

EDUCATION, BS: EARLY CHILDHOOD

The Early Childhood Education (ECE) program is available for those interested in teaching young children from birth to age 8 (through third grade) in a variety of early care/education and school programs. Students are admitted to the major immediately in the first year or upon transfer to UWM, and it is possible to complete the program in four years. Students who satisfactorily complete the program requirements will be highly-qualified to teach in early childhood settings. Those who wish to acquire a State of Wisconsin ECE teaching license can complete the state-mandated assessments through the program. Additionally program students can elect to attain add-on certification in ECE and English as a Second Language (ESL) or Bilingual Education. All program students will be prepared to teach culturally and linguistically diverse children. The program provides real-world experiences in a cross-section of sites where future employment opportunities exist, including public and charter primary schools; Head Start; and preschools and other community-based educational settings.

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
	University General Education Requirements*	30-42
	Program Core*	64-69
	Professional Requirements	39
	Completion/Certification	3-15
	Minimum credits for degree	120

*Requirement credit totals vary based on student test scores, previous area-specific knowledge, and GER course choice.

University General Education Requirements (GER)

Code	Title	Credits
GER Competency Requirements		
	<i>Oral and Written Communication, Part A</i>	0-3
	English Placement Test score at level 4 or higher, or pass English 102 with a grade of C or better	
	<i>Oral and Written Communication, Part B</i> ¹	3
	Complete a GER-OWCB approved advanced course with a grade of C or better	
	<i>Quantitative Literacy, Part A</i> ¹	0-3
	Math Placement Test code 30 or higher, or pass Math 102, 103, 105, or 175 with a grade of C or better	
	<i>Quantitative Literacy, Part B</i> ¹	3
	Complete a GER-QLB approved advanced course with a grade of C or better	
	<i>Foreign Language</i>	0-6
	Complete one of the following:	
	2 consecutive semesters of college instruction in a single foreign language with passing grades	
	2 consecutive years of high school instruction in a single foreign language with passing grades	
	Demonstrate language proficiency on approved exam	
GER Distribution Requirements		
	<i>Arts</i>	3

	Select one approved GER-A designated course	
	<i>Humanities</i> ¹	6
	Select two approved GER-HU designated courses	
	<i>Social Sciences</i> ¹	6
	Select two approved GER-SS designated courses	
	<i>Natural Sciences</i> ¹	6
	Select one approved GER-NS or GER-NS+ designated course	
	Select one approved GER-NS+ designated course, which includes a lab component	
	<i>Cultural Diversity</i> ¹	3
	Select one approved GER-CD designated course	
	Total Credits	30-42

¹ Program-specific requirements fulfill, or partially fulfill, University GER requirements. Program identifies certain course categories (ie. literature, biology, political science, etc) be used to fulfill some GERs in order to meet PI 34 Statutory Requirements and/or program requirements.

Program Core

Code	Title	Credits
A grade of C or better must be earned in all professional education courses and sequenced CurrIns courses.		
	Choose one:	3
	ENGLISH 201 Strategies for Academic Writing (GER-OWCB)	
	CURRINS 234 Teachers as Writers (GER-OWCB)	
	MATH 175 Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers I (GER-QLA)	3
	MATH 176 Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers II (GER-QLB)	3
	Choose one: ²	3
	ANTHRO 213 American Indian Peoples of Wisconsin (GER-CD, SS)	
	ENGLISH 276 Introduction to American Indian Literature: (GER-CD, HU)	
	AIS 203 Western Great Lakes American Indian Community Life of the Past (GER-CD, SS)	
	HIST 263 North American Indian History Since 1887 (GER-CD, SS)	
	COMMUN 103 Public Speaking (GER-HU)	3
	Literature Elective (GER-HU)	3
	CES 210 Introduction to Conservation and Environmental Science (GER-NS)	3
	Earth Science elective (GER-NS or GER-NS+: Aston, Atm Sci, Geog, or Geo Sci)	3-4
	Physical Science elective (GER-NS or GER-NS+: Chem or Physics)	3-4
	Choose one:	3
	HIST 151 American History: 1607 to 1877 (GER-SS)	
	HIST 152 American History: 1877 to the Present (GER-SS)	
	POL SCI 104 Introduction to American Government and Politics (GER-SS)	
	POL SCI 105 State Politics (GER-SS)	

<i>Prior to Semester 4</i>		
CURRINS 140	Field Experience with Families & Communities	1
CURRINS 312	Models and Issues for Early Childhood Education	3
<i>Semester 4</i>		
CURRINS 240	Field Experience with Dual Language Learners	2
CURRINS 501	Language Acquisition for Children of Diverse Backgrounds	3
<i>Semester 5</i>		
CURRINS 302	Curriculum Design in Early Childhood	3
CURRINS 340	Field Experience in Preschool and Kindergarten Classrooms	2
CURRINS 502	Emergent Literacy and Biliteracy in the Early Childhood Classroom	3
CURRINS 534	Instructional Strategies in Early Childhood Education	3
<i>Semester 6</i>		
CURRINS 440	Field Experience in the Primary Grades	2
CURRINS 504	Methods for Biliteracy and Language Arts in Primary Grades	3
<i>Semester 7</i>		
CURRINS 338	Teaching of Science in Early Childhood	3
CURRINS 540	Advanced Field Experience in Early Childhood Education	3-6
CURRINS 541	Principles and Methods of Teaching ESL	3
Total Credits		64-69

² Non-Western History or Contemporary Culture and Minority Group Relations (Act 31) statutory requirements can both be met by taking one class.

