER-SS) | 3       |
| HIST 263                                | North American Indian History Since 1887 (GER-CD, GER-SS)                       | 3       |
| <b>Cultural Diversity</b>               |   |         |
| See GER-CD designated courses above.    |   |         |

<sup>1</sup> The ACT 31 legislation requirement of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for Teacher Certification (licensure) is also met by completing one of these courses.

## Program Core

Program core is comprised of foundational courses and should be completed prior to beginning the professional education semesters.

| Code                 | Title  | Credits   |
|----------------------|--|-----------|
| CURRINS 300          | Introduction to Teaching: Colloquium and Fieldwork             | 3         |
| ED PSY 330           | Introduction to Learning and Development                       | 3         |
| ED POL 375           | Cultural Foundations of Education                              | 3         |
| MATH 175             | Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers I (GER-QLA)  | 3         |
| MATH 176             | Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers II (GER-QLB) | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b> |  | <b>15</b> |

## Program Admission Requirements (p. 2)

### Content Area Concentration Requirements

| Code   | Title  | Credits   |
|--|--|-----------|
| <b>Approved Content Area Coursework</b>  |  | <b>15</b> |
| Satisfactory completion of a minimum of 15 credits of approved coursework described under one of the concentration areas below (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, or Social Studies). Some requirements may be fulfilled by GERs. Consult with your academic advisor to select appropriate coursework. |  |           |
| <b>English Language Arts</b>   |  |           |
| Composition  |  | 6         |
| Literature   |  | 3         |
| Electives  |  | 6         |
| <b>Mathematics</b>   |  |           |
| MATH 175   | Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers I (completed in Program Core)  | 3         |
| MATH 176   | Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers II (completed in Program Core) | 3         |
| MATH 275   | Problem Solving/Critical Thinking for Elementary Education Majors                | 3         |
| Electives  |  | 6         |
| <b>Natural Sciences</b>  |  |           |
| Earth Science  |  | 3         |
| Biological Science   |  | 3         |
| Physical Science   |  | 3         |
| Electives  |  | 6         |
| <b>Social Studies</b>  |  |           |
| History  |  | 3         |
| Political Science  |  | 3         |
| Geography  |  | 3         |
| Electives  |  | 6         |

## Professional Requirements

Second degree candidates begin the program with the Professional Requirements.

A grade of C or better is required in professional semester coursework to advance in the program. No courses may be taken for credit/no credit.

| Code                          | Title  | Credits   |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------|
| <i>Semester 1</i>             |  |           |
| CURRINS 306                   | Initial Clinical Experience in Elementary and Middle Education                     | 2         |
| CURRINS 330                   | Teaching of Mathematics 1  | 3         |
| CURRINS 536                   | Literacy 1: Assessing and Teaching Early Literacy                                  | 3         |
| CURRINS 541                   | Principles and Methods of Teaching ESL   | 3         |
| CURRINS 556                   | Professional Seminar 1: Foundations of Curriculum and Instruction                  | 3         |
| EXCEDUC 605                   | Child, Learner, Disabilities   | 3         |
| <i>Semester 2</i>             |  |           |
| CURRINS 321                   | Introduction to the Teaching of Social Studies                                     | 2         |
| CURRINS 307                   | Clinical Experience in Elementary and Middle Education                             | 3         |
| CURRINS 327                   | Teaching of Science in the Elementary School                                       | 3         |
| CURRINS 331                   | Teaching of Mathematics 2  | 3         |
| CURRINS 537                   | Literacy 2: Assessing and Teaching Literacy through Early Adolescence              | 3         |
| CURRINS 557                   | Professional Seminar 2: Classroom Management: Theory, Practice and Context         | 3         |
| CURRINS 377                   | Wisconsin Foundations of Reading (Course is not required, but highly recommended.) |           |
| <i>Semester 3</i>             |  |           |
| CURRINS 323                   | Teaching of Social Studies:  | 2         |
| CURRINS 332                   | Teaching of Mathematics 3  | 3         |
| CURRINS 406                   | Advanced Clinical Experience in Elementary and Middle Education                    | 4         |
| CURRINS 527                   | Science in the Elementary School   | 3         |
| CURRINS 538                   | Literacy 3: Introduction to New Literacies   | 3         |
| CURRINS 558                   | Professional Seminar 3: Building Learning Communities                              | 3         |
| <i>Semester 4<sup>2</sup></i> |  |           |
| CURRINS 407                   | Student Teaching in Elementary and Middle Education                                | 9         |
| CURRINS 471                   | Student Teaching Seminar: The Effective Urban Educator                             | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>          |  | <b>64</b> |

<sup>2</sup> Students must complete paperwork in order to be assigned a student teaching placement. To be approved for placement, additional criteria must be met. See Benchmarks (p. 2) for details.

