EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION, BS: EARLY CHILDHOOD

The Early Childhood Special Education major leads to a Bachelor of Science in Exceptional Education. Upon completion, students will be eligible to apply for a Cross-Categorical Special Education Teaching License from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for ages birth to eight, grades birth-3rd. Special Education teachers who specialize in early childhood are currently in high demand, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Requirements

University General Education Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30-42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GER Competency Requirements

**Oral and Written Communication, Part A**
- English Placement Test score at level 4 or higher, or pass English 102 with a grade of C or better

**Oral and Written Communication, Part B**
- Complete a GER-OWCB approved advanced course with a grade of C or better

**Quantitative Literacy, Part A**
- Math Placement Test code 30 or higher, or pass Math 102, 103, 105, or 175 with a grade of C or better

**Quantitative Literacy, Part B**
- Complete a GER-QLB approved advanced course with a grade of C or better

**Foreign Language**
- 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

**Arts**
- Select one approved GER-A designated course

**Humanities**
- Select two approved GER-HU designated courses

**Social Sciences**
- Select two approved GER-SS designated courses

**Natural Sciences**
- Select one approved GER-NS or GER-NS+ designated course
  - Select one approved GER-NS+ designated course, which includes a lab component

**Cultural Diversity**
- Select one approved GER-CD designated course

Total Credits 30-42

Program Core

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Choose one:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH 201</td>
<td>Strategies for Academic Writing (GER-OWCB)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH 205</td>
<td>Business Writing (GER-OWCB)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 175</td>
<td>Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers I (GER-QLA)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 176</td>
<td>Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers II (GER-QLB)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Choose one:**
- 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)
- ART ED 130 Multicultural Art and Visual Learning in Elementary Education (GER-A, CD)
- COMMUN 103 Public Speaking (GER-HU)
- GER Literature elective (Fulfills GER-HU)
- CES 210 Introduction to Conservation and Environmental Science (GER-NS)
- Earth Science elective (GER-NS or GER-NS+: Aston, Atm Sci, Geog, or Geo Sci)
- Physical Science elective (GER-NS or GER-NS+: Chem or Physics)

Total Credits 30-32

Professional Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Choose one:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS 140</td>
<td>Field Experience with Families &amp; Communities</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS 312</td>
<td>Models and Issues for Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS 240</td>
<td>Field Experience with Dual Language Learners</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS 501</td>
<td>Language Acquisition for Children of Diverse Backgrounds</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS 302</td>
<td>Curriculum Design in Early Childhood</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS 340</td>
<td>Field Experience in Preschool and Kindergarten Classrooms</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>or CURRINS 440</td>
<td>Field Experience in the Primary Grades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS 502</td>
<td>Emergent Literacy and Biliteracy in the Early Childhood Classroom</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

2 Program requires credits beyond university GER; see program requirements below.
Exceptional Education, BS: Early Childhood

Semester 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXCEDUC 569</td>
<td>Curriculum and Methods for Special Education: Preschool</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCEDUC 648</td>
<td>Early Childhood Special Education Field Experience: Preschool</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS 330</td>
<td>Teaching of Mathematics: Early Childhood</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXCEDUC 570</td>
<td>Curriculum and Methods for Special Education: Primary</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCEDUC 649</td>
<td>Early Childhood Special Education Field Experience: Primary</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED PSY/EXCEDUC 613</td>
<td>Infant and Early Childhood Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS 504</td>
<td>Methods for Biliteracy and Language Arts in Primary Grades</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXCEDUC 568</td>
<td>Curriculum and Methods for Special Education: Birth to Three</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCEDUC 647</td>
<td>Early Childhood Special Education Field Experience: 0 to 3 Yrs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCEDUC 682</td>
<td>Language and Literacy in Early Childhood Special Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXCEDUC 481</td>
<td>Student Teaching with Students Having Early Childhood Exceptional Ed Needs</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Highly recommended:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS/EXCEDUC 376</td>
<td>Understanding and Developing the edTPA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Required Professional Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUS ED 260</td>
<td>Making Music Connections with Children</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED PSY 330</td>
<td>Introduction to Learning and Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCEDUC 630</td>
<td>Survey of EC Intervention: Young Children with Special Needs, Families</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRINS/EXCEDUC 612</td>
<td>Collaborations for Teachers with Families, Schools, and Communities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives

Select electives to ensure the minimum 120 credits required for graduation

| Total Credits | 71 |

Exceptional Education, Early Childhood Submajor Completion Requirements

- Completion of program requirements;
- Completion of university GER;
- Completion of a minimum of 120 credits;
- Completion of the last year of coursework (30 credits) in residence at UWM;
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in UWM and transfer credits; and
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in professional coursework

See your advisor for additional requirements for certification.

Post-baccalaureate Program

(Under revision; please see an advisor for information.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Year 1 - Summer
CURRINS 302 | Curriculum Design in Early Childhood                 | 3       |
| EXCEDUC 630 | Survey of EC Intervention: Young Children with Special Needs, Families | 3       |

Year 1 - Fall
EXCEDUC 569 | Curriculum and Methods for Special Education: Preschool | 3       |
EXCEDUC 648 | Early Childhood Special Education Field Experience: Preschool | 3       |
CURRINS 502 | Emergent Literacy and Biliteracy in the Early Childhood Classroom | 3       |

Year 1 - Spring
CURRINS 504 | Methods for Biliteracy and Language Arts in Primary Grades | 3       |
EXCEDUC 570 | Curriculum and Methods for Special Education: Primary | 3       |
EXCEDUC 649 | Early Childhood Special Education Field Experience: Primary | 3       |

Year 2 - Summer
EXCEDUC 568 | Curriculum and Methods for Special Education: Birth to Three | 3       |
EXCEDUC 647 | Early Childhood Special Education Field Experience: 0 to 3 Yrs | 3       |

Year 2 - Fall
EXCEDUC 682 | Language and Literacy in Early Childhood Special Education | 3       |
CURRINS 330 | Teaching of Mathematics: Early Childhood | 3       |
ED PSY 330  | Introduction to Learning and Development             | 3       |
or ED PSY 640 | Human Development: Theory and Research |         |

Year 2 - Spring
EXCEDUC 652 | Developmental Evaluation of Young Children with Disabilities | 3       |
EXCEDUC 651 | Working With Families in Urban Communities           | 3       |

Other Teaching Experience Requirements

EXCEDUC 481 | Student Teaching with Students Having Early Childhood Exceptional Ed Needs | 3       |
or EXCEDUC 776 | Fieldwork with Students Having Early Childhood-Exceptional Education Needs |         |
CURRINS 400 | Field Work in Curriculum and Instruction:             | 1-6     |

Total Credits | 49-54 |

Advance to Major

Admission to Program

See academic advisor.

Benchmarks

Student Teaching

Students must complete paperwork in order to be assigned a student teaching placement. To determine your deadline (February or April), visit the Office of Clinical Experiences website at uwm.edu/education/
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
- 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 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. 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.