Professional Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
A grade of C or better must be earned in all professional education courses and sequenced CurrIns courses.		
CURRINS 301	Infants and Toddlers: Curriculum and Teaching	3
CURRINS 323	Teaching of Social Studies:	3
CURRINS 330	Teaching of Mathematics: Early Childhood	3
CURRINS 511	Curriculum and Guidance for Social - Emotional Learning	3
CURRINS 512	Reflective Practice in Early Childhood Teaching and Learning	3
CURRINS/EXCEDUC 612	Collaborations for Teachers with Families, Schools, and Communities	3
CURRINS 651	Literature for the Young Child	3
ART ED 130	Multicultural Art and Visual Learning in Elementary Education (GER- A, CD)	3
MUS ED 260	Making Music Connections with Children	3
ED POL 375	Cultural Foundations of Education	3

ED PSY 330	Introduction to Learning and Development	3
ED PSY/EXCEDUC 613	Infant and Early Childhood Assessment	3
EXCEDUC 630	Survey of EC Intervention: Young Children with Special Needs, Families	3
Total Credits		39

Semester 8: Program Completion and Certification Options

Code	Title	Credits
Option 1: Education Degree, Early Childhood Education		
CURRINS 540	Advanced Field Experience in Early Childhood Education	6
Select electives as needed to reach 120 credits (see an advisor for appropriate options)		
Total Credits		6

Code	Title	Credits
Option 2: Education Degree, Early Childhood Education plus Early Childhood Certification		
CURRINS 601	Early Childhood Seminar in Student Teaching	3
CURRINS 640	Student Teaching in Early Childhood	12
Total Credits		15

Code	Title	Credits
Option 3: Education Degree in Early Childhood plus Early Childhood and English as a Second Language Certifications		
CURRINS 601	Early Childhood Seminar in Student Teaching	3
CURRINS 640	Student Teaching in Early Childhood	9
CURRINS 443	Student Teaching in English as a Second Language: Minor	3
Total Credits		15

Code	Title	Credits
Option 4: Education Degree in Early Childhood plus Early Childhood and Bilingual Certifications		
CURRINS 601	Early Childhood Seminar in Student Teaching	3
CURRINS 640	Student Teaching in Early Childhood	9
CURRINS 442	Student Teaching in Bilingual Education	3
Total Credits		15

Code	Title	Credits
Option 5: Education Degree in Early Childhood plus Early Childhood, English as a Second Language, and Bilingual Certifications		
CURRINS 601	Early Childhood Seminar in Student Teaching	3
CURRINS 640	Student Teaching in Early Childhood	6
CURRINS 442	Student Teaching in Bilingual Education	3
CURRINS 443	Student Teaching in English as a Second Language: Minor	3
Total Credits		15

Program Benchmarks (p. 3)**Additional Requirements for Graduation:**

- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 on all UWM and transfer courses
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 on professional education courses
- Satisfactory completion of a minimum of 120 credits
- Completion of the last year of coursework (30 credits) in residence at UWM
- For certification majors only: Completion of edTPA (Teacher Performance Assessment)

Benchmarks

Students must meet benchmarks at 30, 60, and 85 credits and prior to student teaching. Benchmarks are monitored through tracking systems and advising. A student will be restricted from moving forward in the program if the benchmarks are not completed.

30 Credit Benchmarks

Reviewed with your advisor the semester after completion of 30 credits:

- Mandatory meeting with your advisor
- Completion of English 102 and Math 175 with a C or better
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25 on all UWM and transfer courses

Certification majors only:

- Passing scores on a pre-professional skills test (See your academic advisor for additional information.)

60 Credit Benchmarks

Reviewed with your advisor the semester after completion of 60 credits:

- Mandatory meeting with your advisor
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on all UWM and transfer courses

Certification majors only:

- Registered for the appropriate Praxis II exam
 - Elementary Education Content Knowledge Exam #5014
 - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages #5361

85 Credit Benchmarks

Reviewed with your advisor the semester after completion of 85 credits:

- Mandatory meeting with your advisor
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on all UWM and transfer courses
- Complete and sign form to declare intention: Education Degree in Early Childhood only or degree with certification in Early Childhood, ESL, and/or Bilingual

Student Teaching Benchmarks (certification majors only)

- Mandatory attendance at Pre-Student Teaching Orientation
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 on all UWM and transfer courses
- Removal of all F or I (Incomplete) grades in courses
- C or better in professional education and CurrIns sequenced courses
- Successfully pass the appropriate Praxis II exam(s)
 - Elementary Education Content Knowledge Exam #5014
 - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages #5361
- Successfully pass the Wisconsin Foundations of Reading Test (WiFORT)

Graduation Benchmarks (must be met to be approved for graduation)

Reviewed during the student teaching semester

- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 on all UWM and transfer courses
- Satisfactory completion of a minimum of 120 credits
- Completion of the last year of coursework (30 credits) in residence at UWM

Certification majors only:

- Completion of edTPA (Teacher Performance Assessment)

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

Walk-In Hours

Walk-in advising is for current School of Education students and is limited to 10-15 minutes. Offered weekly on Thursday from 1-4 PM, these opportunities allow for you to meet briefly with your assigned academic advisor, or an advisor familiar with your program of study.

Transfer Student Not Yet Enrolled at UWM?

If you are attending a different college or university and would like to transfer to UWM to study in the School of Education and have questions, please connect with our Transfer Advisor, Emilee Schultz, at (414) 229-6019 or emilee@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. If you are unsure who your advisor is, please contact

Graduate Program Admissions Specialist Allison Hochmuth (<https://uwm.edu/education/people/hochmuth-allison>).

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.

Honors in the School of Education

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 Degree and Honors Degree with Thesis

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/opportunities-resources/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. In schools and colleges in which fewer than 15% of the traditional students have a 3.500 GPA, all-university honors will be awarded to approximately the top 15% of graduating students. A criterion GPA (not lower than 3.200) for this 15% will be calculated based on statistics from the previous comparable semester. 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.