## Additional Requirements for Graduation

- Satisfactory completion of a minimum 120 credits;
- Completion of the last year of coursework (30 credits) in residence at UWM; and
- Satisfactory completion of required program coursework.

## Additional Requirements for Certification

- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in all UWM and transfer courses;
- A grade of C or better in all professional semester coursework;
- Satisfactory completion of approved program assessment;
- Completion of an approved course or workshop on the history, culture, and sovereignty rights of Wisconsin Indians to fulfill the ACT 31 legislation requirement of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction required for certification; and
- Passing score on the Wisconsin Foundations of Reading Test (WiFORT) is also required for endorsement to be licensed to teach in the State of Wisconsin.

## Advance to Major

### Program Admission Requirements

- Mandatory meeting with advisor in the semester prior to applying to the program.
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 in all UWM and transfer courses.
- Completion of CURRINS 300 with a grade of B or better.
- Completion of MATH 175 and Oral and Written Communication Part A/OWC-A (or score of 4 or higher on English placement test) requirements with a C or better.
- Pass a Criminal Background Check (CBC) as required by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for all applicants to a professional education preparation program.
- Successful application.
- Final candidate selection completed by program committee, and is contingent upon available space in the program.
- Advisor approval to proceed into the professional education semesters.

### Program Admission Requirements--Second Degree

For individuals with a bachelor's degree.

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
- Mandatory meeting with advisor prior to applying to the program.
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 in all UWM and transfer courses.
- Pass a Criminal Background Check (CBC) as required by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for all applicants to a professional education preparation program.
- Successful application.
- Final candidate selection completed by program committee, and is contingent upon available space in the program.

## Benchmarks

### Student Teaching

Students must complete an application to request/be assigned a student teaching placement. Deadlines for submission are posted by the Office of Clinical Experiences. (<http://uwm.edu/education/academics/clinical-experiences/>)

To be approved, students must **ALSO** meet the following criteria:

- Be admitted to the School of Education.
- Satisfactory completion of field evaluation in CURRINS 406.
- A grade of C or better in required professional semesters 1, 2, and 3 coursework.
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in all UWM and transfer courses.
- Removal of all F or I (incomplete) grades in required program courses.
- Passing score or evidence of attempt on the Wisconsin Foundations of Reading Test.
- Demonstration of content knowledge proficiency with a GPA of 3.0 or higher in required coursework **OR** Passing score on the Praxis Subject Assessment exam: Middle School: Content Knowledge #5146.
- Updated TB test **results** submitted to the Office of Clinical Experiences (may take up to 6 weeks).
- Updated Criminal Background Check submitted to the Office of Clinical Experiences.

## Undergraduate Advising

Our purpose is to provide collaborative, mentoring relationships which promote educational, career, and professional development. We value a student-centered, holistic, and ethical approach to advising based on strong partnerships with students, faculty and staff, and the larger campus community. We are committed to creating a respectful and supportive environment. We encourage students to be self-reliant through informed decisions and choices based upon dissemination of accurate information. We value our own continuous professional development to enhance the quality of the advising experience.

### *How to Prepare for an Advising Meeting*

- Review your Advisement Report in PAWS (<http://uwm.edu/registrar/academic-unit-services/paws-academic-advisement/>).
- Come prepared with questions or topics for discussion.
- Make a list of courses you think you should take.
- Investigate opportunities to prepare for the job you want.
- Keep a record of your academic progress.
- Understand you are ultimately responsible for creating your educational, life, and career plans.
- Maintain honest and open communication with your advisor.
- Take responsibility for choices you make as a student and member of the UW-Milwaukee community.

### *Scheduling an Appointment*

Office of Student Services  
Enderis Hall, Room 209  
(414) 229-4721  
[soeinfo@uwm.edu](mailto:soeinfo@uwm.edu)

## Graduate Advising

If you are a School of Education graduate student, you may schedule an appointment with your faculty advisor by contacting your faculty advisor directly. Faculty contact information can be found in the People Directory (<https://uwm.edu/education/people/>). Your faculty advisor will be listed in your PAWS account.

## Honors in the Department of Teaching and Learning

Departmental Honors are granted to students who have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester.

## College of Community Engagement and Professions Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

## Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/honors-college/>) section of this site.

## Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

## Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.